

MMGA Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 8, 2019

Attendees: Jim Petrick, Tom Durenberger, Ken Ward, Gary Denhalter, Virgil Mink, Rory Tomsic

Absent: Manny Lira

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Petrick at 2:00 P.M.

1) The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the new rule changes implemented by the USGA and to update the MMGA local rules. Gary Denhalter made a presentation to the board members concerning his review of the current MMGA local rules that are posted on the MMGA web site. Most of the current local rules posted are either outdated or no longer valid due to USGA rule changes and/or changes to local course rules. Gary proposed that all current MMGA local rules be removed from the MMGA web site and the board adopts three (3) rules that currently apply to our association and cover special penalty areas, ball out of bounds or lost, and hole #7 at Falcon Ridge.

2) The three (3) MMGA rules only apply to MMGA events and are defined as follows:

- i. **Special Penalty Areas:** All desert areas not otherwise marked as “Out of Bounds” or “Penalty Areas” are deemed to be “Red Penalty Areas” and play is governed by Rule 17-19.
- ii. **Ball Out of Bounds or Lost:** A member who hits their ball out of bounds or lost has two options:
 - i. Play a provisional from the spot where the ball was last played – penalty stroke and distance – hitting 3 from the last spot played.
 - ii. Drop a ball anywhere between where the original ball was believed to come to rest (or went out-of-bounds) and to the edge, 2 club lengths, onto the fairway, but no nearer the hole. The golfer takes a two-stroke penalty (hitting 4) and plays on instead of returning to the tee.

NOTE: If option #1 is used (hitting a provisional ball) then #2 is no longer an option.

- iii. **Falcon Ridge Hole #7:** A player hitting the ball right of the cart path must play the ball as follows:

- i. A ball landing on the right side between the cart path and the home owner's property line is considered to be in a red penalty area. Follow the rules for red penalty area. In this case the options are:
 - a) Hit out of the penalty area, no penalty.
 - b) Drop within two (2) club-lengths, but no nearer the hole, of the spot where the ball crossed into the penalty area and assess a one (1) stroke penalty.
 - c) Drop as close as possible where the ball was previously shot and assess a one (1) stroke penalty.
- ii. A ball lost or landing on the home owner's property is considered out of bounds and the rules for ball out-of-bounds must be followed.
 - a) Drop as close as possible where the ball was previously shot and assess a two (2) stroke penalty.
 - b) Drop on the edge of the fairway, no nearer the hole, where the ball last crossed into the penalty area and assess a two (2) stroke penalty.

NOTE: Disregard the white line on the cart path on this hole. When the course made the left side of this hole an out of bounds area they changed the rule as stated above.

- 3) The board also discussed the current local rule for hole #10 at The Palms. When the gold tees were moved back across the ravine, the gold tee players were allowed to play from the red tees. This will no longer be allowed and gold tee players will play the gold tees on this hole.
- 4) In addition to the USGA and Local MMGA rules, all local course rules apply when playing an MMGA event. These rules are noted on the specific golf course score card and members must be aware of and abide by all local course rules.
- 5) In addition to USGA, "The Rules of Golf" (Latest edition), and "Local Rules" at the golf course being played (As noted on the score card or otherwise posted at the course), MMGA sanctioned events (normal weekly play and tournaments) will be conducted using the following guidelines.
 - i. When in doubt, or situations occur during the course of play that are not governed by these rules and guidelines, play should be conducted using the basic tenets of golf: (1) Play the course as you find it; and (2) Play the ball as it lies.
 - ii. Any unusual or undefined situations that occur should be brought to the attention of the Rules Committee for determination. When unsure of a rule, or a decision clarifying a rule occurs during play, you should play the remainder of the hole using a ball for both

alternatives to the situation, noting your score to both alternatives, and seek resolution from the Committee prior to certifying your score.

- 6) Ken Ward made a motion to adopt the new 2019 USGA rules and adopt all specific course rules and MMGA local rules. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.
- 7) Gary Denhalter will write a document to explain the three (3) MMGA local rules and send to board members for comment. The document will then be sent to the membership and posted on the MMGA web site under "local rules".
- 8) The board wants to ensure that we have events where members play with different partners than normal. A motion was made to have a "blind draw" for all monthly Mini-Tournaments that will be conducted by Tournament Directors (Rod and Tim) on the day of the tournament. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned and 3:00 P.M.