

NEW RULES FOR 1992

Ball Lying In A Hazard, Other Changes Noted

This week we will examine the last two significant rules changes. These changes stand a better than even chance of occurring some time this year in your foursome.

Rule 13-4, Ball Lying in or Touching Hazard, has always had a rigid interpretation by officials and in the decisions on the rules. It has always been well known that you may not ground your club in a hazard and you may not touch the water in a water hazard prior to making your swing.

The new rule takes note of some recent decisions which loosened up the interpretation of this rule, by making exceptions when a player falls in a hazard or when he touches the sand in a bunker while picking up a rake. They also allow accidental contact with the sand while the player is measuring in a bunker or when his ball is being marked and lifted under the rules.

The exceptions are all providing the player has done nothing which would constitute testing the hazard or improving the lie of the ball. Under those circumstances a penalty would continue to be in order.

This is nice addition to the rules. I remember when they first allowed us to take a rake in the bunker with us provided we did nothing to test the conditions. That was an equally nice revision to the rules and contributed to faster play, as well.

Some Bunkers Are Too Steep

On some of today's new courses with very steep walls on deep bunkers, it can well be expected that some folks will lose their balance and take a tumble. I remember watching a professional golfer on a TV show at The PGA West Course when he literally could not take any thing resembling a normal stance. Every time he attempted to take a back swing he lost his balance and had to retreat down that extra steep bank around the green. He finally changed clubs, took a stance ninety degrees open to the line of flight and chunked the ball on the green.

Two exceptions to Rule 13-4 have been consolidated into one to clarify those circumstances when a player may indeed touch the hazard without penalty. Also a "Note" has been added to list those kinds of objects that may be touched by the player in the act of making a backswing. Those objects are obstructions, grass, bushes, trees or any growing thing.

Borrowing Clubs

Prior to 1988 players were prohibited from borrowing clubs from anyone on the course. In that year, however, Rule 4-4, Maximum of Clubs, was changed to allow a player to borrow a club from anyone so long as the Good Samaritan or lender did not use the loaned club for the remainder of the round.

This year Rule 4-4 has been changed back to the original idea due to the many weird situations which have occurred. The new rule states that the addition or replacement of clubs may not be made by borrowing any club that is in the bag of any person playing on the course.

Golfers who start a round with less than 14 clubs or who damage a club in the normal course of play are allowed to add or replace such clubs as long as it does not unduly delay play. I should add that the use of the word "normal" is interpreted in the decisions to the effect that any club damaged due to intentional abuse, may not be replaced.

I remember a young feller in The Amateur at the Brick that whacked a tree with an offending putter and saw the blade of the putter fall on the ground. He was obliged to finish the round by putting with his one-iron and then go in search of a club repairman.

While reading Rule 4-4, I noticed something that had escaped my attention before. Partners may share clubs so long as the number of clubs carried by the partners does not exceed 14. I have played in some wacky tournaments where partners played out of one bag, but I had always thought that was a special rule just for the tournament. I had no idea such was provided in the rules.

Seniors Golf At Lion's Paw

Brunswick County Parks and Recreation hosted a senior golf tournament last Tuesday at Lion's Paw Golf Links at Grissetown, with 127 competing.

Top finishers, listed in order of finish in each age group with their scores, were as follows:

Men 55-59: Jim Kieley, 79; Ron Painter, 80; Don Martin, 83.

Women 55-59: Marge Roach, 95; Ellen Parker, 96; Florence Greene, 96.

Men 60-64: Jim Parker, 70; Albert Thomas, 75; Warren McDonald, 81.

Women 60-64: Betty Holt, 89; Lib Brooks, 92; Vivian Rowe, 107.

Men 65-69: Bill Lewis, 76; Emery Toth, 81; Ray Linder, 82.

Women 65-69: Donna Jenks, 95; Harriet McKinney, 105; Jana Eberly, 106.

Men 70-74: Ed Aston, 80; Bill Lucas, 80; Larry Doelman, 84.

Women 70-74: Jody Cole, 105; Margaret Wood, 109; Louise Bowns, 111.

Men 75-79: Jim Smith, 87; Donald Seitz, 97; Jim Jeffries, 106.

Women 75-79: Loraine Smith, 113; Margaret Porterfield, 113.

Men 80-84: Buss Neville, 110.

Men 85 and over: Larry Nielsen, 103.

Seniors play next on Wednesday, March 11, at The Gauntlet at St. James Plantation near Southport.

The cost of \$20 per player covers green and cart fees and lunch following play. The tournament begins at 10:30 a.m. and will be limited to 100 golfers.

For information, or to register, call the pro shop at 1-800-247-4806.

Brierwood Tops Fox Squirrel In Match Play

A team of Brierwood men beat a group from Fox Squirrel in a match play golf tournament last Friday at Brierwood.

Teams were limited to 20 players from each course. Each twosome could win a total of three points for match play wins on the front nine, back nine and all 18 holes.

Brierwood had 38 points in the tournament, and the Fox Squirrel team finished with 22 points.

John Wilson of Fox Squirrel won closest to the pin honors at the ninth hole.

Sea Trail Ladies

Pat Reid won the gold charm as winner of the recent Sea Trail Ladies Golf Association Charm Tournament, which is the group's big event of the year.

Betty Geesey received the silver charm, and Nancy Mehne was named most improved golfer of the year.

In more recent action, the team of Kitty Smoker and Nancy Williams shot 68 to win the nine-hole blind draw tournament last Wednesday.

