



2024 Quail Valley Ryder Cup  
LaQuinta vs. ElDorado  
April 13th, 2023  
La Quinta Course  
NOTICE TO PLAYERS



The Rules of the USGA govern play. Complete text of Rules and Appendices can be found in the current *Rules of Golf*. All decisions regarding the interpretation of the Rules rest with the Tournament Committee. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is loss of hole for the player in breach of the rule or condition.

### LOCAL RULES

OUT OF BOUNDS – Defined by white stakes, both round PVC stakes and square wooden stakes.

PENALTY AREAS – Defined by yellow lines/stakes or by red lines/stakes. In the absence of lines/stake, mow lines will define penalty areas.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Marked with a white line.

RELIEF WITHOUT PENALTY may be taken through the green (this means anywhere other than bunkers or penalty areas) from all cart paths, maintenance roads, active ant beds, cart/equipment ruts, sunken ground due to drainage pipes, sprinkler control boxes, and flowerbeds. Free drop within one club length of nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole.

The above rule also applies to a ball that comes to rest on top of visible mesh in a sand trap.

Rule for Alternative to Ball Lost or Out of Bounds is in effect.

Local Rule F-8 is in effect. Cracks in the ground in parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less are ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the crack only interferes with the player's stance. The player may take relief under rule 16-1b.

### CONDITIONS

14-CLUB RULE is in effect.

TEeing AREAS USED:           WHITE TEES – Men under age 65.  
  GOLD TEES – Men age 65+  
  RED TEES – All Women

FORMAT – Two-Person Team Better Ball Match Play ("Fourball")

Each member of the two-person teams (twosomes) plays their own ball. Four balls are in play per hole with each of the four players recording a score on the hole. The twosome whose player posts the best net score on that hole wins the hole. Should players from each twosome tie for the best score, neither wins the hole. Two matches will be played – one match on the front 9 holes, and a second match on the back 9 holes, with the exception of Match #1 which will play an 18-hole match. Each twosome will compete against a different twosome in each match, with the exception of Match #1 which will feature just two twosomes and will play for a total of three points, with one point awarded for the front nine winner, one for the back nine winner and one for the overall winner.

SCORING – Score is kept by the number holes up (won) and the number of holes left to play. (Example: ED 2-up with 1 hole to play). When a twosome is up (winning) by more holes than there are holes remaining, then the match is closed out and a point is awarded for the winning twosome. A point is awarded to the Team (LaQuinta or ElDorado) for each match won with the exception of Match #1 which will award 2 points for the 18-hole match. If a match is tied after 9 holes, each twosome earns one half of a point for their Team with the exception of Match #1 which will award one point to each team for a tied match. The winning twosome of the front-9 match should report the results to the starter/scorer on the 10<sup>th</sup> tee box, and the winning twosome of the back-9 match should report the results to the scorer at the clubhouse.

## **ONCE YOUR MATCH IS DECIDED, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO STOP PLAY.**

**BEFORE TOUCHING A BALL IN PLAY TO TAKE RELIEF, the player **MUST** declare to the opposing team why they are doing so.**

**A PLAYER MAY NEVER PLAY A PROVISIONAL SHOT for a ball thought to be in a penalty area (red or yellow stakes/line).**

To contact the tournament Committee during a match, call Will Hicks at 713-301-7949 who will further contact the Tournament Chairman and the Tournament Captains/Committee, if needed.

DOUBTS AS TO PROCEDURES – A player may not play a second ball if in doubt as to proper procedure under the Rule. If the proper procedure cannot be agreed upon within the group, the Committee can be asked. If the Committee cannot be reached within a reasonable time, the PLAYER must determine how they will proceed. If that determination is a breach of rules or conditions, that player will be penalized a loss of hole for the hole on which the breach took place. See the subsequent page for details on making a claim.

CONCESSIONS – A stroke, hole or an entire match may be conceded at any time prior to the conclusion of the hole or the match. Concession of a stroke, hole or match may not be declined or withdrawn (e.g., a player who is conceded a putt by their competitor may NOT decline the concession nor stroke that putt).

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY – Once a front-9 match has been closed out or conceded, play is to be discontinued and all players in that match should proceed to the 10<sup>th</sup> tee for the start of your back-9 match. Once a back-9 match has been closed out or conceded, play is to be discontinued and all players should proceed to the patio for score posting.

CELL PHONES – Cell phones MUST be silenced and are NOT to be used by competitors during a match unless there is an emergency. Do not take a call or answer your phone if it is not an emergency. This is a courtesy to your fellow players in the entire tournament – cell phone usage slows play. The use of USGA-approved golf course data applications on smartphones is allowed.

SPECTATORS – Spectators are encouraged during the tournament but are NOT allowed to give advice to players. This includes advise as to the standing of the tournament or other matches. Spectators should remain in the rough behind the players and not interfere with the match. Spectators must silence cell phones and may not use them during the match they are watching unless there is an emergency. If you observe spectators who are not following these requests (who may not have the benefit of reading this rules sheet), please share this information with them.

CADDIES – Caddies are allowed and may give advice to the player and his/her partner. Each player is allowed only one caddy.

TEAM CAPTAINS – Team captains are allowed to give advice to any player on their team at any time.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHY TO WINNING TEAM CAPTAINS WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE LAST MATCH (estimated time is 3:30pm)

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#### Rule 2-5 Doubt as to Procedure; Disputes and Claims

In match play, if a doubt or dispute arises between the players, a player must 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 is considered to have been made in a timely manner if, upon discovery of circumstances giving rise to a claim, the player make his claim (i) before any player in the match plays from the next *teeing ground*, or (ii) in the case of the last hole of the match, before all players in the match leave the *putting green*, or (iii) when the circumstances giving rise to the claim are discovered after all the players in the match have left the *putting green* of the final hole, before the result of the match has been officially announced.

A claim relating to a prior hole in the match may only be considered by the *Committee* if it is based on facts previously unknown to the player making the claim and he had been given wrong information (Rules 6-2a or 9) by an *opponent*. Such a claim must be made in a timely manner. Once the result of the match has been officially announced, a claim may not be considered by the *Committee*, unless it is satisfied that (i) the claim is based on facts which were previously unknown to the player making the claim at the time the result was officially announced, (ii) the player making the claim had been given wrong information by an *opponent* and (iii) the *opponent* knew he was giving wrong information. There is no time limit on considering such a claim.

Note 1: A player may disregard a breach of the *Rules* by his *opponent* provided there is no agreement by the *sides* to waive a *Rule* (Rule 1-3)

Note 2: In match play, if a player is doubtful of his rights or the correct procedure, he may not complete the play of the hole with two balls.