

BHSML Local Rules and Points of Emphasis

- BHSML does not permit “Gimmees.: Putt your ball into the hole.
- Preferred Lie: The League plays “Winter Rules” or “Preferred Lie” from
 - Start of league Play to June 1st; September 1st to end of League Play. The League has adopted USGA Local Rule #-3 (modified) for Preferred Lies.
 - When a player’s ball lies in the FAIRWAY, the player by take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in the RELIEF Area.
 - **Reference Point:** From the original location of the ball, locate the closest point of undamaged FAIRWAY. (Note: this may be the same location as the ball came to rest.)
 - Size of Relief Area, measured from the Reference Point: **One (1) club length**
 - Relief Area must be no closer to the hole and in the fairway.
 - Ball may be lifted, cleaned and placed in the Relief area
 - **Once the ball is placed, no further movement of the ball is permitted without incurring a two (2) stroke general penalty.**
- Lost ball or out of bounds:
 - The League has adopted the USGA Local Rule E-5 for lost or out of bounds balls.
 - Estimate where ball came to rest or went out of bounds (A).
 - From that point, find nearest point on the fairway, not closer to the hole (B).
 - Drop ball in the fairway, within one club length of point B
 - See USGA rule at <https://tinyurl.com/y2v88ows>
- Suggested techniques to speed up play (BHSML 2017)
 - Play Ready Golf. Tee off when ready as soon as fairway is safe
 - Putt out on short putts. Don’t re-mark ball
 - Clear the green, post scores at the next tee box rather than at green
 - Leave your cart on the side of the green closest to next hole
 - Help other players find lost ball
 - Go to your ball while waiting for your partner to his ball if your ball is within reasonable walking distance.