



KEY ROYALE CLUB GOLF RULES AND ETIQUETTE

All organized events at Key Royale Golf Club are governed by USGA Rules as default and KRC Local Rules

USGA RULES – ALL USGA RULES ALWAYS APPLY. THE FOLLOWING ARE INCLUDED AS A REMINDER:

RESOLVING RULES ISSUES – Resolving rule issues without a referee:

1. Stroke Play – Ask playing partners for a ruling. If uncertain, play a second ball and maintain 2 scores for that hole. Resolve ruling by committee or tournament organizer before round is finalized.
2. Match Play – Always ask your opponent for a ruling. You and your opponent may agree on how to decide a rules issue or clarify any uncertainty provided neither deliberately agree to ignore a rule or penalty you both knew applied.

BALLS LIFTED OR MOVED BY OUTSIDE INFLUENCE - If it is known or virtually certain that an outside influence (ie. Crow, other animal, person, etc.) lifted, moved or removed a players ball, the ball (or a new ball if taken) must be replaced on the nearest estimated spot to its original position, without penalty.

GROUNDING CLUB – INTENTIONAL & UNINTENTIONAL

1. Improving Lie - Intentional grounding of the club with the intent to improve the lie in all areas of the golf course incurs a the General Penalty: 2 stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play.
2. Greenside Bunkers - Incidental, unintentional or intentional touching sand in greenside bunkers, directly in back of or in front of ball during practice swing or backswing is considered improving lie and incurs the General Penalty.
3. Other areas - Waste Bunkers and Penalty areas (such as water hazards) are treated the same as general areas. There is no penalty for intentionally or unintentionally grounding club or touching elements inside the area (as long as the intent was not to improve the lie).

HITTING ANOTHER BALL ON GREEN – If your ball hits another ball on the green, leave your ball where it comes to rest and replace the other ball as near as possible to where it was before being hit. In stroke play format, if you were on the putting green and hit another ball, you incur a 2 stroke penalty so please request opponent marks ball before you putt. If you were not on the green when you made your stroke, there is no penalty. There is no penalty in match play.

ACCIDENTALLY HITTING YOUR OWN BALL – See **USGA Rules Description** – In short, On The Tee – No penalty, On the Putting Green – No penalty, Anywhere else on course – 1 stroke penalty. Replace ball back to original position. If ball is not replaced to original position, players receives a 2-stroke penalty for playing from wrong place.



PUTTS SHALL BE HOLED - All organized Stroke Play Format tournaments require all putts to be holed with no “gimmees”, regardless of how short the putt may be. If ball is picked up prior to entering hole, the player has not finished the hole and is disqualified. When playing in a Match Play format, your opponent may elect, at his/her discretion, to concede the putt (you do not have to putt but must still count the stroke).

PRACTICING ON COURSE BEFORE, DURING OR AFTER ROUNDS – TOURNAMENTS & CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS

1. Stroke Play – On the day of a Stroke-Play Competition: Players must not practice on the course before a round, except they may practice putting or chipping on or near the 1st tee box and any designated practice areas. First breach is a 2 stroke penalty, second breach is disqualification. Players may practice on the course AFTER their round.
2. Match Play – Players may practice on the course before or between rounds of a match-play competition.
3. During a Round – Players may practice putting and chipping on or near the hole just completed or any practice green or the teeing area of the next hole. Practice shall not be from a bunker and shall not cause unreasonable delay.

KEY ROYALE COURSE ETIQUETTE

SAFETY – Be aware of other players and golf course personnel on the golf course. Do not hit balls towards other players intentionally. Allow players to clear ahead of you before hitting your shot. Please yell “FORE” when a ball is accidentally hit towards others.

BUNKERS – Rakes shall be placed INSIDE bunkers along the low side of the bunker (side farthest from Green).

SAND DIVOTS – Please fill all divots with sand and then swipe your foot across it to flatten sand even with the surrounding grass. Protruding sand will dull the mower blades. Do NOT replace the original turf. Unlike northern climates, in Florida, replacing the divots hinders the re-growth of grass.

