



CAPE COD CERTIFIED

CAPE COD PURSUITS

Cape Cod Golf Resident Rates Explained: How Locals Play for Less in Every Town

A free field guide from the people who actually live here.



<https://www.cape-cod-certified.com/guides/cape-cod-golf-resident-rates>

If you’ve ever stood at the pro shop counter watching a guy in a faded Brewster sweatshirt pay \$42 for the same round that just cost you \$89, you already understand the central frustration of Cape Cod golf. Resident rates aren’t a secret — they’re posted on every town’s website — but the rules around who qualifies, what proof you need, when you can book, and which courses honor a neighboring town’s pass change every season, and almost nobody explains them in one place.

This guide does. We’ll walk through how resident pricing actually works at the town-owned courses on the Cape, what the 2026 rate cards look like, which towns sell a ‘resident ID’ you actually need to keep in your wallet, and where the real savings sit (hint: it’s not always the headline weekend rate).

How Cape Cod Resident Rates Actually Work

Every municipal course on the Cape — in Dennis, Yarmouth, Brewster, Harwich, Sandwich, Falmouth, Barnstable, and Bourne — sets its own rate structure independently. **There is no Cape-wide reciprocal program.** Being a Mashpee resident gets you exactly zero discount in Dennis. The only courses that honor your residency are the ones owned by the town you pay property taxes in or rent a year-round home in.

That second part matters: most Cape towns extend resident rates to **year-round renters**, not just homeowners, as long as you can prove a Cape address with a Massachusetts driver’s license, a utility bill, or a current lease. Seasonal renters and second-home owners who are domiciled elsewhere generally do not qualify, even if they pay a substantial excise tax to the town.

Three towns — **Yarmouth, Dennis, and Harwich** — require a physical resident ID card or season tag to receive the discounted rate. The other towns will accept a current MA license at check-in. If you live in Yarmouth and try to walk on at Bayberry without your golf ID, you’ll pay the full nonresident rate. Period.

2026 Resident vs Nonresident Rates: The Numbers

Here’s the side-by-side at the town courses for weekend morning play — the rate that drives almost every booking decision on the Cape. All prices are 18 holes, walking; cart fees run an additional \$20–22 per rider.

Course	Town	Resident (Wknd AM)	Nonresident (Wknd AM)	Savings
Dennis Pines	Dennis	\$52	\$94	\$42
Dennis Highlands	Dennis	\$48	\$86	\$38
Bayberry Hills	Yarmouth	\$50	\$92	\$42
Bass River	Yarmouth	\$45	\$80	\$35
Captains (Port)	Brewster	\$55	\$98	\$43
Captains (Starboard)	Brewster	\$55	\$98	\$43
Cranberry Valley	Harwich	\$54	\$96	\$42
Sandwich Hollows	Sandwich	\$46	\$78	\$32
Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds	Barnstable	\$50	\$85	\$35
Hyannis Golf Club	Barnstable	\$42	\$72	\$30
Falmouth Country Club	Falmouth	\$48	\$82	\$34

A few things to notice. Brewster’s Captains Course has the steepest nonresident fee on the Cape — and the largest absolute discount for residents. Hyannis Golf Club, an 18-hole executive layout, has the lowest entry point of any course on Cape. And no town crosses the \$100 threshold for nonresidents in 2026, though Brewster sits a dollar away and will almost certainly get there in 2027.

The Resident ID Card Game

Three courses run a strict ID program. If you live in these towns and play more than a few rounds a year, getting the card is non-negotiable.

Yarmouth

The **Yarmouth Golf ID** costs \$30 for the 2026 season (Apr 1 – Nov 30) and is issued at the Bass River pro shop. You need a MA license showing a Yarmouth address. Without the ID, the rate card treats you as a nonresident — no exceptions, even with the license in hand.

Dennis

Dennis sells an annual **Resident Player Card** for \$35 that’s required at both Dennis Pines and Dennis Highlands. Year-round renters qualify with a signed lease and utility bill. The card also unlocks the resident advance booking window, which matters more than the rate itself in July and August.

Harwich

Harwich’s program is the most aggressive on the Cape. The 2026 **Cranberry Valley resident sticker** is \$40, and the town also offers an annual prepaid pass at \$1,250 for unlimited play — a deal that pays for itself at roughly 23 rounds.

The other towns — Brewster, Sandwich, Falmouth, Barnstable, Bourne — use a ‘license at the counter’ system. Bring your MA driver’s license, and the rate adjusts automatically.

Where the Real Money Is: Booking Windows and Twilight

The headline rate is half the picture. The other half is **when you can book** and **when you should play**.

Resident booking windows are the single most underused privilege on the Cape. At Brewster’s Captains Course, residents can book **7 days out**, while nonresidents are capped at 3. At Dennis Pines and Highlands, residents get a **6-day window** versus 2 for everyone else. In peak July and August, this is the difference between teeing off at 7:42 AM and not playing at all.

