Limerick Times

USGA Rules of Golf

New Rules are Effective January 1, 2019

The new Rules of Golf for 2019 were supposed to simply the Rules as well as make some changes that may have not made sense in the old rules. Currently, there are 34 rules in about 134 pages, plus the appendices and the Rules of Amateur Status. The *new* Rules reduce this down to 24 Rules in 156 pages. So much for simplifying!

Well, let's get started!

Rule 2 - The Course

2.2(a). The General Area – The general area covers the entire course except for the four specific areas of the course described in Rule 2.2(b).

It is called the "general" area because;

It covers most of the course and is where a player's ball will most often be played until the ball reaches the putting green.

It includes every type of ground and growing or attached object found in the area, such as fairway, rough and trees.

2.2(b). The four Specific Areas – Certain Rules apply specifically to the four areas of the course that are not in the general area:

- The teeing area the player must use in starting the hole he or she is playing (Rule 6.2),
- All penalty areas (Rule 17),
- All **bunkers** (Rule 12), and
- The **putting green** of the hole the player is playing (Rule 13).

I can go on with this, but the point is that these areas can determine what you can and cannot do depending on the area you are in! For example, if you are going to drop a ball in relief area in the **General** area of the golf course, you will be allowed to drop the ball close to the ground, making sure that you have air between the ball being dropped and the ground or grass on which the ball is to be dropped. The ball previously was to be dropped and could not roll more than two club-lengths, no closer to the hole. Now the ball must stay within the relief area.

We will be going over some of the rule changes each month.

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Ron's Golf Tips

Putting

I've listened to a couple of great players and teachers of the game regarding the "short game".

Bob Toski (1954 Money List Leader) was the first on putting. He believes that modern teachers don't teach putting correctly. He sees teachers that are teaching players not to use their wrists and hands in putting as a mistake. If you don't use your hands or wrists in the putting stroke, you will have to use your shoulders rocking up and down to move the clubhead. This reduces the touch and feel that the best putters in the game have always had. The club's only contact with your body is through the hands; giving the hands the immediate feedback to how well the ball was struck. Some of the greatest putters of all time used a lot of wrist during the stroke. They include; Billy Casper, Arnold Palmer, Bobby Locke and Ben Crenshaw.

To hit a long putt close to the hole without wrist would require a great deal of body motion, where wrist can easily pop the ball a great distance while keeping your body and head still during the swing.

Dave Stockton, one of the greatest putters of all time, teaches tour players and amateurs alike to be comfortable over the putt. He said, "I don't care if they putt left hand low, cut across the ball or any other method. The more comfortable the player is, the better they will putt. One thing that Dave is sure about is that the putter must have some loft on it (except Zach Johnson). The average loft should be about 4 degrees so that the player can have the hands forward about 4 degrees. Some players may be 2 degrees of loft with less forward shaft-lean or zero degrees for Zach Johnson because his hands are far behind the ball.

I feel that putting is so personal, that being comfortable is correct unless the setup does not match the loft of the putter. It is cheaper and easier to make a slight setup adjustment than to buy a new putter.

Here's what I would like you to do. Hit putts concentrating on where you hit the ball on the clubface. If it is low on the clubface, you may have the ball position too far forward. If you strike the ball near the top of putter, your ball position may be too far back in your stance. Experiment around with your ball position and hand position until you can strike the ball perfectly. If you can do this, you will find that you will have better distance control, read putts better and make more putts.

More From Ron

Chipping

The **Paul Runyan** method is one of the best methods of chipping. Chipping is a shot that is close to the green where it is easier to hit the ball a short distance onto the green and have the ball roll at least two times as far as it went in the air. The Runyan method is to use a putting method of chipping. This means, being much closer to the ball at address with your hands high enough that only the toe of the club touches the ground. This way, if you hit the ground, only a ¼" or so of the club will touch the ground. If you catch the ground a little early, you will still get a good result.

Paul Runyan played on tour when most events were match play. He would watch a player chip; if the player did not use a putting method of chipping, he knew he was going to win the match.

Paul won 29 times on tour with two PGA Championships.

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Walkers on the Golf Course

The safest direction to walk the cart paths while golfers are playing is, walking the course **against the direction of play**. The golfers start on hole #1; the walkers should start on the cart path next to the #9 green. When the golfers are playing, the walkers should play close attention to those hitting the ball in case it is to come in their direction. When appropriate, move off to the side and stand still so as not to distract the golfer striking the ball. **The walkers walk at their own risk**. For this reason, I think it is wise to walk the course when there is minimum amount of play, such as early morning and late afternoon.

The walker should have their **dogs on a leash**, and the owner needs to pick up and dispose of any little surprises that their dogs may leave behind.

If you are in doubt as to the proper etiquette, please call or stop by the Pro Shop for some instructions.

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Long Range Plans for areas around the Pro Shop

I have the completed schematic of areas around the Pro Shop back from the architect, John Steidel. This includes possible additions to the building, chipping green, putting green, warmup area, patio and changes to the 1st fairway. This will be a plan that we can use to make sure that any changes that we make don't eliminate others that we may want to do later. The plan will be talked about at the next Greens Committee Meeting on August 7th at 2 pm. You are welcome to attend.

Greens Committee

The Greens Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 2 PM, unless changed for a good reason.

