

PVMGA

2025-2026 LOCAL RULES

Effective January 2026

Desert Areas

Are played as an integral part of the course. Balls coming to rest in small (pebbles) rocks are played as they lie. Rocks behind the ball may be moved with no penalty. If the ball comes to rest in larger rocks or stones the player gets a free drop within 1 club length of the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole.

Desert Erosion Areas

Erosion areas in the desert are common occurrences in Arizona and are not considered to be an abnormal course condition unless otherwise noted on the Notice to Player. If a player chooses to move the ball, there would be a one stroke unplayable lie penalty, two club lengths no nearer the hole.

Immovable Objects

Players may seek free relief if any of the following obstructions interfere with stance, swing or lie. Not line of flight. Staked trees; cart paths; sprinkler heads; rock wall, concrete edging around lakes; control box; restrooms; and prepared flower beds. Nearest point of complete relief and one club length, no nearer hole with no penalty.

Unplayable Lies

Taking relief is an unplayable lie penalty **one stroke**, nearest point of complete relief and two club lengths no nearer hole, stroke and distance, or keeping the unplayable lie point between you and the hole and going back on a straight lie as far as you want.

Sprinkler Heads Near Green

If sprinkler head(s) are 2-club lengths or less from the green and ball is within 2-club lengths or less of the sprinkler head, the player may get free relief if your swing, stance, lie or line of flight are impacted. The ball must be dropped within 1 club length of the nearest point of complete relief no nearer hole.

Out of Bounds

Defined by course side edges of boundary walls, perimeter fences and posts, public roads, and whitemarkers. A ball coming to rest on or beyond the boundaries and edges of hole is out of bounds.

Out of Bounds/Lost Ball Options

If the ball is lost or OB the player has two options:

1. The player may replay the shot from the original spot with a stroke and distance penalty.
2. If a player's ball is known or virtually certain to have come to rest out of bounds, the player may use the option to drop the ball not more than two club lengths on the fairway parallel to where the ball went out of Bounds and take a **2- stroke penalty**.
3. If a player's ball is lost outside a penalty area, the player may use the option to drop a ball at a point between the fairway and the estimated point where the ball was lost and take a **2- stroke penalty**. A lost ball must be outside of a penalty area. To determine the point where the ball is lost you must know or be virtually certain where the ball came to rest.

Yellow Stakes in Front of Green

Do not take carts beyond Yellow Stake! At Yellow Stakes, go 90-degrees to cart path or 90-degrees to desert area and do not park cart on grass. Do not drive carts within 50 feet of a green under any circumstances.

Scorecards and Golf Genius

Scores must be recorded in PVMGA events. It is required that a designated player in each group use Golf Genius via cellphone to enhance and expedite the overall results. Two signatures on attested scorecard must be turned into the Pro Shop immediately after play.

