

**RULES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**2020 BIRCHMONT TOURNAMENT**  
**JULY 27-AUGUST 1**

- 1) **NOTE: During the tournament, all tee times for the following day will be made available on our website at [www.thebirchmont.com](http://www.thebirchmont.com). We will also be posting results for all divisions on our website.**
- 2) **Any players who wish to withdraw following the qualifying rounds, please report this information immediately to the pro shop. All players are expected to show for their scheduled matches.**
- 3) Breakfast will be served daily in the clubhouse from 7:00 am - 10:30 am.
- 4) **SPECIAL EVENTS**
  - a) **Tuesday Contestant Dinner**  
All contestants will receive with their entry a free dinner on Tuesday night. Non-contestants may purchase tickets in the clubhouse. Dinner will start at approximately 5:00pm. Tickets for non-participants can be purchased in the clubhouse.
  - b) **Wednesday - 2 player "Alternate Shot" - CANCELLED**  
Registration opens Monday, limited to first 36 teams. Qualifying begins at 6:30pm. **This event has been cancelled for the 2020 Birchmont.**
  - c) **Thursday-Long Drive contest - CANCELLED**  
A long drive contest will take place Thursday at 6:30pm for anyone who would like to enter. There will an open, senior and womens division. \$10.00 entry fee for 4 balls.
  - d) **Friday night putting contest** open to all contestants starting at 6:00 with an entry of \$10.00 per player. An advance sign-up will be available in the pro-shop.
- 4) Last years champions in all championship flights will automatically be seeded #1 in their respective flight.
- 5) **DAYS OFF** (beginning with Wednesday's match play)

Men's Letter flights A-B	Thursday
Men's Letter flights C-D-E	Wednesday
Sr. Men's regular flights	Thursday
Executive regular flights	Wednesday
Masters regular flights	Thursday
Women's regular flights	Friday
Junior Champ & 1 <sup>st</sup> FLight	Friday
Junior 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Flight	Thursday
Junior 12U	Wednesday

**NOTE: DAY'S OFF ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER QUALIFYING IT IS THE PLAYERS RESPONSIBIITY TO CONFIRM DAYS OFF.**

- 6) **Club storage** available in pro-shop \$15.00 per bag (week)  
We assume no responsibility for lost or stolen clubs.
- 7) **NOTE: It is the players responsibility to confirm their starting time. Please check our website for official times.**

## RULES OF PLAY

-Play is governed by the USGA rules of golf-

### TEE MARKERS

- Men's Open Division BLUE Tees
- President-Vice President BLUE Tees
- Men's Letter Flights BLUE Tees
- Men's Executive/Chairman Division BLUE Tees
- Men's Executive Regular WHITE Tees
- Men's Senior Division WHITE Tees
- Women's Division GOLD Tees
- Masters Division WHITE/GOLD COMBO Tees
- Juniors White Tees (boys)-Red Tees (girls)

### COVID-19 LOCAL RULES

#### POLICIES

**CADDIES:** Caddies are permitted until otherwise stated.

#### PRACTICING:

Practice Facilities – The general policy below allows players a window of access to the practice facilities on a limited time, priority basis. The intent of the policy is to provide a flow through the practice tee, short game area, and putting green. Every player should have a fair and equitable opportunity to warm up prior to play; and should be respectful of fellow players when preparing to play.

- o Please do not arrive more than one hour prior to your starting time. Players are asked to limit warm up time prior to golf, and also limit practice time following golf. Do your part to continue the practice of social distancing.
- o The putting green will generally be limited to the groups that are within 20 minutes of their starting time.

**BUNKERS:** When a ball is in any bunker and lies in a disturbed area, the player may lift, clean, and place the original ball in the bunker, within one club-length of the original spot of the ball, no closer to the hole. **NOTE: The relief area must not be smoothed before placing.** Disturbed areas include (but are not limited to) footprints and other disturbances that may have been caused by players or others. The player also has the option to play the ball as it lies.

o In the unlikely event there is nowhere to place in the bunker without going closer to the hole, the player may place the ball at the nearest point of relief (without the one club-length) even if that spot is closer to the hole.

o Under a Penalty of One Stroke, the player may elect to drop behind the bunker along the line formed by the flagstick and the spot where the ball is at rest in the bunker, going back on the line as far as the player wishes.

