



*Tidewater Golfweek Amateur Tour*  
Express Oil and Tire Classic  
@ Riverfront Golf Club  
**NOTICE TO PLAYERS**



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**USGA Rules of Golf effective January 1, 2019, the local rules on both sides of this sheet and any additional local rules announced prior to a shotgun start governs play at this Tidewater Golfweek Amateur Tournament.**

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**- LOCAL RULES and USGA RULES OF GOLF -**

**TEES TO PLAY** - The tees to play are listed on the official tournament score card.

**PLAY the BALL DOWN** unless noted otherwise prior to the start of play. The ball must be played as it lies, except as otherwise provided in the Rules/Announcements.

**HOLE LOCATIONS** noted prior to the start of play.

**CART RULES** noted prior to the start of play.

**DROP ZONES (BALL DROP)** - As an option, drop area (Forward Tee Box) are provided on Par 3's with water for balls entering lateral water hazards from teeing areas. A one stroke penalty applies if this option is used.

Holes #4, #11 & #13 - Between the Forward Red Tee Markers

**STONES IN BUNKERS** - Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions.

**WASTE AREAS** - If any, noted prior to the start of play.

**AERATION HOLES** - Through the green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

**RULE 3-3 - DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE:** In stroke play only, when during play of a hole a competitor is doubtful of his rights or procedure, he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, the competitor must 1) announce to his marker or a fellow-competitor that he intends to play two balls and 2) which ball they wish to count if the Rules permit. The player **MUST** report the facts of the situation to the Rules Committee before returning his/her scorecard. If they fail to do so, he is disqualified.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR:** is defined by white lines. Fire ant hills and french drains are ground under repair. White-lined areas tying into cart paths are part of those obstructions. Sod seams (not the sod itself) are deemed to be ground under repair, and relief is available under Rule 25-1 if the ball lies in or touches a sod seam or the sod seam interferes with the area of intended swing. All seams within the sodded area are considered the same seam.

**Embedded Ball:** Through the greens, a ball that is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

**DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES** - Local rule allowing the use of devices that measure or gauge distance only is in effect. Rule 14-3, Note and Appendix I.

**ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS (ESA's)** noted prior to the start of play.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR AND SODDED AREAS** - Defined by white lines. White-lined areas tying into cart paths are part of those obstructions. Fire anthills and french drains are ground under repair. A ball coming to rest in a newly sodded seam or edge may be lifted, cleaned and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay which is not in either condition. Relief is granted for the ball only and not the stance. The nearest point of relief may be on the sod itself. All edges and seams are considered the same condition.

**ONE-BALL RULE IS NOT IN EFFECT** - However, the ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA. The player must notify fellow players what ball and markings they are playing.

**OUT OF BOUNDS** - is defined by the inside points of white stakes at ground level, by the inside points of fence posts at ground level and by the inside edge of paved roads and beyond. Relief is not allowed from stakes or fences that mark OB.

**Ornamental Flower Beds:** Planted flower beds outlined in white paint are mandatory drop areas. Take relief using Rule 25-1b (Ground under repair). All other planted beds are considered “through the green”.

**Fire Ants, Alligators, and Snakes:** When a player’s ball is near a fire ant mound, alligator, or a snake that interfere with a player’s stance or swing they are entitled to relief using Rule 25-1b (Ground under repair).

**SUSPENSION OF PLAY for DANGEROUS SITUATION** - Signaled by 1 long air horn blast. All play must cease immediately. All practice areas will be closed during a suspension of play, until the Committee has declared them open again. **\*\* View the LIVE Scoring for any messages from the Tour Director \*\***

**TIME OF STARTING** - If a player arrives late but within five minutes after the assigned starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes at the first hole instead of disqualification (Rule 6-3a). The assigned starting time is that on the Pairings Sheet.

**Close of Competition.** The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been validated in the Live Scoring System and approved by the Tour Director/Committee. In the event of a playoff, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the playoff scores have been approved by the Tour Director/Committee.

**Director & RULES COMMITTEE** - TGAT official-in-charge has final authority on any rulings.

**Triple Bogey Max Score** except Champ Flight. When you reach Triple-Bogey, please pick up .

## At Riverfront Golf Club

- Flights will compete for VISA Gift Cards today. Players above the Green Line in Live Score will be awarded at the next tournament or mailed to the players.
- Scoring and Score Cards- Please review the following rules that deal with scoring and scorecards.
- At the Conclusion of your round. Please have all players come to the registration/scoring table (Where you checked in) to verbally validate that the scorecard matches what is in Live Score.
- We do not need the scorecards, but we need for everyone in the group to tell validate that the scores are correct.
  - First Place Tie Breaker will be a Sudden Death Playoff, Hole #9, unless otherwise noted.
  - Pace of Play—it is each player’s responsibility to keep up his/her pace of play. Please be aware of your group’s position so that we can begin the afternoon start on time just like your start. We will have ON COURSE MARSHALS, and they can give out Warnings & Penalties. Ready Golf!

Players and Groups are taking longer than 3 minutes to search for a ball. Remember if the green is open someone needs to play up.

## COVID RULES:

Scoring & Covid-19 Rules:

- One player in each group must enter Live Score for each Hole!
- All players in the group must validate your Live Score we don’t want the scorecards due to Covid-19.
- No spectators.
- Covid-19 new rules for social distancing (walking allowed, but keep up the Pace).
- Players must social distance by remaining 6 feet apart whenever possible (on the course and throughout the practice facilities).
- Players must refrain from touching their fellow competitors and their equipment before, during or after the round.
- Flagsticks/Pins are to remain in the cup at all times to avoid touching. A device is in each cup preventing total submerging of the golf ball for minimal touching of public surfaces. A ball is defined as holed when at rest with any portion of the ball below the green surface. A 1 stroke penalty will be assessed to any player that removes the flagstick/pin. A second offense is disqualification.
- No Rakes so all bunkers are ground under repair. Place your ball (one scorecard length only) in the bunker, players may smooth the area and place the ball down. The ball must remain in the bunker and within one scorecard length of the original position.
- NO CELEBRATIONS-HIGH FIVES OR END OF ROUND HAND SHAKES.