

2020 Rice Planters Amateur Tournament Player Information

Dear Amateur Golfer –

Thank you for participating in the 2020 Rice Planters Amateur. The entire membership of Snee Farm Country Club welcomes you and hope you have a great week while in Mt. Pleasant. Obviously, the first half of 2020 has been quite a challenging time throughout the world; our golf landscape has changed dramatically. We are excited to be able to host the Rice Planters Amateur, but we all must be *morally responsible* as we participate during tournament week. The safety of all involved is of the utmost importance. Please read the following material *closely* to become familiar about the policies and procedures associated with the Rice Planters Amateur.

Situational Information:

- If you are sick or at risk (Center for Disease Control's list of high risk individuals) please stay home.
- If, at any point during the tournament days, you become sick, have a fever, or feel unwell it is MANDATORY that you withdraw from the event by emailing golf@thericeplanters.com immediately.
- Please familiarize yourself and follow best practices as published by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO) and state / local governments.
- Players should wash their hands frequently, where available. Hand Sanitizer should be used frequently in absence of a restroom. Players are responsible for providing their own hand sanitizer.

Tournament Information: The format is 54 holes of stroke play. All tournament rounds will begin at 7:30 am off in threesomes and 10 minute intervals. There will be NO cut for this year's event. The low 20 and ties will be exempt for the 2021 Rice Planters Amateur.

Electronic Measuring Devices are permissible during competitive rounds. Push carts are also permitted, however, please note that Snee Farm Country Club has a very limited supply. All competitors must walk during competitive rounds; golf bags may not be on electric carts at any time. Only Rules Officials have the authority to offer transportation during competitive rounds. *No caddies are permitted this year.*

Social Distancing: All players must maintain a minimum of SIX FEET distance from all other people, including other players, spectators, club staff, tournament staff, etc. AT ALL TIMES. This includes the parking lot, putting green, practice area, on the golf course, in the scoring area, restrooms, clubhouse and golf shop.

Practice Rounds: Playing privileges and range access are extended to competitors Monday, June 22nd. Tee-times may be booked through the Snee Farm Golf Shop. Players may ride during practice rounds for an additional cart fee per person.

Practice Areas & Pre-Round Warm-up: Players should not arrive at the golf course more than ONE HOUR before their starting time. To eliminate congestion on the practice facilities, warm up time and spaces will be limited. Practice areas will be PLAYERS ONLY prior to each round and will be closed and unavailable to participants after tournament rounds. If a play-off occurs practice areas will be made available for participating players.

First Tee & Tournament Paperwork: The Rice Planters Amateur will not provide the following items at the first tee: tees, pencils permanent markers, sunscreen, insect repellent, or ball markers. Players should come prepared with these items. Tournament paperwork (rules sheets, hard card, etc.) will be sent to participants by email and will be posted on our tournament information page (which can be viewed from smartphones).

College Game Day 1st Round: The 2020 Rice Planters Committee has again deemed the 1st round as College Game Day! We request that all players wear their college colors. Support your school and show-off your college pride!

Event: Low 1st round score of player wearing his college colors will receive a full set of NEW Golf Pride College Colors MCC grips.

Post-round Etiquette: Players are asked to refrain from the traditional handshake prior to and after all rounds. A friendly nod, a tip of the cap, or wave is a recommended form of greeting or sportsmanship. As soon as you verbally attest your scorecard, you will need to immediately leave the golf course unless you may be involved in a playoff.

Scoring: There will be no scoreboard. All scoring will be visible online. As soon as scores are verbally attested players and accompanying spectators will need to leave the host facility immediately, unless there is a chance of a playoff. In the case of a playoff, please socially distance yourself and we will be in contact as soon as necessary.

Unbecoming Conduct: Unbecoming conduct is, but not limited to: profanity; throwing equipment in anger; destruction of club property; vulgar or physical abuse to any person. A player who is in violation may receive one warning from a specified official. A second violation will result in disqualification of the player.

Dress Code: Proper golf attire will be required. All players must have a shirt with a collar and if shorts are worn they should be of Bermuda length. Shirrtails must remain tucked in at all times and hats are to be worn properly.

Starting Announcements: During this event, there will be NO public address system used to call players to the tee. All players are advised to check with the starter ready to play at least 10 minutes prior to their assigned time.

Prizes: Gift certificates will be awarded to the top finishers. The champion's name will be engraved on the R.P. Horne Championship trophy. There will be no formal ceremony in 2020.

Please review additional information at our tournament website.

