Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gator Junior Golf Association

Playing Rules Notes

Weeks 4-5 – Chapter 6 (Competition)

**PLAYING - RULES NOTES: CHAPTER 6 - COMPETITION**

**BALLS, CLUBS, EQUIPMENT**

**See rule #4**

*In this section, we’ll learn about the balls, clubs, and equipment you are allowed to play with during a round of golf.*

I. Clubs

* Players must use clubs that conform to the rules of golf. Clubs can change in condition through normal use and wear. But *performance characteristics* cannot be changed.
* If a conforming club is damaged during a round, the club cannot be replaced. It must continue to be used, repaired, or removed. If a player deliberately improves a club’s performance characteristics, he is disqualified.
* A player can have only 14 clubs. He is penalized 2 strokes per hole for 2 holes if he has more than 14 clubs.
* Players cannot share clubs.
* If a player’s club becomes damaged by natural forces or outside influences, it can be replaced without penalty.

II. Balls

* Balls must conform to the rules of golf. Players may borrow balls from others but cannot alter balls. If a ball is altered, the player is disqualified.
* If a ball breaks into pieces during play, there is no penalty and the player must replay the shot.
* If a ball is cracked, the ball may lift the ball (if he marks it – penalty for not marking the ball is one stroke) and replace it.

III. Equipment

* Equipment can be used so long as it does not reduce competition between players.
* Allowed: getting information on distance or direction (range finders), weather forecasts, measuring temperature and humidity, rules of golf, advice from previous rounds, listening to audio or videos unrelated to the round
* Not allowed: measuring elevation changes, interpreting distance and direction (which club to use, what the line of play is), measuring wind speed, listening to music to help with tempo

**LIFTING, DROPPING, AND CLEANING**

**See rule #14**

* You must mark your ball if you lift it, either with the clubhead or a marker. If you do not mark your ball, it is a one stroke penalty.
* A ball lifted from the putting green can always be cleaned. The ball can always be cleaned through the green, unless you are trying to identify it or seeing if it is cracked.
* If a ball is dropped and does not stay on the same spot, the player should drop it again. If it still doesn’t stay in the same spot, the player can place the ball in the general area.
* The player must drop the ball straight down from knee-height.
* If a ball is played from the wrong place, there is a 2-stroke penalty.