Non-Standard Rules/Hole Designs – Waiver Required!
Why and When are they required?

Why?

The use of any non-standard rule or hole design for sanctioned events can be so punitive that they don’t represent the normal game of disc golf and cause inflated scores which then cause problems for the ratings system resulting in skewed ratings.

When?

When a TD wishes to use a non-standard rule or hole design, it requires a waiver from the Tour Manager prior to the event. The Tour Manager will work with the TD to make sure that the non-standard rule or hole design isn’t so punitive that it creates inflated scoring and skews ratings. If a TD insists on using a design that can not be approved for normal ratings, the event will not be rated.

Examples:

The most common scenarios of non-standard rules or course design are:

- Island Greens
- Forced Drop Zones
- “BUNCR” rule
- Throw & Distance

Each of these non-standard rules removes one or more standard OB options from the player’s choices of what to do after throwing a shot OB so they require a waiver.

A typical Island Green rule requires that the disc come to rest on the Island Green to be able to mark on the Island Green. This removes the player’s standard OB option of marking their lie where the disc was last over inbounds, so it requires a waiver.

A forced drop zone rule forces a player who threw OB to move to a specified drop zone as their only OB option. Again, since this type of rule limits the player’s normal OB options, it requires a waiver.

The so-called “BUNCR” rule both limits a player’s normal OB options and penalizes the player by forcing them to throw from their previous lie (a shot that they had already demonstrated they couldn’t make) so it requires a waiver.

Throw & Distance rules are a three-fold problem in that they not only limit the player’s normal OB options, but they penalize the player TWICE with both a penalty throw and forcing them to re-throw from their previous lie (again, a shot that they had already demonstrated they couldn’t make.) Throw & Distance penalties may receive a waiver, but they are extremely unlikely to be rated.