Pacific Northwest PGA Preferred Lies

The Pacific Northwest Section encourages golfers to play the ball as it lies whenever possible. However, there are local conditions that make playing the game under the Rules impossible or unfair. When these conditions exist, the following Local Rule will be used in all Section and Chapter events.

Players are responsible for understanding whether the Committee has authorized Preferred Lies in the "closely mown area" only or through the green. The Committee will inform players of the specific procedure being used for the competition.

Closely Mown Only

A ball lying on a closely mown area through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves , there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Note: "Closely mown area" means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke at his ball in its original position.

*PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:
Match play - Loss of hole; Stroke play - Two strokes.

*If a player incurs the general penalty for a breach of this Local Rule, no additional penalty under the Local Rule is applied.

**Relief under the Rules of Golf must be taken from the original position.

When conditions warrant using Preferred Lies through the green, the following Local Rule will be used.

Through the Green

A ball lying <u>on a closely mown area</u> through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within <u>one club-length</u> of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A ball lying <u>outside the closely mown area</u> but still through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within <u>six inches</u> of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves , there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Note: "Closely mown area" means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke at his ball in its original position.

*PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:
<u>Match play</u> - Loss of hole; <u>Stroke play</u> - Two strokes.

*If a player incurs the general penalty for a breach of this Local Rule, no additional penalty under the Local Rule is applied.

**Relief under the Rules of Golf must be taken from the original position.