Twilight pricing is where municipal courses get genuinely cheap. Most courses on the Cape open their twilight window at **2:00 PM in June–August**, shifting earlier as the season changes:

Course	Twilight Start	Resident Twilight (Wknd)
Dennis Pines	2:00 PM	\$35
Bayberry Hills	2:30 PM	\$34
Captains Course	2:00 PM	\$38
Cranberry Valley	2:00 PM	\$36
Sandwich Hollows	2:30 PM	\$32

Most courses also run a **super-twilight** rate starting around 4:30 PM at \$24–28 for residents — fine for nine holes if you tee off briskly and don't lose a ball in the cranberry bog on Cranberry Valley's 14th.

The Annual Pass Math

If you live on the Cape and play even semi-seriously, the question isn't 'what's the resident rate?' — it's 'should I buy the annual pass?'

Here's what each town's unlimited season pass costs in 2026, and the breakeven point against the standard resident weekend morning rate:

- **Sandwich Hollows:** \$995 / breakeven ~22 rounds
- **Yarmouth (both courses):** \$1,150 / breakeven ~24 rounds
- **Harwich (Cranberry Valley):** \$1,250 / breakeven ~23 rounds
- **Dennis (both courses):** \$1,400 / breakeven ~28 rounds
- **Brewster (Captains):** \$1,800 / breakeven ~33 rounds

If you play once a week from May through October, you're at 24+ rounds without trying. The **Sandwich Hollows pass is the best raw deal on the Cape**. The Brewster pass is the worst on paper but the most valuable in practice — Captains is the only course on this list with two distinct championship-quality 18s, and the pass covers both.

Reciprocal Play and Cross-Town Rules

There's exactly one reciprocal arrangement worth knowing about: Dennis Player Card holders receive a modest discount at Bayberry Hills on weekday mornings before 10 AM, and Yarmouth ID holders get a similar courtesy at Dennis Highlands. It's a quiet, decades-old handshake between two abutting towns that the pro shops don't advertise. Ask for it; they'll honor it.

Brewster, Harwich, and Sandwich do not reciprocate with anyone. Don't bother asking.

What Counts as Proof of Residency

Standards vary, but the following will get you the resident rate at any town course on the Cape:

- **MA driver's license** with a current address in that town (universal)
- **Town-issued resident sticker** for the dump or beach (works in Brewster and Sandwich)
- **Property tax bill** in your name (useful if you've just moved and your license hasn't caught up)
- **Signed year-round lease plus a utility bill** in your name (for year-round renters)

A second-home P.O. box, a Massachusetts plate without a matching license, or a deed without occupancy will not work. Pro shops have heard every version of every story.

Don't Miss

Buy the ID card the first week of April, not the first week of July. Yarmouth, Dennis, and Harwich all sell out of the early-season tee time inventory before Memorial Day. The card itself is available the day each pro shop opens for the season, and the resident booking window starts working immediately. Waiting until summer is how locals end up with 2:40 PM tee times in August.

Walk Captains Starboard, not Port, if you're playing one Brewster round. Port is the postcard course and the one every visitor books. Starboard is the better walking layout, less crowded, and has the more interesting back nine. Same rate, half the wait.

A warning: the Sandwich Hollows rate card is the cheapest on the Cape, but the course is also booked for outings on roughly 40% of summer weekends. Check the tournament calendar on the town's recreation page before you assume a Saturday tee time exists. There is nothing worse than driving to Sandwich at 6:30 AM to discover the course is closed for a Rotary scramble.

Cape Cod golf is not expensive if you actually live here. It is, however, expensive if you assume the resident rate is automatic — it almost never is. Get the card, learn the booking window, and the math tilts hard in your favor.

◆ THINGS TO DO

Make a day of it

Bookable experiences that pair perfectly with this guide. Scan any code to reserve.

BOOK · VARIES

Cape Cod Rail Trail Bike Rentals

Idle Times Bike Shop · Orleans

A hand-picked Cape Cod experience to pair with this guide — book direct.



Scan to book

BOOK

Cape Heli Tours — Helicopter Sightseeing

Cape Heli Tours · Hyannis

A hand-picked Cape Cod experience to pair with this guide — book direct.



Scan to book

BOOK · FROM \$20

Cape Cod Cranberry Bog Tours

Cape Cod Cranberry Bog Tours · Harwich

A hand-picked Cape Cod experience to pair with this guide — book direct.



Scan to book



Headed to the Cape with friends? Share this guide.

Every share helps a real local business get found — and keeps Cape Cod guides free. Scan to send it along.

[Explore Cape Cod Experiences →](#)



Cape Cod Certified · capecodcertified.com/guides/cape-cod-golf-resident-rates · Real guides, real local knowledge. Verify seasonal details before you go.



FOR CAPE COD BUSINESSES

This is what being Cape Cod Certified looks like.

You just read a guide that travelers and locals download, keep, and share. The businesses inside it were chosen on merit — real vetting, real local knowledge, never pay-to-play.

Own a Cape Cod business? Get Certified and earn your place in guides like this one — in front of the exact people planning their trip and their spend.



Get Certified → capecodcertified.com/join