



LOCAL RULES & TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms. Complete text of the Rules and Model Local Rules in Section 8 may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty – two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.

LOCAL RULES

Out of Bounds - Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts.

Penalty Areas - When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out-of-bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds.

Ground Under Repair - Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair.

Relief from Seams of Cut Turf - Model Local Rule F-7, Pg 487 in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. (Relief from the seams but not the cut turf unless marked or defined).

Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green - Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect (2 plus 2 rule).

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.

Wood Chips and Mulch - Are loose impediments.

Integral Objects - Include cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers.

Code of Conduct - Committee may disqualify a player for acting contrary to the spirit of the game if it finds the player has committed serious misconduct, in accordance with Rule 1.2a. Penalties other than disqualification may be imposed for player misconduct, also in accordance with Rule 1.2a and Committee procedure 5I. Pg 416.

The Committee may apply the following penalty structure at its discretion: First Offence, warning; Second Offence, one-stroke penalty; Third Offence, general penalty; Fourth Offense or Serious Misconduct, disqualification.

Prohibiting Use of Caddies- Model Local Rule H-1.1. Pg 511 in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. (A player must not have a caddie during the round).

List of Conforming Driver Heads - Model Local Rule G-1, Pg 503 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Grooves and Punch Mark Specifications – Model Local Rule G-2, Pg 504 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect, except as modified by the applicable championship Entry Application.

List of Conforming Golf Balls – Model Local Rule G-3, Pg 504 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation – Model Local Rule G-6, Pg 506 as prescribed in section 8 of the Committee procedures is in effect.

Broken or Significantly Damaged Club –Revised Model Local Rule G-9 effective January 1, 2025 is in effect, Pg 507 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures. A crack in the club face is considered significant damage and the club could be replaced. Additionally, the damaged club must be replaced by the same type club (a driver for a driver, 7 iron for a 7 iron , etc.)

Missing Player or Marker Certification – Model Local Rule L-1, Pg 520 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Pace of Play - See “Optimist Pace of Play” guidelines on the Optimist website or “Notice to Players”.

Stopping and Resuming Play – Model Local Rule J-1, Pg 515 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two shorts notes.

Practice - Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may NOT practice on the competition course before or between rounds. See Model Local Rule I-1.1, Pg 514 in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation- Model Local Rule G-6, Pg 506 in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. (Players must walk unless riding is authorized by the Committee e.g., at designated shuttles points or when they will play, or has played, again under penalty of stroke and distance).

Ties- Weather and time permitting, ties for first place will be broken by a sudden death playoff starting at a hole determined by the Committee. If two or more players are tied for first, any trophies will be awarded in the order they are eliminated from the playoff. All other ties will be broken in accordance with the USGA recommendation in Committee procedure 5A (6), Pg 402. All ties, except for first place will be reported to the various ranking organizations unbroken.

When Competition is Final – The competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

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