



# Tennessee Traveling Senior Golf Association

## **RULES CLARIFICATION #1:**

### **Difference in Red, Yellow, and White Stakes OR LINES?**

- **WHITE STAKES/LINES** define Out-of-Bounds (OB) and **Cannot** be moved to aid in playing a shot.
  - **Two Shot Penalty** for a ball hit OB per USGA and TTSGA rules.
    - TTSGA has adopted the USGA **Local Option Rule** that
      - ✓ allows a ball to be dropped on an equidistant arc anywhere along a line from the flag and where the ball is believed to have gone OB to within two club lengths into the fairway.
      - ✓ must make the decision to use this **Local Option Rule** before leaving the tee or previous shot
  - OR**
  - ✓ hit and must use a provisional ball
  - ✓ cannot use the **Local Option Rule** from the point where the ball is determined to have gone OB
  - ✓ Note that you may play in some other club tournaments where they have adopted the **Local Option Rule** for everyday play, but do not allow it in tournaments.
- **RED and YELLOW STAKES/LINES** define Penalty Areas (i.e.: body of water) with different options associated with drop area for the next shot:
  - **One Shot Penalty** for a ball in the Penalty Areas per USGA and TTSGA rules
    - Allows the ball to be dropped from where the last shot was played
  - OR**
  - anywhere along a line from the flag back thru the point where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area.
- For a **RED PENALTY AREA**, one has the additional option of dropping the ball within two club lengths of where the ball last crossed into the penalty area.
- An option that was eliminated in the 2020 USGA rule changes allowed one to drop on the other side of a penalty area, equidistant from the flag.
- When playing from a penalty area, you can now remove any loose impediments; ground your club; or take practice swings that touch the ground.
- A penalty area is the only area on the course (There are now five areas on the course. Can you name them?) where you cannot declare a ball unplayable.
- **TTSGA rules differ from these USGA rules in one important respect**
  - **Rule #11): When hitting into red or yellow penalty areas we may-under the same one penalty stroke-drop on the other side of the penalty area along a line from the flag thru the point where the ball entered the penalty area.**
    - ✓ **One could hit into a body of water, take a one stroke penalty and drop on opposite side of the water.**