

# White Lake Golf Club • Local Rules

6/16/2025

**Cart Paths and Maintenance Roads:** All roads and paths on the course, even if not artificially surfaced, are treated as immovable obstructions from which **Free Relief\*** is allowed. (Rules 16.1b & MLR F-17)

**Extensive Damage Due to Rain and Traffic:** Ground Under Repair includes areas of unusual damage to the course, (such as deep ruts caused by vehicles) **Free Relief\*** is allowed, (Rule MLR F-4)

**Out of Bounds (OB):** OB at WLGC is defined as the white stakes on holes #1, 2 and 3 and the white fence on holes #1,12,13 and 18. For white stakes OB is defined as a line drawn between the course side of the white stakes at ground level. For the white fence OB is defined as a line drawn between the course side of the fence posts at ground level. A ball at rest is out of bounds only when all of it is outside the boundary edge of the course. (a good rule of thumb to remember is, “A ball is in unless it’s all the way out”.) The penalty for OB is stroke and distance. (Rule 18.2a)

**Alternative Out of Bounds or Lost Ball Relief:** WLGC has adopted a 2<sup>nd</sup> relief option for OB or Lost Ball relief. The player may drop in the area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway (2 club lengths into the fairway is allowed). The player gets 2 penalty strokes when using this option. (This option cannot be used for an unplayable ball, or for a ball that is known or virtually certain to be in a penalty area.) (Rule MLR E-5)

**Wrong Green:** Any green on the course other than the putting green the player is playing. If a ball lies on the wrong green or on its fringe, **Free Relief\* is Required**. (Rule 13.1f & MLR D-4.2)

**Root Rule:** if your ball lies on or near a root “**located in the fairway or within 4 club lengths of the edge**” of the fairway you may take **Free Relief\*** (Rule 16.1b & MLR F-9) For all other encounters with roots play the ball as it lies or use the **Unplayable Ball\***, rule (19.2).

**Waste Areas:** The prepared areas of sand on holes: #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7 and #8 are included in the **general area** of the course and are not bunkers. Relief is not allowed in waste areas for footprints, hoof prints or an embedded ball. (Rule 16.3b & MLR C-2.1)

# Notes & Clarifications

**Between the Creek and the Road:** There is no free relief between the creek and the road Unless specifically authorized by the PGA Pro. For relief use **Unplayable Ball\*** (rule 19.2) or **Embedded Ball\*** (16.3).

**Relief From Abnormal Course Conditions (ACC), Rule 16: Animal Holes, Ground Under Repair, Immovable Obstructions & Temporary Water.** ACC relief is given in all areas of the course except for red & yellow penalty areas. Nearest point of complete relief and one club length from that reference point, no closer to the hole than the reference point. Free Relief is only given for your Stance, Swing and Lie. There is no Free Relief for the line of flight.

**WLGC Immovable Obstructions include:** ball washers, benches, bird houses, irrigation controls, yardage markers, The Bell, buildings, staked trees, tree stumps, drains, sprinklers etc. Free Relief\* is allowed for interference of stance, swing and lie *only*. There is no Free Relief for the line of flight.

**Boundary Objects,** (i.e. white stakes or the white fence) There is no Free Relief when the immovable obstruction is a boundary object. use Unplayable ball\* (Rule 19.2).

**Stumps:** all stumps that were removed and covered with soil/seed are Ground Under Repair.

**\*Unplayable Ball, Rule 19,** relief is given in all areas of the course except for red & yellow penalty areas. For one penalty stroke the player has the option of: Stroke and Distance, Back on the Line and Lateral Relief (2 club lengths no closer to the hole.)

**\*Embedded Ball, Rule 16.3,** Free Relief is given if a ball is embedded in its own pitch mark as a result of the previous stroke and part of the ball is below the level of the ground. There is no relief if the ball is embedded in any area of the course except the general area. **Exception,** embedded ball relief is not allowed in the waste areas.

**Free Relief Embedded Ball, Rule 16.3b:** One club length behind the embedded ball in either direction, no closer to the hole. The ball must be dropped not placed.