Mehne and Geesey took second place with 78.5. Reid and Eva Baham were third with 79.5.

Other top finishers were Caroline Young and Marge Stokes, 80.5; Gayle Schadle and Dorothy Cambria, 81; Jennie Botts and Joan Llewellyn, 81.5; Jane Bye and Betty Dawley, 83; and Betty Street and Freddie Kimball, 84.5.

Mehne and Smoker had birdies at the fifth hole. The tournament was played on the Jones course at Sea Trail.

Carolina Shores Ladies

The foursome of Helen Morrison, Dottie Russo, Sue Greiner and Jean Palmer shot 65 to win the Carolina Shores Ladies Golf Association tournament Jan. 16.

Finishing four shots back in second place was the team of Lynn Jerr, Dot Trostle, Irene Crane and Cissie Fleming.

On a match of cards, the team of Betty Kibblehouse, Sally Manifold, Louise Oldman and Pat Kennedy (blind draw) took third place with net 72.

Flo Warren chipped in at the fifth hole and had low putts for the day with 13. Kibblehouse birdied the second hole.

Sea Trail Men

John Ewart accumulated 47 points to win the Sea Trail Men's Golf Association points tournament last week on the Jones course.

Golfers used 75 percent of their handicaps and received eight points for eagle, five for birdie, two for par and one for bogey.

Runners-up were Ray Washam with 46 points, Roger Young with 45 and John Walker with 39.

Closest to the pin winners were Bill Miller at the second hole, Dick Zinser at the fifth, Howard Van Dusen at the 13th and John Walker at the 17th.

Brierwood Ladies

Joanna Lang shot net 28.5 to win the first flight in the Brierwood Ladies Golf Association tournament last week.

Golfers counted even-numbered holes on the front nine and odd-numbered holes on the back nine and used half of their handicaps.



and Carolyn McCroskey tied for second with 31.5. Ginny Anzelone and Ahearn tied for low putts with 30 each.

Emily Laughlin led the way in the fourth flight with 29.5. Lou Culp was second with 32.5 and May Robertson had low putts with 33.

Birdies during the round were carded by Joyce Thompson at the third hole and Doris Dunfee at the ninth. Anzelone chipped in at the 14th.

CS Travel League

Len Brown fired net 71 to win the first flight in the Carolina Shores Men's Travel League tournament last Friday.

Other top finishers in the first flight were John Pointer and Ken Earl with 75, John Farley with 76 and Dick Powell with 77. The tournament was played on the Byrd course at Sea Trail Plantation.

Second flight winners were Gene

Miltner with net 73, Hal Todd with 74, Bert Reed with 75, Claude Tyson with 77 and Bob Lupean with 78.

Top finishers in the third flight were Al Storm and Jack O'Connell with 73, Tony Basile with 76, Al Decker with 77 and Tom Keene with 80.

Sea Trail Couples

The team of Joe Reid, Bob Moore, Dinah Gore and Gail Schadle shot net 62 to take first place in the Sea Trail Couples golf scramble Sunday.

Ron Schadle, John Stokes, Nancy Mehne and Ruth Kivett took second place with net 66.

The foursome of Dave Deferie, John Penfield, Adele Stephens and Dorothy Cambria placed third with a net 67.

Kitty Smoker and Lois Curry hosted an awards buffet at the Maples clubhouse following the tournament.

West Grapplers Win County Title; First Round Playoffs Start Tuesday

West Brunswick's wrestling team will compete in the first round of the state 1-A/2-A team playoffs next Tuesday after clinching the Brunswick County championship last week.

The Trojans, who host the county tournament Saturday, will battle the top team from the Capital Area Conference in opening-round playoff action Tuesday at Dixon High School, said Coach Joe Noble.

West Brunswick captured the county regular-season title and playoff berth after winning three of four dual meets against county competition during the regular season.

The Trojans wrapped up their county schedule with a 45-30 decision over South Brunswick last Tuesday in Shalotte.

North Brunswick, which won the county title last year, also went 3-1 in county competition in 1992. But West Brunswick finished the season

with a slight edge in total points in county matches, 175-150.

If West Brunswick wins its first-round playoff match next Tuesday, Noble said the Trojans will face Dixon in the second round on Thursday.

The Bulldogs, ranked second in the state in the 1-A/2-A class, won the Coastal Plains Conference this year.

The county tournament this Saturday won't have a bearing on the team playoffs, but could affect individual standings and berths in the state tournament in mid-February.

The top 16 wrestlers in each weight class qualify for the East Regionals to be held Feb. 14 and 15 in Williamston. The state finals will be Feb. 21 and 22 in Greensboro.

South Brunswick Results
103 pounds: D. Johnson (WB) pinned Arnold, 4:38; 112 pounds: B. Johnson (WB) pinned May, 5:35;

119 pounds: Earwood (WB) pinned Ramirez, 3:35; 125 pounds: Folding (SB) pinned Woodard, 5:22; 130 pounds: Jones (WB) defeated Rohde, 13-9; 135 pounds: Haughn (SB) won by forfeit; 140 pounds: Mitchell (WB) pinned A. Frazier, 4:49; 145 pounds: Andreis (WB) pinned Shephard, 1:54; 152 pounds: T. Ramirez (SB) won by disqualification; 160 pounds: Craven (SB) pinned E. Johnson, 4:17; 189 pounds: Hickman (WB) won by forfeit; Heavyweight: Brooks (WB) pinned Deitz, 0:47.

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