BALL MARKS – Please repair your ball mark on greens. Properly repairing ball marks allows for faster recovery of the damaged area. Please educate yourself on the proper way to repair a ball mark. It is proper etiquette that you repair your own ball mark and at least one other one.

SPEED – Please always play “Ready Golf” with player farthest from the hole playing first. Be ready to hit your ball when it’s your turn. Allow faster golfers to “play through

PRACTICE BALLS – Do not play multiple balls or practice multiple shots on course, greens, bunkers, etc. Use only the designated practice areas for driving, chipping and putting.

DRESS CODE – Please adhere to the KRC dress code when on the course or in the club house. Wear appropriate golf attire correctly. See KRC Handbook for details.



KEY ROYALE LOCAL RULES – ALWAYS IN EFFECT

PREFERRED LIES - LIFT, CLEAN and PLACE within 6" applies in all Fairways and Rough (Not bunkers).

ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS – Areas that should have grass but do not (spotted areas in fairways), ball can be moved to nearest point of relief no closer to the hole, no penalty.

DROP ZONES may be used with a 1-Stroke Penalty:

Playing #2, ball in water may be replayed from Drop Zone in front of Gold Tees.

Playing #4, ball in landscaping to right of green may be played from adjacent Drop Zone.

ALL WATER HAZARDS ARE RED PENALTY AREAS – Lateral Relief applies, any rocks surrounding the penalty area are part of the penalty area. Landscaped area, far end of hole #2 water hazard (closest to green) is part of the penalty area. Take relief per USGA Rules.

BEHIND GREEN HAZARDS – Balls that enter water hazards behind greens on holes 4, 5, 6 & 7 are allowed a drop on green side within 1 club length from penalty area boundary with 1-stroke penalty.

DRAINAGE DITCHES – Ball in drainage ditch is allowed free relief no closer to hole.

OBSTRUCTIONS – Storm Shelters, Maintenance Buildings & Fence, Sand Boxes, Tree Supports, Water Stations, Sprinkler Heads are Immovable Obstructions, Take free relief per USGA Rules.

OBSTRUCTIONS NEAR GREENS (Sprinkler Heads) - Sprinkler (or other immovable obstruction) interferes with line of play (putt) – There is relief if the sprinkler head (or other immovable obstruction) is in the line of play ONLY if ALL of the following are true:

1. The player's ball lies through-the-green (not in a bunker or other hazard)
2. The sprinkler head (or other Immovable Obstruction) is within 2 club lengths of the putting green
3. Player's ball is within 2 club lengths of the sprinkler head (or other Immovable Obstruction).
4. Sprinkler head (or other Immovable Obstruction) intervenes on the line-of-play (or putt) between ball and hole

If all of the above are true, the player is entitled to the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole, that avoids the intervention and is not in a hazard or on putting green. Note – this is not 1 club length, it is the nearest point that avoids the intervention to line of putt.

LANDSCAPED AREAS – In KRC Course General Area, all landscaped areas with trees and shrubs are treated as Red Penalty Areas (Lateral hazard). Landscaped areas include any crushed stone, dirt, mulch, sand or rocks that surround the area and make up the boundary. Player may play it as it lies (grounding of club is allowed) or take a 1-stroke penalty and drop at nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole, outside either side of the landscaped area boundary. As example, a ball played on hole 6 and entering the landscaped area between 6 fairway and 7 tee area may be dropped outside the boundary on the hole 6 side, no closer to the hole, with a 1-stroke penalty (or played as it lies).

Feb 16, 2022



PLAY IT AS IT LIES – All other areas of the course are “Play it as it Lies”, **UNPLAYABLE LIES** shall be played per USGA Rules with 1-stroke penalty.

OUT OF BOUNDS/LOST BALL – Local Model Rule E5 is always in effect for Stroke & Distance penalty. This allows for a drop in the fairway with a 2-stroke penalty as an alternative to going back and re-hitting from previous position. See USGA Rules for details.

PLEASE NOTE – *Paver area next to hole 1 Tee is the only official cart path. The parking lot on hole 3 and the roads along holes 4 & 5 & 9 are out of bounds.*