

2026 Member-Guest Invitational

Rules of Play

Tee Markers:

This season the names of the Flights are based off the Top 10 golf courses in the United States as rated by Golf Digest

First Flight: **Gold** / **Blue** combo tees)

All other Flights: **Blue** tees, **Blue** / **White** combo tees,
White tees or **White** / **Red** combo tees

Players whose Handicap Index *plus* their age is greater than **75**, have the ‘*option*’ to play from the **Blue** / **White** combo tee markers.

Players whose Handicap Index *plus* their age is greater than **80**, have the ‘*option*’ to play from the **White** tee markers.

Players whose Handicap Index *plus* their age is greater than **90**, have the ‘*option*’ to play from the **White** / **Red** combo tee markers.

There are some people playing a different tee box than the rest of their Flight. Their Playing Handicap has decreased for playing a different set of tees.

Once play begins for Match 1, a player *can't* switch tees

We will enter all scores for the event on all competitors GHIN.

Please fill in every score on each hole.

If you picked up on a hole,
please record your ‘**Most Likely Score**’ for that hole.

Example: If you have 20 feet for a natural bogey and pick up – the most likely outcome is a 2-putt; and that player would take a double bogey.

If you pick up before the green:

Example: If your Playing Handicap is a 12, and you hit multiple golf balls into the water on hole #18, you would take a gross (8) for GHIN.
(Par 5 / plus double bogey / plus the (1) allocated stroke)

2026 Member-Guest Invitational

Please stay on the same 9-Holes (Front 9 or Back 9) for the duration of your match.

Meaning: Once you finish Hole #9, continue onto Hole #1 and
Once you finish Hole #18, continue onto Hole #10.

After each 9-Hole match, please return to the Clubhouse / Cart Staging area to grab a quick drink and receive your scorecard for your next match.

USGA rules govern all play except where local rules apply:

- Please play the ball as it lies on all Coquina Cart Paths. No relief is granted
- You *may* take relief on all Paved Cart Paths
- When in question for Hazards / Out of Bounds, please go off ‘freshest’ application of turf marking paint while playing your round
- **Out of Bounds is painted with White Lines.**
 ‘If ANY part of the golf ball touches the White Out of Bounds Paint, it is SAFE AND IN BOUNDS
- Play is prohibited from flower beds and practice greens
- The fourteen (14) club rule will be enforced
- Players may obtain distance information by the use of a distance-measuring device. *If*, during a stipulated round, a player uses a device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (examples: elevation, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a
- “Damage on the putting green” is defined to include all types of damage (such as ball-marks, shoe damage, indentations from a club or flagstick, animal damage, etc.), **except** aeration holes, natural surface imperfections or natural wear of the hole (Repairing spike marks **IS** allowed)
- Before playing a ball in a bunker, or any hazard - a player *may* remove loose impediments
- Railroad ties are deemed to be an integral part of the course, they are not obstructions. Wooden planks and ivy bridges are considered part of the penalty area. No relief is granted

2026 Member-Guest Invitational

This tournament will be played with:

****PREFERRED LIES****

In any 'closely mown area' (fairway, approaches, fringe), the ball may be marked, lifted, cleaned and placed within one scorecard length of where the ball originally lay, no closer to the hole.

ALL areas of 'rough' on the golf course (1st cut and primary cut), preferred lies are **NOT** permitted. The ball must be played as it lies in all bunkers and hazards.



2026 Member-Guest Invitational

Ground Under Repair (GUR):

There are some areas throughout the golf course that have been circled and marked with white paint. Free relief is granted from those areas (no penalty).

2x2 Sprinkler Rule:

You are allowed free relief from an immovable sprinkler head IF it interferes with your line of play to the hole, provided the ball is in the general area, the obstruction is within two club-lengths of the putting green, and the ball is within two club-lengths of the obstruction.

Golf Cart Restrictions:

Please keep the golf carts **OUT** of all low-lying areas as much as possible. We will be Cart Path Only on all Par-3 holes (#5, #7, #15 & #17).

Hole #6 - Power Lines:

EXCLUDING the tee shot, if a ball strikes an elevated power line or its base/post/stanchion on Hole #6, that stroke is canceled and the player **MUST** replay the stroke with NO penalty (regardless of where the ball comes to rest).

Hole #8 - Tee Shot:

If your tee shot finds the water on Hole #8 and does not cross land, you may either drop the ball where it entered OR you may re-tee and hit another tee shot (hitting 3). You can **NOT** drop the ball at the **Red** tees.

Hole #15 Important Notes (Ground Under Repair)

- If your tee shot finds the water and does not cross land near the green on Hole #15, you have the option to drop the ball at the **Red** tees (hitting 3).
- ***Mandatory Ground Under Repair for ALL New Sod Areas on #15.***
- If your golf ball comes to rest on the new sod areas around/on the 15th hole green area, the player **MUST** take mandatory relief.
- Please utilize the nearest of the two circular drop zones painted in white.
- If you hit a wild tee shot, and your golf ball comes to rest on the new sod right of the water (right of three painted white dashes), you **MUST** drop your golf ball at the **Red** tees.

*There is **NO** penalty in this scenario and you would be hitting your 2nd shot.*

2026 Member-Guest Invitational

Identify Golf Balls / Hitting the Wrong Golf Ball:

It is **STRONGLY** recommended that all participants mark their golf balls and identify their golf balls with their fellow competitors. **Please note that the penalty for hitting a ‘Wrong Ball’ during a Match-Play Format is as follows:**

A player who plays a ‘Wrong Ball’ is OUT of the hole. This penalty would have **NO** effect on his partner, who may continue to play for the side on that hole. If **BOTH** teammates play a ‘Wrong Ball’, it is only a loss of hole for their team.

Casual Water:

“Casual water” is any temporary accumulation of water on the course that is not in a water hazard and is visible before or after the player takes their stance. A ball is in casual water when it lies in or any part of it touches the casual water. The golf ball may be picked up, cleaned and then dropped from knee height, no nearer the hole. There is no penalty.

Embedded Ball Rule (Rule 16.3):

Relief is allowed for a ball embedded anywhere in the “general area” **except** when embedded in the sand or a penalty area.

In taking relief, the player is to mark the ball and the ball may be cleaned. The player then drops the original ball within one club-length of (but not nearer the hole) than the spot right behind where the ball was embedded. There is no penalty.

Palmetto Bushes:

Palmetto bushes in play are considered natural growing objects. They are not a penalty area and free relief is **NOT** granted if your ball lands in or near one.

Pace of Play

Pace of Play is vital to the enjoyment of all participants for this event.

There are (12) holes each match that have an ‘A’ and ‘B’ group teeing off.

There will always be (60) players on each nine at once.

The Cape Club of Palm City Membership is not used to waiting on shots.

This week there will be some waiting.

Please keep up with the group in front of you! Ready golf is encouraged.

Please note: You are allowed up to three (3) minutes to look for a golf ball. After three (3) minutes a golf ball is considered ‘lost’.