

2008 USDGC – Rules Questions & Answers (Final, Final)

General –

Question: What guideline should be used to make a call?

Answer: If it is clear, make the call; if it is not clear, don't call it. Regardless of the player, the circumstances, or the degree of infraction, make the call when the violation is clear. Do it every time. Never make a call if you are unsure. Follow this simple maxim and acrimony will be reduced, consistency increased, and fairness enhanced.

Question: Chain Link Fences – What is the ruling for a throw that flew over a chain link fence that either touched or came to rest leaning against the OB side of the fence?

Answer: As a matter of USDGC policy, shots that hit a chain link fence (Holes 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15) from the OB (or Buncr) side and remain on the OB (or Buncr) side are deemed to have **not** rebroken the in-bounds plane regardless of the flex or curve of the fence. They should be played as OB or Buncr with the mark for the subsequent throw being from the point where the disc last crossed from fair territory unless otherwise directed in the ground rules.

Question: The disc comes to rest above 2 meters, what is the ruling?

Answer: Rule 803.08 B (“The 2-meter Rule”) has been suspended for the USDGC except for the area across the mulched pathway on hole 15. Discs above two meters in other areas should be marked directly below, in accordance with rule 803.08A, with no penalty, unless they are suspended above OB or Buncr.

Question: What happens if a disc comes to rest against the red stakes or red flagsticks?

Answer: The red stakes indicate the presence of a Buncr Hazard. (See general ground rule #2.) Like the green OB stakes, the red stakes/red flag flagsticks are in-bounds. A disc leaning against a red stake is in-bounds. In addition, the red stakes/flagsticks are not casual obstacles. They may not be moved.

Question: What happens if someone's putt or approach lands in the Buncr?

Answer: Buncr rule applies for all shots including putts 10,13,14,17.

Question: What happens if a player throws multiple discs into the Buncr? Can they be retrieved?

Answer: While the ground rules indicate a penalty for a player retrieving the disc in the Buncr, this penalty will be relaxed for a player who has thrown 5 consecutive shots into a Buncr. The player may also try to borrow a disc from a groupmate but only if the disc is distinct from those in play.

Question: How do Buncr lines compare to OB lines?

Answer: They play the same. Like OB, discs need to be completely surrounded by the Hazard for the Buncr rule to apply. The Buncr line itself is out, just like an OB line. Player's may take 1 meter relief from the edge of Buncr in the same way they do for OB. The Rule of Verticality applies to Buners. Discs suspended above a Buncr Hazard are considered to be in the Buncr. Discs suspended above in-bounds are in-bounds.

Question: On the scorecards, what score(s) can incur penalties?

Answer: The player is penalized only if there is an error with his or her official hole scores or official total score. The player will not be penalized if his or her score is incorrectly recorded on a groupmate's card. Hopefully, this will be caught in the scoring area prior to turning the card in.

Question: What if a player makes a mistake or decides not to follow the scoring procedure?

Answer: See above answer for error in player's official score. If a player inadvertently makes an error recording the scores of a groupmate, the player will **not** be penalized. However, deliberate errors or refusal to follow the procedure will result in a 2-stroke penalty and potential disqualification

Hole 2 – Question: Is the little parking triangle near the green OB?

Answer: No. The OB line only runs along the leg of the triangle that borders the parking lot.

Note: The string is on the green side of the parking block. This is important because many throws bounce/roll across the parking lot, hit this parking block, and fall backwards into the parking lot. These throws have not broken the in-bounds plane near the green. They should be marked from the point where the disc last crossed fair territory.

Question: How does one play a throw that lands on top of the utility shed on the left?

Answer: With the elimination of the 2-meter rule combined with the fact that this shed is not OB, 803.04E indicates that for a disc that lands on top of the shed the player would play **directly** (not 30 centimeters nor 1 meter) behind the structure on the line of play.

Hole 3 –

Question: What about throws that come to rest on the street or short of the street or in the fairway of hole 4?

Answer: OB. Retee with penalty.

Hole 4 –

Question: What is the ruling if a player's throw rolls/skips/slides/etc. back into the greenside OB area?

Answer: The ground rules state that throws in the greenside OB area must be played from the drop zone or the previous lie with a 1-throw penalty. The semi-circle of bricks near the Leland Cypresses is designed to minimize the likelihood of discs rolling into the OB. In many situations, it will be to the player's advantage to elect the previous lie instead of the drop zone.

Question: How does one play throws under, near, behind, the bricks and pavers near the enviroscreen to the right of Hole #4?

Answer: This area is now part of the greenside OB area. The ground rules state that throws in this area must be played from the drop zone or the previous lie with a 1-throw penalty.

Note: The fenced maintenance area on hole 4 is now part of the greenside OB area. A throw that lands within the fenced maintenance area must be played from the drop zone or the previous lie with a 1-throw penalty.

Question: A disc is seen going towards or into the Leland Cypress but can not be located. What is the call?

Answer: Lost Disc. Throw from previous lie with a 1-throw penalty.

Hole 5 – Question: What happens if one of the cars driving on the road hits a disc?

Answer: The throw is played where it comes to rest. See 803.07A.

Hole 6 – Question: I know the concrete culvert is OB for hole 7, is it also OB for hole 6? *Answer:* Yes.

Hole 7 – Question: Can a player reach through the bamboo fence to throw?

Answer: Yes, 803.05A & B allow players to make incidental contact with an obstacle. From lies beyond the bamboo, the player may not bend or hold back the bamboo or use it for balance while throwing.

Question: From inside the bamboo fence, can a player hold onto the bamboo while making a putt?

Answer: Yes, but only if the bamboo is farther from the hole than the lie. Also, the player must demonstrate “full control of balance before advancing toward the hole” per 803.04C if the lie is within 10 meters.

Hole 8 – Question: Can a player use the drop zone for OB throws?

Answer: No, the drop zone on this hole is to be used only by players who miss the mandatory.

Hole 10/14 – Question: What is the nature of the drop zone on holes 10 and 14, and who may use them?

Answer: Holes 10 and 14 no longer have a drop zone.

Holes 11, 12, 13, 14 –

Question: What is the mark for a throw that touches the concrete curbs and rebounds back into the road or comes to rest leaning against the curb?

Answer: As stated in the ground rules, concrete curbs, where present, are out of bounds or part of the Buncr Hazard.

Hole 15 – Question: What is the nature of the mandatories on hole 15?

Answer: Both mandatories are single mandatories. The two do not create a double mandatory. Each mandatory has its own mandatory line. The tee is the drop zone for both mandatories, whether missed from the tee or shots subsequent to teeing off.

Hole 17 – Question: Is there a score limit or a drop zone on hole 17?

Answer: There is no score limit or drop spot. A player who throws in the Buncr must throw again from the same lie, counting the previous throw. This applies even on the green.