The Rice Planters Amateur Tournament Committee

E: golf@thericeplanters.com

W: thericeplanters.com

Est. 1973

2020 Rice Planters Amateur Tournament Notice to Players

1. **Format:** 54 holes of Stroke Play. Play is from the Rice Planters Tournament Tees. All play will start on the Tenth Tee Area (playing the back nine first) for all three rounds.
2. **Pace of Play:** The Rice Planters Pace of Play Policy is in effect. The Pace of Play is 4 hours and 39 minutes.
3. **Out of Bounds:** A ball that comes to rest **in any of the areas where a penalty area coincides with out of bounds the ball is out of bounds** when the ball is beyond the inside of the line that goes from white stake to white stake or if there are no visible white stakes to form the line it will be from the first white stake to the natural fence, wall or hedge line on the property owner side. If neither the white stakes or natural fence, wall or hedge is visible it will be where the ground naturally breaks down to form the penalty area (the Margin of the penalty area).
4. **Red Penalty Area- Hole 3:** The opposite margin of the red penalty area on the left of the hole extends to infinity.
5. **Abnormal Course Conditions:**
 - a. The dead grass areas (bare dirt only, not brown dead grass) in any fairway of the hole you are playing are deemed to be ground under repair and free relief under Rule 16.1a will be available. The relief will be for the lie of the ball **ONLY**, no relief for stance or area of intended swing. Mulched areas, pine straw areas, leaf covered areas, and the like are **NOT** considered ground under repair. Divots are **NOT** “bare dirt areas”. No relief is allowed.
 - b. The Practice Putting Green and chipping greens left of hole 18 are “Wrong Putting Greens”. Free relief is **Mandatory** under Rule 13.1f.
 - c. The unmarked practice bunker adjacent to the chipping green of hole 18 is deemed to be ground under repair. Free relief is available under Rule 16.1a.
 - d. A landscaped or garden area (flower beds, shrubbery or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction is part of the obstruction. Free relief is available under Rule 16.1a.
6. **Specific Holes:**

Hole # 10 has a red penalty area to the right. There is **out of bounds** to the far right of the red penalty area marked with white stakes. Hole # 18 has out of bounds beyond the putting green marked with white stakes as well as a white line. The white line will define the out of bounds and the white stakes will

identify the out of bounds. If a player's ball is in bounds in an area which may be considered ground under repair (a member of the Rules Committee must make the decision as to ground under repair) the player may play the ball as it lies or may take relief in one of the two **drop zones** (one located on each side of the putting green), the player must go to the nearest drop zone. Remember the cart path is an obstruction (not ground under repair) so free relief under Rule 16.1a.

7. Overhead Power Lines: On *Holes 11 & 12* a ball striking an elevated power line requires the stroke to be cancelled and the stroke **REPLAYED** without penalty. If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

8. Spanish Moss: Spanish moss that is in a tree is considered part of the tree and may **NOT** be removed or pushed away to improve your swing or line of play. Spanish moss lying on the ground or not attached to a tree is a loose impediment and may be moved.

9. Official Shuttles: There are no official shuttles at this event.

10. Scoring Area: The Scoring Area will be just outside the pro shop and will be marked accordingly. Scorecards will be turned in immediately following play. The scorecard is "officially turned in" when the player leaves the designated, roped off area. Inside the roped off area is for players and officials **ONLY**.

11. Ties: Ties for the Championship will be settled by using hole 10, 11, 11, 10 and repeated in this order if necessary. Players are responsible for making themselves available at the time and place determined by the Committee.

12. Doubt as to Procedure: Play a "Second Ball" under Rule 20.1c(3). Report the circumstances to the Committee prior to turning in your scorecard. Failure to do so will result in **disqualification**.

RULES OF GOLF MODIFICATIONS:

- **WHEN THE SCORECARD IS RETURNED:** A player's scorecard is deemed returned (no changes allowed to scorecard) once the player *verbally* acknowledges the scores are correct **and** leaves the roped off scoring area.
- **BUNKERS:** If a ball comes to rest in a bunker, the player may lift the ball, smooth the area they intend to place the ball, and place the ball in that area. This area must be in the bunker and within one club-length of the original lie of the ball no closer to the hole. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.
- **FLAGSTICK:** Under the Rules of Golf, players are permitted to leave the flagstick in the hole while putting. Touching or removing the flagstick and replacing it before a stroke is deemed a Snee Farm Country Club Code of Conduct violation at this time and is subject to penalty. If a player removes the flagstick and makes a stroke with the flagstick removed, the player will be subject to the general penalty for each offense.

