

2026 Corpus Christi City Match Play Championship

Local Rules

The Rules of Golf approved by the United States Golf Association and R&A Rules Limited govern play, except as modified below by the tournament committee:

THE 1 BALL RULE IS NOT IN EFFECT.

TEE MARKERS: All players will tee off from the Forest tee markers each round.

PRACTICE BEFORE, BETWEEN AND DURING ROUNDS: USGA rules (5.2a and 5.5b) permit practicing on the course before or during a match play event. Contestants are allowed to play the course or practice on it the day of a match play competition before your round starts. Between the play of two holes, contestants may practice chipping or putting on the tee area of the next hole, on or near the putting green of the hole you just finished, or on an official practice putting green.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: A player may use all types of distance measuring devices including cell phones and range finders **with the slope turned on.**

OUT OF BOUNDS (OB): Out of bounds is defined by white boundary stakes and/or fence lines bordering the golf course property. Players have two choices if their ball goes OB. If a player hits OB off the tee, the player may hit their third shot from their original teeing area per the USGA rules of golf. However, in this championship (for pace of play purposes), players may also choose to drop on the side of the fairway nearest to where their ball went OB, within one club length of the rough mow line, no closer to the hole, incurring a 3 stroke penalty (stroke + distance +1) so that they would be hitting their fourth shot from the fairway.

NATIVE AREAS: Native areas are defined as overgrown or unmanicured areas within the golf course boundary. All native areas (marked or unmarked) can be played as a lateral hazard. If a ball is lost or unplayable inside of a native area, you may drop outside of the native area within two club lengths of where your ball last crossed into the native area, incurring a 1 stroke penalty. You may also attempt to play your ball out of a native area without penalty.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR (GUR): Players may take relief only from specifically designated and marked ground under repair that includes areas completely encircled with white lines. Seams of cut turf, fire ant mounds, drains, tire tracks, animal tracks & animal holes also qualify for free relief within 1 club length. Extreme bare spots on the fairways, excessive grass growth in the rough, tree roots and rocks are not considered ground under repair and do not qualify for free relief unless they are specifically marked as ground under repair.

RULING QUESTIONS: All the players in the group should first discuss a ruling question to try to resolve it. However, if a consensus is unable to be reached by the group and a rules official is not in the area, the player should take a picture of the original lie/ball in question before stroking the original ball. After stroking the original ball, the player should then put a second ball into play after taking the expected relief from the original lie. Once on the green, the player will first hole out the original ball before holing out the second ball. Both scores should be recorded on the scorecard noting the score for the original ball and the score for the second ball. At the end of the round, the tournament committee can review the situation and make a final determination on which score will be accepted.

Hole by hole play guidelines:

Free 1 club length relief from nearest point no closer to the hole (same as from a cart path) is offered from all the decorative pebbled areas with small wood boarders that encompass the hole signs, ball washers, & water coolers near many tee boxes.

Hole #1- The field and the clubhouse entry road left of the number 1 fairway are in play. You can play from the entry road or take a free drop (just like a cart path). The entire area to the right side of the fairway is native area and marked with a red line. The drainage ditch extending into the left and right sides of the fairway near the green is a lateral water hazard with no free relief offered and marked with a red line. If you do not wish to play out of the drainage ditch, you must take a 1 shot penalty and drop the ball out of the ditch on the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.

Hole #2- The entire area to the right side of the fairway is native area and marked with a red line. There is a lateral water hazard in front of and to the left of the tee area.

Hole #3- The entire area to the right side of the fairway is native area up to where the fence line of the houses begins about 80 yards from the green. There is a house under construction on the right side of the fairway (just prior to the fenced houses) and that entire construction site is native area. There is no free relief from any border fence around the course and your ball is OB if it is beyond any border fence. The fence behind the third green is OB. Free 1 club length relief if your ball comes to rest inside the decorative pebble area surrounding the 4th hole sign near the 4th tee area to nearest point of relief no closer to the hole.

Hole #4- The fence immediately to the right of the tee box and fairway is OB.

Hole #5- The area to the right of the fairway is native area all the way to the border fence by the road which is OB. The tree/brush area and stream on the right side of the fairway about 100 yards from the green is native area and marked with a red line. The drainage ditch just short and to the left of the green is a lateral water hazard and marked with a red line. You may choose to play the ball from the ditch, but you do not get free relief. You may take a 1 shot penalty to move the ball out of the ditch and back to the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.

Hole #6- The entire area to the right of the fairway is native area and marked with a red line. The clubhouse entry road to the left of the fairway on the golf course property is in play and you may play from this entry road or take a free drop from the road (just like a cart path). The fence behind the green is OB. You do not get free relief if you are in play but up against the fence, the fence cable, or the cement entry gates on each side of the entry road.

