

Davis Senior Golf Club -- New USGA Rules

The following new USGA rules went into effect on January 1, 2019.

- No penalty for accidentally moving your ball or ball marker on the putting green.
- After your ball has been lifted and replaced, if it then moves, replace it on its original spot even if it was blown by the wind or moved for no clear reason.
- Repair of damage is allowed on the putting green (including spike marks and animal damage).
- No penalty if your ball played from the putting green (or anywhere else) hits the unattended flagstick in the hole. In other words, you may putt with the flag in the hole even if you are on the green.
- No penalty if your ball in motion is accidentally deflected by you, your partner, or your equipment.
- No penalty for moving loose impediments, touching the ground, or grounding your club in a penalty area (including bunkers).
- The player may always take an unplayable lie in a bunker with a one stroke penalty. The new rules have an extra option allowing relief outside the bunker, but that option has a two-stroke penalty.
- When a player takes relief, the ball must be let go from knee height. The drop was previously from shoulder height. A player may re-drop without penalty if he forgets to drop from knee height.
- Relief allowed without penalty for an embedded ball anywhere (except in sand) in the “general area” (a new term for “through the green”).
- If your club accidentally strikes your ball more than once during a stroke (double hit), there will be no penalty and your ball is played as it lies. In other words, the swing results in only one stroke even though the ball was hit twice.
- Your ball is lost if not found in three minutes (rather than the previous five minutes).

Davis Senior Golf Club – Local Rules

The following local rules apply to the Senior Club.

Winter and Summer Rules

The senior club plays summer rules April 1 through October 31. A scorecard length is allowed during summer. Winter rules apply November 1 through March 31. A club length is allowed during winter. You are not allowed to take a senior bump in any penalty area.

Free Drop Bushes

To provide access to a free stance and swing, players may take relief without penalty from the 100- and 150-yard marker bushes.

New Lost Ball/Out-of-Bounds Local Rule per USGA.

When a provisional ball **has not** been played, issues with pace of play can result for a player needing to walk back to the spot required to take stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is out of bounds or cannot be found. Therefore, the player may proceed as follows:

For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* a ball in a fairway area that is nearest the point where the original ball is estimated to have come to rest on the *course*, or last crossed the edge of the *course* boundary to go *out of bounds*.

New Provisional Ball Rule – Hole #7

If a player is uncertain whether his ball is in the water hazard on Hole #7, he may play a provisional ball from the drop area to speed up play.

New relief from Fence between Hole #12 Green and #13 Tee Area

While playing Hole #12, any ball hit to the left of the fence will be lifted and placed on Hole #12 side of the fence within two club lengths, but no closer to the Hole #12 green.

While playing Hole #13, any ball hit to the left of the fence will be lifted and placed on Hole #13 side of the fence within two club lengths of the fence, but no closer to Hole #13 green.