

IGA - Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play. See each specific competition's "Notice to Players" for additional Local Rules and Conditions.

DISREGARD ALL LOCAL RULES ON CLUB SCORECARDS.

OUT OF BOUNDS: The model local rule (USGA Committee Procedures E-5) is NOT IN EFFECT. Out of Bounds is defined by course-side points at ground level of white stakes, lines or perimeter fence posts.

PENALTY AREAS (Rule 17): When a yellow penalty area or a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a penalty area is bounded by out of bounds, the penalty area margin extends to and coincides with the OB edge.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR (Rule 16): Defined by an area encircled by a white line. French drains & areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand are deemed to be ground under repair. Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the committee. When immediately adjacent to an immovable obstruction, such an area is part of that obstruction.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF (F-7): If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b (ball is in general area) or Rule 16.1d (ball is on putting green). Relief is not available if there is interference for stance only. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam for purposes of dropping under Rule 14.3c(2).

PROTECTION OF YOUNG TREES: The Model Local Rule as prescribed in USGA Committee Procedures E-10 is in effect. Identification of young trees varies from course to course; see Notice to Players at each event for how young trees are identified.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH: are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Players.

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (F-5): When a ball lies in the general area, and an immovable obstruction which is on the line of play and is 1) within two club-lengths of the putting green AND 2) within two club-lengths of the ball, relief is available under rule 16.1.

LIMITING WHEN STROKE MADE FROM PUTTING GREEN MUST BE REPLAYED UNDER EXCEPTION 2 TO RULE 11.1b- Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarification to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule D-7.

INTEGRAL OBJECTS: Include cables, rods, wires, or wrapping when closely attached to trees; liners in bunkers and artificial walls and pilings when located within penalty areas or retaining walls and pilings within and/or around bunkers are integral objects.

PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES OR CABLES (E-11): If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line during the play of a hole, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 14.6 for what to do).

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: The Model Local Rule is in effect and includes any temporary obstruction installed for the competition (USGA Committee Procedures F-23).

SPECIFICATION OF CLUBS AND THE BALL: The driver the player uses must be named on the current list of "Conforming Driver Heads" and the ball a player uses must be named on the current list of "Conforming Golf Balls" of the USGA. (Model Local Rules G-1 & G-3)

BROKEN OR SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED CLUB – Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule G-9 says, in part, "if a player's club is "broken or significantly damaged" during the round by the player or caddie, except in cases of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4.1b(4)."

BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF – Local Rules as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule E-12 says, in part, “when taking Back-On-the-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball, when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped.

PACE OF PLAY: A player shall be subject to penalty if he unduly delays play. The IGA Pace of Play is in effect and can be referenced at www.iowagolf.org.

PRACTICE BEFORE OR BETWEEN ROUNDS: 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 that a player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. No modification is made with regard to match play (i.e. practice is allowed). Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

PRACTICE AT PUTTING GREEN OF HOLE PLAYED IS PROHIBITED: In stroke play competitions, between the play of two holes, a player must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed and must not test the surface of the putting green of the hole just completed by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball (Model Local Rule I-2).

REPLACEMENT OF CLUB DAMAGED OR BROKEN: Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect, allowing for the replacement of a club that has been broken or significantly damaged during the round by the player or caddie - except cases of abuse. See entire local rule in Official Guide Book for complete language.

Unless otherwise noted in the applicable Rule, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule Condition is: Match Play - Loss of hole Stroke Play - Two strokes

SUSPENSION OF PLAY:

- Immediate Suspension – One (1) prolonged note of the siren
- Normal Suspension – Three (3) short notes of the siren
- Resumption of play – Two (2) short notes of the siren

When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. All practice areas must be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification.

REMINDERS FOR RESUMPTION OF PLAY:

- You must have the same 14 clubs
- You may substitute a ball when play resumes (whether or not your ball was lifted at time of suspension)
- 5.7d(1). If your ball was lifted, then you replace a ball (substitution permitted) on the original spot.
- 5.7d(1). If you did not lift your ball, you may do so. You may also clean it or substitute another ball. In either case, the ball (or substituted ball) is replaced on the original spot.
- 5.7d(2). If the player’s ball or ball-marker is moved in any way before play resumes (including by natural forces), the player must either:
 - Replace the original ball or another ball on the original spot (which if not known, must be estimated) (see Rule 14.2), or
 - Place a ball-marker to mark the original spot, and then replace the original ball or another ball on that spot (see Rules 14.1 and 14.2)

FOR PLAY TO RESUME: The Committee will announce time of restart and players must be back in position to play at that time.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: Disqualification other than when the three exceptions under Rule 5.3a or the exception under Rule 5.7b applies.

RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION: 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 posted on the Official scoreboard and approved by the Rules Committee. The result of a match is final when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.