

# PMGC Newsletter

*NEWS & NOTES FROM THE PEBBLEBROOK MEN'S GOLF CLUB*



## HELP WANTED!

Three PMGC board member terms will be expiring at the end of 2023 and their openings need to be filled.

Having a full complement of nine members ensures the continued smooth operation of the club and promotes a lot of good discussion and exchange of ideas.

If you have an interest in helping your club by joining the board, please consider volunteering by sending an email to:

[pbmensgolf@gmail.com](mailto:pbmensgolf@gmail.com)

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next PMGC general membership meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.** at Palm Ridge Rec Center, Summit Hall A.

In addition to discussing club business, door prizes and a 50/50 drawing will be held.

A continental breakfast will be provided.

Hope to see you there!



## FALL CLUB BBQ



The next PMGC club BBQ will be **Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2023.**

Food and drink (2 tickets each) will be provided to all participants - **FREE of CHARGE.**

Sign up info will be made available soon.



## RULES OF THE GAME

*By David Eikner - Club Member, Certified USGA Rules Official*

Have you ever taken a stroke at your ball in a penalty area and have not managed to get it out? I certainly have! You still have options to drop your ball outside the penalty area (Rule 17.2).

**Example:** David hits his tee shot into a red penalty area. He then tries a 'miracle shot' that manages to come to rest about one yard in front of him, still within the same red penalty area.

His options now are:

- a) Take another stroke at it.
- b) Take stroke-and-distance by playing from where the previous stroke was made, **INSIDE** the red penalty area for a penalty of one stroke.
- c) Take stroke-and-distance by playing from where the previous stroke was made **OUTSIDE** the red penalty area for a penalty of one stroke.
- d) Take back-on-the-line relief **OUTSIDE** the red penalty area, keeping the estimated point where the original ball crossed the edge of the penalty area between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped (in this case, where the tee shot went into the red penalty area) for a penalty of one stroke.
- e) Take lateral relief **OUTSIDE** the red penalty area, dropping within two club lengths where the ball last crossed the edge of the red penalty area (from a previous shot), no nearer the hole for one penalty stroke.
- f) Options c, d, and e are referred to as 'regression' as you regress back to previous shots.

## 2024 CLUB MEMBER REGISTRATION & RENEWAL

*AN ONLINE PAYMENT OPTION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR NEXT SEASON*

PMGC has long partnered with the Arizona Golf Association (AGA), relying on the AGA to track, maintain and provide each club member with an official USGA handicap index. For 2024, our partnership will include the option for club members (new or renewals) to pay their yearly club dues, as well as the yearly AGA fee directly online, through the AGA website.

There will be **NO increase** in club dues or AGA fees for 2024. However, payments made *online* will receive a \$5.00 discount versus making payment 'offline'. In addition, payments received between October 1, 2023 and December 14, 2023 will receive another \$5.00 discount, for \$10.00 in total savings.

Online registration and renewal will kick off on **October 1, 2023**. Further info will be provided to all members via email as we get closer to the date. Beginning October 1, the [Membership page](#) on the club website will also be updated with info on this new method of registration.

Offering online registration and renewal streamlines the process for both PMGC and the AGA and we encourage all members to take advantage of it. For those that do not wish to participate in the online process, registration 'offline', by paper form and payment by check will still be accepted.



## IMPROVING YOUR GAME

*By Dave Arend, Owner/Coach, Da GolfLAB*

### UNDERSTANDING GREEN READING

Green reading is more science than instinct nowadays. When I teach new golfers, this is the fundamental presentation I recommend. As a professional, I use this technique over and over until it becomes an instinct. The key for me is to trust that instinct and stick with my read in order to commit to a "start line". When I teach this to high level golfers, I want to see them improve their process and make sure they go through the same steps every time. I consider this "programming the robot" to hit the putt without second guessing or having fear of the result. The psychology is easier said than done for most mere mortals.

The following is how I structure green reading process:

1. Walk around
  - a. What is the Pace/Distance?
  - b. Is the ball breaking left or right?
  - c. How much Slope? Minimal, Average or Severe
2. Create an aim point based on this formula:
  - a. Minimal slope = 1/2 ball per pace
  - b. Average slope = 1 ball per pace
  - c. Severe slope = 2 balls per pace

**Example:** I step off almost every putt though you would never realize I am doing it. I do it while I am walking to my ball and around the hole. Now I know I have a 6 pace (approx. 6 yards) putt. While I was walking around the hole, I felt when I am walking uphill vs. downhill. I use that info. to determine if the green is sloping to the left or to the right and how much slope. Let's say the ball will break to the left and I feel/see an average slope, then I am going to aim 6 balls to the right of the cup. I call this "being my own caddie".

Now you have to trust your caddie and execute the putt. The golfer has the following responsibilities:

1. Rehearse the pace/distance
2. Aim the putter face
3. Make a good stroke



## UNDERSTANDING GREEN READING *(continued)*

If you didn't make the putt, the golfer can only be critical of these 3 keys:

1. Did you start the putt "on line" or at the intended aim point?
2. Did you get the speed right?
3. Did the ball start rolling off the putter face properly?

When the golfer thinks they did everything correctly and the ball doesn't go in the hole, you should fire your caddy! The problem is, most people are their own caddy. Take this advice to improve your green reading skills or get a new caddy.

*Editor's Note: Feel free to stop in Da GolfLAB for all your golfing needs. From custom fitting to lessons to club repair, Dave and staff can get your game squared away.*