Thorpe Hall Golf Club, Thorpe Hall Avenue, Thorpe Bay, Essex SS1 3AT (Tel 01702 582205)

Local Rules

(MARCH 2019)

These Local Rules override those on the current score cards and should be read in conjunction with any Temporary Local Rules currently in force.

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

Beyond all boundary walls, hedges, fences and ditches and as marked with white stakes. In addition, the Clubhouse, Greenkeeper's Compound, car parks and private gardens are all similarly out of bounds.

The areas indicated by white stakes to the left of the 1st, 2^{nd, 3rd} and 8th fairways, the area to the left of the 7th tee as well as the greenkeepers fenced area to the left of the 10th fairway are all internal out of bounds. When playing the 17th hole, the area on the left (marked by white stakes) is a further internal out of bounds area.

The area behind the 2nd green between the 3rd and 4th holes, the extent of which is marked by white stakes, is internal out of bounds.

2. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

All penalty areas are defined by red stakes with the exception of the ditch in front of the 13th green and the pond on the 16th hole which are marked with yellow stakes.

Note 1. When playing the 11th and 12th holes, the island between the two ditches is considered to be an integral part of the penalty area.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16)

If a ball comes to rest on the practice putting green, or in any specific area encircled by white lines, relief **MUST** be taken in accordance with Rule 16.

The Public Footpath and lines demarking same shall be treated as Abnormal Ground Conditions and relief taken under this rule if a player so wishes.

Prepared roads, paths, steps, shelters, winter tees, tee markers, water fountains, bridges, drain covers, notice boards, the fence between the 4th and 7th tees, the practice nets, the patio and buildings behind the 9th green, the toilet behind the 14th green, the wooden sleepers forming the surround to the pond to the left of the 7th hole are regarded as Abnormal Course Conditions and relief from them may be obtained under this rule.

<u>Sprinkler heads.</u> If a ball lies off the putting green, but not in a hazard, and a fixed sprinkler head on or within two-club lengths of the putting green and within two-club lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, a player may obtain relief as follows:

The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids such intervention and (c) is not in a hazard or on the putting green. The ball may be cleaned when lifted. Relief under this Local Rule is also available if the player's ball lies on the putting green and a fixed sprinkler head within two-club lengths of the putting green intervenes on his line of putt. The player may take relief as follows: The ball must be lifted and placed at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not

nearer the hole, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

<u>Protection of Young Trees.</u> A young tree, identified by being staked, supported by ropes or protected by nets or cages is designated a No Play Zone and the ball **MUST** be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 16.1. The ball may

be cleaned when lifted under this Local Rule. *Exception*: A player may not obtain relief under this Local Rule if (a) it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke because of interference by anything other than the tree or (b) interference by the tree would occur only through use of an unnecessary abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

4. Movable Obstructions (Rule 15.2)

Hoops placed by greenkeepers as a measure to protect the course.

5. Penalty for breach of Local Rule

Matchplay - loss of hole. Strokeplay - two strokes.

6. Practice Areas (Rule 5.2)

In addition to the practice area to the left of the 8th fairway, practice is also permitted on the putting green in front of the clubhouse, the nets alongside the car park and from the designated areas by the 14th and 17th fairways. On any day of a stroke play competition, practice is restricted to these areas only.

The penalty for breach of rule 5.2 is disqualification.