- **HOLING OUT:** A ball is considered 'holed' if it is resting on an object in place to prevent the ball from falling to the bottom of the cup even if the ball is not completely resting below the surface of the ground. However, all measures will be taken by setup staff to ensure that whatever object is in the hole will indeed allow the ball to come to rest completely below the surface of the ground.

2020 RULES COMMITTEE: Leonard "Sam" Herb (864-593-0103), Larry Beidelman, Mike Smith, George Montgomery, Mark Durishan, Christina Anderson, Don Cronin and Pete Dunham.

NOTE: RULES OFFICIALS WILL HAVE ORANGE FLAGS ON THEIR GOLF CARTS. CALL THE PRO SHOP IF YOU NEED AN OFFICIAL.

SNEE FARM PRO SHOP: 843-884-2600

LAST UPDATE: 06/19/2020

2020 Rice Planters Amateur Tournament Terms of Competition

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United Golf Association and the R&A govern play and where applicable by additional terms as set forth in the "Notice to Competitors (Players)". Complete text of Rules, Interpretations and Model Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the *Rules of Golf* effective January 2019.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play — Loss of hole; Stroke Play — Two strokes.

LOCAL RULES

OUT OF BOUNDS

- When white stakes or fences are used, the out of bounds line is determined by the nearest course-side points of the stakes or fence posts at ground level, excluding angled supports.
- When a white line on the ground is used, the line itself is out of bounds.
- A ball that crosses the inside edge of a road or curb defined as out of bounds and the ball comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though the ball may be on another part of the course.

PENALTY AREAS

When both stakes and lines are used to define penalty areas, stakes identify penalty areas and lines define edges.

- Yellow Penalty Areas are defined by yellow stakes and/or yellow lines- Rule 17.1
- Red Penalty Areas are defined by red stakes and/or red lines-Rule 17.1

GROUND UNDER REPAIR

Defined by white lines. Ground under repair also includes Fire-ant hills and French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones and newly trenched areas, even if not marked as such. For grass-covered trenching, see Temporary Lines and Cables. **Model Local Rule F-22.**

Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee. When immediately adjacent to an obstruction, such an area is part of the obstruction.

SOD SEAMS - For Lie of Ball & Area of Intended Swing Only - To be treated as "Ground under repair" as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures. **Model Local Rule F-7.**

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (BALL IN GENERAL AREA CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT OR LESS) Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken

under Rule 16.1. In addition, if the player's ball lies off the putting green and in the general area cut to fairway height and an immovable obstruction is within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball and it intervenes on the line of play, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1. **Model Local Rule F-5.**

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS — include plastic bumpers on roads and paths and mats secured to the ground with spikes when the bumpers or mats cover cables.

WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS — White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

INTEGRAL OBJECTS — include (a) cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to objects, and (b) artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas or within and/or around bunkers.

PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES OR CABLES – If a ball strikes a power line or cable, the player must disregard the stroke and play a ball in accordance with Rule 14.6. **Model Local Rule E-11.**

TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule F-22.**

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule F-23.**

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH – Are treated as loose impediments

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-1.**

GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATIONS – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-2.**

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-3.**

ONE BALL RULE – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is **NOT** in effect **Model Local Rule G-4.**

PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-7.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see Rule 4.3.

PROHIBITING USE OF AUDIO AND VIDEO DEVICES – Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device. **Model Local Rule G-8.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see Rule 4.3.

PACE OF PLAY — See separate memorandum to players for pace-of-play guidelines, when applicable.

STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule J-1.** All practice areas during an Immediate Suspension (such as when there is imminent danger) are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing could result in disqualification for serious misconduct. An Immediate Suspension [Rule 5.7b(1)] will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. A Normal Suspension [Rule 5.7b(2)] will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn notes.

PRACTICE — Rule 5.2 is modified in this way: In stroke play, a player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds, including after completing his/her final round of that day in stroke play. **Model Local Rule I-1.1.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

TRANSPORTATION — During the round, a player must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee (a player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized). Exception: A player may accept transportation from a member of the Committee. Penalty for breach of Local Rule is the general penalty for each hole where the breach occurred. If the breach occurred between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

REPLACEMENT OF CLUB THAT IS BROKEN OR SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED – Rule 4.1b(3) is modified in this way: If a player’s club is “broken or significantly damaged” during the round by the player or caddie, except in cases of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4/1b(4). **Model Local Rule G-9.** Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – See Rule 4.1b.

