

## Little Hay Golf Club Local Rules April 2008

This note details the Local Rules of Little Hay Golf Club and is also intended to clarify the status of various hazards, obstructions and out of bounds which exist at Little Hay. These Local Rules shall be adopted in all Little Hay Golf Club competitions and Club matches and are subject to periodic change. Any queries relating to the local rules should, in the first instance, be directed to the Handicap and Competitions Chairman.

### 1. Immoveable Obstructions

The following should all be considered immovable obstructions and relief may be taken in accordance with Rule 24-2 **when the obstruction interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing:**

- a. All the course furniture, e.g. bench seats, ball washers, waste bins where fixed to the ground. Where the bin is free-standing and can be easily moved, it should be treated as a movable obstruction and relief taken under Rule 24-1. In such an event, the bin should be replaced after the shot is played.
- b. Any fence which does not form a boundary of the course, e.g. the fence which extends into the area between the 6<sup>th</sup> green and the 7<sup>th</sup> tee.
- c. Any artificial path or surface e.g. those made of bark chippings, shells or stones around various greens and tees, but excluding all roads, which are out of bounds.
- d. Winter tee mats.
- e. Any unstaked trees less than 2 club lengths high.
- f. Staked trees, relief must be taken. Note that close proximity to a staked tree, or a ball at rest on bare earth or rough ground at the base of a tree is not itself grounds for relief. There must be actual interference from the tree and / or the stake.
- g. Fixed sprinkler heads. Relief without penalty may also be taken if the player's ball lies off the putting green, but not in a hazard and is at rest within 2 club lengths of a sprinkler head, which itself is on, or within 2 club lengths of the putting green on the hole being played and the sprinkler intervenes **ON THE LINE OF PLAY** between the ball and the hole.
- h. Stakes or posts which mark a water hazard if the player's ball comes to rest outside the water hazard. Note that the white stakes or posts defining Out of Bounds are themselves out of bounds. A player is therefore **NOT** entitled to relief without penalty from these stakes.
- i. The directions indicator posts in the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Fairway and the back of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Greens.

Relief may be taken, under no penalty, as follows:

The point on the course nearest to where the ball lies shall be determined which;

- a. is not nearer to the hole,
- b. avoids interference
- c. is not in a hazard or on the putting green.

The player shall lift the ball and drop it within ONE club length of the point on the course thus determined, which fulfil a., b. and c. above. The ball may be cleaned when lifted under this rule.

## Little Hay Golf Club Local Rules April 2008

### 2. Water Hazards

There are currently 2 water hazards at Little Hay, the usually dry pond on the 10<sup>th</sup> fairway and the drainage ditch which runs along the right hand side of the 4<sup>th</sup> fairway and continues across the left front of the green.

The pond on the 10<sup>th</sup> hole is an ordinary water hazard and is marked by yellow posts. The drainage ditch to the right of the 4<sup>th</sup> fairway is a lateral water hazard marked by red posts. The ditch becomes a normal water hazard where it turns to run across the front of the 4<sup>th</sup> green, to the left of the footbridge and is marked by yellow posts.

Although it is planned to completely fill this ditch at some point, a ball coming to rest in an unfilled part of the drainage ditch, should be considered to be in a water hazard and relief taken as described in point 2.8 below.

The limits of the water hazard on the 10<sup>th</sup> are well defined, even in the absence of a marked line on the ground between the yellow posts. The limits of the water hazard on the 4<sup>th</sup> lie within a ditch and between the outer extremities of the yellow posts at either end of the ditch. The limits of the lateral water hazard on the 4<sup>th</sup> lie within a ditch and between the outer extremities of the red posts at either end of the ditch. The posts which define the margin of the water hazards are in the hazard. In the event that a ball comes to rest against such a post, the player is not entitled to relief without penalty. The player should either play the ball as it lies or proceed as described in point 2.8.

In the event that there is interference from the posts, which define the margin of the water hazard or the bushes growing within the pond on the 10<sup>th</sup> fairway when a ball is at rest within the hazard, the player is not entitled to relief without penalty. The player should either play the ball as it lies or proceed as described in point 2.8. If a ball is lost in any water hazard the player should proceed as described in point 2.8.

If a ball comes to rest in any water hazard, the player should either play the ball as it lies, taking care not to ground the club within the hazard, whether or not the hazard contains water, Penalty - 2 strokes in Stroke play or a loss of a hole in match play, or proceed as described below in point 2.8

Relief from a water hazard may be taken as follows:

- a. under penalty of one stroke, play a ball as close as possible to the spot from which the last stroke outside the hazard was played  
or
- b. under penalty of one stroke, drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at where the ball crossed the margin of the water hazard, between the hole and the point at which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far the hazard the ball may be dropped  
or
- c. **For lateral water hazards only** under penalty of one stroke, drop a ball outside the water hazard within 2 club lengths of and not nearer the hole than (i). the

## Little Hay Golf Club Local Rules April 2008

point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or (ii) a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole.

The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

### 3. Stones in Hazards

Stones in bunkers are moveable obstructions, rather than loose impediments and may be moved without penalty. Rule 24-1 applies.

Stones in water hazards, whether containing water or not, are loose impediments and **MAY NOT** be moved. Rule 23.

### 4. Ground Under Repair

In addition to those parts of the course which may, from time to time, be marked as GUR, the following should all be considered ground under repair and relief without penalty may be taken in accordance with Rule 25-1, see point 2.1, when the GUR interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing or stroke on a putting green.

- a. Hole(s) not in play on a putting green where more than one hole is cut. Relief may **ONLY** be taken when a player's ball lies on the putting green. When relief is taken, the ball should be placed, not dropped.
- b. Note that the tree nurseries to the left of the 18<sup>th</sup> tee and on the left of the 8<sup>th</sup> tee are no longer to be considered as GUR. A ball coming to rest in one of these areas must be played as it lies, or relief for an unplayable lie, Rule 28 should be taken under penalty of one stroke.

When a player's ball is lost in GUR, relief may be taken, under no penalty as follows:

The point on the course nearest to where the ball crossed the margin of GUR shall be determined which:

- a. is not near the hole,
- b. avoids interference from the GUR
- c. is not in a hazard or on the putting green.
- d. the player shall drop a ball within **ONE club length** of the point on the course thus determined which fulfils a, b & c above.

### 5. Out of Bounds

A ball is out of bounds when it comes to:

- a. beyond the boundaries of the course
- b. on the Clubhouse precincts, including car parks, gardens outbuildings and practice putting greens.
- c. beyond the white posts surrounding the driving range.
- d. on the mown area of the pitch and putt course to the right of the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> fairways. The positioning white OOB marker posts and the way that the Pitch and Putt course is cut, sometimes results in balls landing in the rough being OOB, while balls which are clearly on the playing area of the pitch and putt course are in bounds. **Therefore, the line marking the edge of the cut area of the Pitch and Putt Course shall be considered to be the OOB marker.**

**Little Hay Golf Club Local Rules**  
**April 2008**

e. on or beyond all roads.

Note that the fence surrounding the driving range and the supporting stanchions, all lie out of bounds. Therefore, relief without penalty may NOT be taken if any part of the fence or stanchions interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing.

6. Safety

Players competing in LHGC competitions and matches are not permitted to intentionally drive down the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway and from the 18<sup>th</sup> tee. The players must accept full liability for any injuries caused by such an action.

7. Distance measuring devices

In all Little Hay competitions, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a *stipulated round*, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. gradient, windspeed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.

**Revised June 2007 by Tony Alford Competition and Handicap Chairman**  
**Amended April 2008 by Gus Walker**