The Greens Committee discusses current problems and changes that they/we may want to make to the golf program, golf course or areas around the Pro Shop. Included in this are the budget, tournaments, policies, capital improvements, pricing for green fees, carts, cart shed, trail fees and annual memberships. The committee meeting is for members to come and give their input into possible changes. The committee makes decisions and may or may not make recommendations for Board approval. Although the Board of Directors make all decisions, the committee does the due diligence to give them the best chance of coming to the best decision for the HOA once a request is made. If you have an interest or ideas, we encourage you to come to the meeting.

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New LLCC Golf "Policy"

"Practicing on the Golf Course"

2.13 Practicing on the golf course is limited to two balls. Designated practice area on the golf course is **to the right of Hole number three in front of the Blue Tee box**. All divots must be replaced or filled with sand and seed. Ball marks on the practice green on hole number three need to be repaired prior to leaving the area.

Reason for the addition; some players are hitting too many balls onto greens causing too many divots in the fairway and ball marks on the greens. Additionally, they are delaying golf course maintenance in the morning hours when the crew is trying to get the golf course ready for the day.

Please replace or fill your divots with sand and seed. Please repair all your ball marks, plus a couple.

Personnel Update

During the month of July, our Water Manager, **Steve Wheaton**, moved to Arizona. Everyone who worked with Steve knows that he will truly be missed. However, we were lucky to have **Joe Castelluccio** our Maintenance Supervisor working closely with Steve these last few years. Joe received his WDM1 (Water Department Manager Level 1) certification while helping Steve and has gone on to achieve a WDM2. Because of Joe's intimate knowledge of our water system, it was only logical to have him move over to the Water Department, as the new manager. This left an opening for a Maintenance Manager. After conducting interviews, we have hired **Duane Carlson** as our new Maintenance Manager. He is multi-skilled and comes with a background in iron working, building and management. We are pleased to have Duane as part of our team, and he is happy to be here and is looking forward to serving the community.

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Lake Treatment Update

We've had a hot summer and it is great to cool down by jumping in the lake! But no one wants to swim in the weeds.....

Lake Leprechaun's weed treatment has been completed and the effects are starting to show. Lake Limerick has had one treatment which occurred on **Tuesday**, **July 24th**. Only certain parts of the lake get treated, and it is safe to swim and have water activities in all other areas of the lake. The advisory states that just the treated areas should have a 24-hour waiting period before swimming. As soon as we get notice of any future treatment, we'll blast out an email and put it on the website.

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Anglia Beach Electronic Gate Keys

Anglia Beach is located near the dam. Access is restricted to Lake Limerick Country Club **land owners only.** To get your electronic key, bring your membership card to the main office and pick one up. The cost has been held to \$5.00 each. When you sell your property, you should return the key to the main office and let the new owners purchase their own. If the sale takes place and your key is not returned, there will be a \$25.00 charge added to your final bill.

Rhonda Hunt Accounts Receivable

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21 AND OVER PLEASE

It's after 4 PM. You've had a long, hard day. You are tired. But, you want one glass of wine with your dinner. You know good and well you don't have anything at home AND the thought of the Fred Meyer parking lot or the selection at a quick stop turns you off. Remember the restaurant at The Inn at Lake Limerick Country Club (*Wednesday through Sunday*). The selection is good, it pairs well with food, and you don't have to drink a full bottle at the restaurant ... you can take it home.

Problem solved! If you're 21 and over.

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"Limerick Open" Fundraising Tournament

Repairing #7 Green

A fundraising tournament is being held **Friday, August 24th**, with a start time of **10 AM.** We'll be shotgun starting and playing an 18-hole scramble. The entry fee is \$65 for HOA members, and for public you just have to pay the difference on green fees (\$23.50 extra). The day will start with a continental breakfast – and a taco bar will close the day out. Both meals will be included with your entry fee.

Additionally, we are accepting **hole sponsorships at \$100.00** per **hole**, no limit to the amount of sponsors we can have. At the Pro Shop, we also have a **50/50 raffle** at just one dollar per ticket – come put your name in the pot! Proceeds from this tournament will go directly to rebuilding the green on Hole #7! Applications are available at the Pro Shop, or by clicking on the below link.

Limerick Open Applicant Sheet

August Edition: Outstanding Member Performance

- **Joel Gray** shot a 40 for nine holes on the first of July *very nicely done, Joel.*
- One of the most feared golfers on our course, **Renie Dyson**, shot a great score of 98 on 7/23/28.
- The Chairman for our Greens Committee, Vern Duggan, got an Eagle on hole eight. Outstanding!
- Last but not least **Gayle Wilcox** shot a low of only 24 putts for her entire round. *Amazing!*

Congratulations to all!!

(NOTE: If you do something outstanding on the course, be sure to note it at the Pro Shop.)

"National Night Out"

Let's Build 'Community' in Our Country Club



Take to the Streets on your block Get to know your neighbors! 5:00 pm—7:00 pm

"What can we do about the increase in crime ... car prowls, mail theft, personal property disappearing right off our lots?

Question Answered

- 1. Go outside at 5:00 pm and get to know your neighbors.
- 2. Say hello from your porch, or enjoy your evening beverage while sitting in your front yard.
 - 3. Bake cookies and offer them to your neighbors as a "hello snack."

You'll Need Each Other in an Emergency.
Don't Wait Until it's Too Late!

National community-police awareness-raising event held the first Tuesday of August.