**FLAGSTICK:** For the safety and well-being of all, the flagstick is to not be touched and is to remain in the hole at all times. Rule 13.2 is modified in this way: A player is prohibited from making a stroke with the flagstick removed from the hole. NOTE: Touching the flagstick, the inadvertent removal and the subsequent replacement of the flagstick is not of itself a penalty. However, any person inadvertently touching the flagstick should take the appropriate precautions and use hand sanitizer at the earliest convenience.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:

- First Breach – General Penalty
- Subsequent Breaches – Disqualification

**HOLED:** The definition of Holed is modified in this way: If any part of the ball is in the hole below the surface of the putting green, the ball is treated as holed even if the entire ball is not below the surface.

**SCORING:** All players will be responsible for their own score. Scorecards will not be exchanged. At the conclusion of qualifying rounds, players should report to the designated scoring area to verify the accuracy of each player's score. Players must report their results immediately following play.

**GOLF CARS:** The Men's Open Division is walking ONLY for the 2020 Birchmont. Golf cars will not be allowed for any players in the Men's Open Division. Golf cars used for other Divisions are for play ONLY. Golf cars MUST be returned immediately following play, so they can be cleaned and sanitized prior to the next round. Please help us and comply with this standard. All players needing to use a golf car should have this opportunity. Spectator golf cars will only be made available if all players have the cars they need.

**SEVERE WEATHER COURSE EVACUATION PLAN SIGNALS** - ONE (1) long blast = Discontinue play immediately - TWO (2) short blasts = Resume Play - THREE (3) short blasts = Discontinue play for darkness, course conditions or other non-dangerous reasons In the event of severe weather, players shall return to their vehicles **IMMEDIATELY**. Communication regarding resumption of play will be available on the Birchmont website.

**DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES (Rule 4.3)**– The use of these devices is permitted during the Resorters. (DISTANCE ONLY) PRACTICE BETWEEN HOLES (Stroke Play Only) – “Between the play of two holes, a player must not play any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played and must not test the surface of the putting green of the hole last played by rolling a ball.” PENALTY: Two Strokes at next hole.

**ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN** – If a ball that is in play and at rest on the course moves, the player should refer to Rule 9.2. NOTE: If a ball on the putting green has been lifted and been replaced, the ball MUST be replaced on its original spot no matter the cause for the movement, no penalty. EXCEPTION: If the ball begins to move during the backswing or stroke and the stroke is made, see Rule 9.1b.

#### **OUT OF BOUNDS**

Defined by the inside edge at ground level of white stakes and fence to the left of #11 & #18. Defined by the inside edge at ground level of fence posts to the left of #12

#### **OBSTRUCTIONS / CART PATHS**

Includes all cart paths or clearly defined maintenance roads whether paved or gravel/dirt; worn areas at ends of paths marked with white paint, rest stations, clubhouse, power pole on left of #18 and control boxes for water system. Relief from all roads or cart paths must be in accordance with the rule.

### **GROUND UNDER REPAIR**

Defined by white lines. Includes flower beds and trees with either a tied ribbon or secured with rope.

### **BUNKERS**

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions  
Rakes should be left out of the bunker.

### **EMBEDDED BALL**

The embedded ball rule is in effect "through the green". A ball embedded in its own pitch mark in ground other than sand may be lifted, cleaned and dropped with no penalty.

### **BALL DROP AREAS**

#15 - drop area left and right of the green for red penalty area. Use nearest drop area.  
#17 - drop area behind green. May be used for ball over green.  
These are optional and under penalty of one stroke.

### **PENALTY AREAS**

Penalty Areas are defined by red stakes or red painted lines. In order to claim that a tee shot on #18 has entered the penalty area, a player must either have someone see it go in or have NO reasonable doubt that it could be any place other than the penalty area.

### **UNDUE DELAY OF PLAY**

Rule 6-7 Players must keep pace with the group ahead of them. Players are subject to a penalty for multiple violations. Expected pace of play is no more than 2:15 for each none holes.

### **DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE**

Applies to stroke play only. Authorizes play of a second ball after announcing intention to fellow competitor.

### **CLAIMS IN MATCH PLAY**

In match play, if a doubt or dispute arises between the players, a player may make a claim. If no duly authorized representative of the Committee is available within a reasonable time, the players must continue the match without delay. The Committee may consider a claim only if it has been made in a timely manner and if the player making the claim has notified his opponent at the time (i) that he is making a claim or wants a ruling and (ii) of the facts upon which the claim or ruling is to be based.  
**A claim must be made prior to any player playing from the next teeing ground.**

### **FAILURE TO MAKE TIME**

If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of this Rule is disqualification.