Hole #7- The fence up the right side of the fairway is OB and once the fence ends there are white marker stakes designating an OB area running parallel to the green cart barn. The clubhouse entry road to the left of the fairway and the entire parking lot are in play. You may play from the entry road & parking lot or take a free cart path drop. The field to the left of the entry road is in play.

Hole #8- The white marker stake at the end of the 7th fairway designates OB on the right side of the 8th fairway just off the tee and running to the white OB marker located on the right side of the cart barn entry road gate. OB extends from the cart barn entry road gate to the OB marker on the right edge of the grey cart barn. Once you are past the left corner of the grey cart barn there are white stakes and while lines on the ground denoting the OB area running to the border fence of the property. You do not get free relief from the cart barns or fence if you are in play but up against them. *****If you go into the lateral water hazard on the left side of the fairway you will drop where your ball last crossed into the water.**

Hole #9- There is a lateral water hazard running up the left side of the fairway. You get free relief off the practice putting green behind the 9th green.

Hole #10- *If you go into the lateral water hazard on the left side of the fairway you will drop where your ball last crossed into the water.**

Hole #11- The fence to the right side of the fairway and the green is OB.

Hole #12- *If you go into the lateral water hazard on the left side of the fairway you will drop where your ball last crossed into the water.**

Hole# 13- There is a water hazard between the 13th tee box and the 13th green. Players who hit their tee shot into the water may hit from the tee again **OR** move up to the drop zone on the forward tee box near the Copper tee markers to hit their third shot. If the tee ball made it beyond the water and then rolled back into the hazard, the player may drop where the ball last crossed into the hazard. The entire brush behind the 13th green is native area.

Hole #14- There is a lateral water hazard in front of the tee box and up the left side of the fairway through the green.

Hole #15- **THE WHITE STAKES AND THE WHITE LINES ON THE GROUND NEAR THE FENCE ARE NOT OB!** The fence bordering the right side of the fairway is OB. If your ball ends up in the yard of the one house without a fence, the ball is OB if it is not on the fairway side of a straight line running between the two fence posts that border that yard. The fence behind the 15th green is OB. The brush area that runs along the left side of the fairway is considered a native area. **There are also multiple large holes on the left side of the fairway & in the rough starting about 100 yards from the green that are marked as GUR. There are numerous tire tracks in the barren dirt area to the left of the fairway about 100 yards from the green.** You get a free drop if the tire track interferes with your lie, stance or your swing path.

Hole #16- The fence to the right side of the fairway and the green is OB. The brush to the left of the 16th tee box all the way to the creek that runs in front of the green are all native areas. Players who hit their tee shot into the native area/creek/lake may hit from the tee again **OR** move up to the drop zone in front of the ditch and just to the left of the cart path to hit their third shot. If the tee ball made it beyond the hazard areas and then rolled back into the hazard, the player may drop where the ball last crossed into the hazard.

Hole #17- The fence to the right side of the fairway is OB. There is a lateral water hazard in front of the left side of the tee box and along the left side of the fairway.

Hole #18- The entire area right of the cart path through the green is native area and marked with a red line. The area behind the green is native area. The brush area to the left of the fairway and extending toward the practice chipping area is native area. The practice chipping area is in play but please take a free drop out of the practice area sand bunker next to the practice chipping green and off the practice chipping green. ***Free 1 club length relief from the clubhouse and pergola behind the 1st tee are available only for lie, stance or swing interference. Free relief is NOT given for line of sight or ball flight interference.*** Players who hit their tee shot into the native area on the right side of the fairway may play from the native area without penalty **OR** hit from the tee again **OR** utilize the drop zone closest to the right side of the fairway to hit their third shot. Players who hit their tee shot into the native area on the left side of the fairway have the same options but will use the drop zone closest to the left side of the fairway. **Players are discouraged from trying to decipher where their tee ball last crossed the boundary of the right or left hazard since this is extremely difficult to determine correctly from the back tees due to limited vision---and so players are encouraged to use the drop zones in this situation. However, if a majority of players in the group agree where a tee ball last crossed the hazard, the player may utilize the point of entry 2 club length drop from that spot to play their third shot.**

REMINDERS:

Assume that we will be playing the ball down and so you are not allowed to improve your lie anywhere on the course. If this situation changes the tournament committee will notify all players before they tee off.

You have only 3 minutes to look for a lost golf ball once you arrive at its suspected location.

Count your clubs and make sure that you don't have more than 14 clubs in your bag.

Do your best to control the foul language, especially if there are spectators around.

Enjoy your day! (Psalm 118:24)