BALL PLAYED FROM OUTSIDE RELIEF AREA WHEN TAKING BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF – There is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule (Rule 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b or 19.3b) but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball, when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped. **Model Local Rule E-12.**

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE - In stroke play only, a competitor may play without penalty, a second ball as prescribed in Rule 20.1c(2). NOTE: Before proceeding, the competitor must declare which ball he wishes to score with AND the competitor must report the facts of the situation to the committee before returning his score card. If he fails to do so, he is disqualified. (Even if the score with both balls is the same!)

CLOSE OF COMPETITION- The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the Championship trophy has been presented to the winner

LAST UPDATE: 06/19/2020

2020 RICE PLANTERS AMATEUR PACE OF PLAY POLICY

PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Rule 5.6a states, “A player must not unreasonably delay play, either when playing a hole or between two holes. Rule 5.6b states, “a round of golf is meant to be played at a prompt pace”. In order to prevent any penalty, we suggest that you review carefully the following guidelines.

ALLOTTED TIME

A group of three will be required to play in **4 hours and 39 minute** for the 18 hole stipulated round.

“DEFINITION OF “OUT OF POSITION”

The first group to start will be considered out of position if at any time during the round; the group is behind the prescribed schedule as detailed on the Pace of Play Time Chart. Any following group will be considered out of position if it (a) is taking more than the allotted time to play and (b) reaches the tee of a par 3 hole and the preceding group has cleared the next tee, reaches the tee of a par 4 hole and the hole is clear, or reaches the tee of a par 5 hole when the preceding group is putting on the putting green. **Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.**

GROUP OUT OF POSITION

If a group is out of position, the players in that group can be monitored and timed. Any time a group is to be monitored and timed, they will be notified of such timing by a Rules Official. The notification by the Rules Official will be made immediately after all players complete their tee shots on the hole where the monitoring will begin.

TIMING

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player’s stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and the player can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardages will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing of the player’s stroke will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair his ball mark and other damages on the line of putt and remove loose impediments on the line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

When a group is out of position, a player will be allowed a maximum of 45 seconds to complete his stroke.

NOTE: An additional 10 seconds will be allowed for the (a) first to play from the teeing ground on a par 3 hole; (b) the first to play a second stroke on a par 4 or par 5 hole; (c) the first to play a third stroke on a par 5 hole; (d) the first to play around the putting green; or (e) the first to play a stroke on the putting green.

NOTE: The Committee reserves the right, at any time, to time a group when deemed necessary. Further, if a player is determined by the Rules Committee to be unreasonably slow, he may be timed individually at the Rules Committee discretion, regardless of whether his group is out of position. Players should also be aware that the Committee may assess a bad time to a player in a group which is out of position if the player makes no effort to help his group get back in position.

RULINGS OR OTHER INCIDENTS

If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

PACE OF PLAY PENALTIES

In a stipulated round, if a player exceeds the time limit on one (1) occasion, the player will then be cautioned that if he exceeds the time limit on one more occasion (total of 2), the player will automatically incur a penalty of one stroke under rule 5.6a. If a player exceeds the time limit on one more occasion (total of 3), the player will incur an additional two stroke penalty. If a player exceeds the time limit a total of four (4) times, the penalty is ***DISQUALIFICATION***.

When a group in question regains its proper position, timing will be discontinued. However, any previous timings that have exceeded the limit will be carried over for the remainder of the stipulated round in the event the group requires additional monitoring.

APPEALS

Any appeal of a penalty must be referred to the Rules Committee immediately upon completion of the player's round (meaning before the player leaves the scoring area). The decision of the Rules Committee shall be final. If a player in question does not appeal, any penalties shall stand.

LAST UPDATE: 06/19/2020

2020 Rice Planters Amateur Tournament Evacuation Locations

An Immediate Suspension [Rule 5.7b(1)] will be signaled by *one prolonged* air horn note. A Normal Suspension [Rule 5.7b(2)] will be signaled by *three consecutive* air horn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by *two short* air horn notes.

In the case of inclement weather players MUST report to the nearest evacuation location. A Rules Official will be present at each evacuation location to provide updates and to ensure social distancing is maintained. *All players MUST wear masks while at the evacuation locations as a condition for competing in the Rice Planters Amateur.*

Holes 1, 2, 9th green, 10, and 11 — Return to clubhouse

Holes 3, 4, 5, and 6 — Tent behind 5th Green or Bathrooms by 6th Tee

Holes 7, 8, and 9th fairway — Tent behind 8th Green

Holes 12 and 13 — Small shelter behind 13th Tee

Holes 14, 15, and 16th tee — Bathrooms and tent by 15th Tee

Holes 16 (fairway and green), 17, and 18th tee — Tent behind 17th Green

Hole 18 (fairway and green) — Return to clubhouse

LAST UPDATE: 06/19/2020