



Local Rules and Conditions of Competition Rev Jan 2009

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play. See applicable tournament entry form and Notice to Competitors/Players for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of rules and Appendix I may be found in the current Rules of Golf. Unless otherwise indicated, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play - Loss of Hole Stroke Play - Two Strokes

OUT OF BOUNDS – Is defined by inside points of white stakes or fence posts at ground level. When out of bounds is defined by a white line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds. Holes: 4, 5, 6 & 7 by white stakes and the boundary fence posts. Holes 13, 15 by the boundary fence posts. For hole #10 by the boundary fence posts left of the tee, then white stakes to the inside edge of the sidewalk then to the white line behind the green. Hole #9 by white stakes left side and white lines behind green. Note: The practice putting greens are in play.

STAKED TREES- For the tree's protection, a player is entitled to free relief from a staked tree by determining the nearest point of relief and dropping within one club length, no closer to the hole.

WATER HAZARDS AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS

Water Hazards are defined by yellow lines and/or yellow stakes. Rules 26-1. Lateral Water Hazards are defined by red lines and/or red stakes Rule 26-1. When both stakes and lines are used to define water and lateral water hazards, stakes identify hazards and lines define hazard margins.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – (a) Areas enclosed by white lines. (b) French drains, which are open trenches filled with rocks or stones. (c) Sod seams for lie of the ball only. Rule 25-1.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE – Include liners in hazards and artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Competitors/Players.

EMBEDDED BALL – Relief under Rule 25-2 is expanded to “through the green” as prescribed in Appendix I. Through the green, a ball that is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, other than sand, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. Exception: A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to play a stroke because of interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule. **PENALTY FOR BREACH** - Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two Strokes.

TURF PLUGS ON PUTTING GREENS – are deemed to have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired as prescribed in Rule 16-1c.

OBSTRUCTIONS – White lined area tying into artificially surfaced roads and paths are deemed to have the same status of those roads and paths, that of obstructions. Stakes and/or rope attached to trees, when interfering with the lie of the ball, stance and /or area of intended swing, are to be treated as immovable obstructions. Bushes marking 150 yds. are not treated as immovable obstructions. Rule 24. **Stones in bunkers** are movable obstructions Rule 24-1 applies.

Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green: Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 24-2. In addition, if a ball lies off the putting green but not in a hazard and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief as follows: The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard or on a putting green. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

TIME OF STARTING (Note to Rule 6-3a) – If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, more than five minutes after his starting time, in the absence of circumstances which warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole to be played in match play or two strokes in stroke play. The penalty for lateness beyond five minutes is disqualification.

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE-If you are in doubt as to how to proceed or your rights, you may play a Second Ball under Rule 3-3. You must announce, in advance, your intention to play a “Second Ball” and which ball you want to score if the Rules allow. You must also report to the committee (before turning in your scorecard) that you played a Second Ball, regardless of the score from each ball.

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION – Is permitted by the Committee in a competition, an automotive cart employed by a player becomes part of the player’s equipment. A player employs a cart when it is utilized by the player, his caddie, or his other equipment. See definition of equipment. **Note 1:** A player may employ a cart at any time during the round. If employed between the play of two holes, the cart is deemed to be the equipment of the player for the duration of the subsequent hole. If such employment commences during the play of a hole, the cart is deemed to be the equipment of the player for the duration of the hole. Outside agencies may ride in a player’s cart, at which point they become part of the player’s equipment. As such, if the player’s ball strikes anything or anyone in the player’s cart, the player incurs a penalty of loss of hole in match play and two strokes in stroke play in accordance with Rule 19-2. **Note 2:** A player or players employing a cart may appoint an outside agency to drive the cart, at which point the driver is deemed to be the caddie of the player (s). Only the player(s) or caddie(s) may drive the cart.
Players employing carts are reminded of the conditions governing caddies and advice.

PRACTICE – A player **may not** play or practice on the competition course **prior to play** on any day of a competition. A player may practice on the designated practice areas and a player may practice on the competition course **after completion** of his stipulated round for the day or between stipulated rounds in competitions held over two or more consecutive days. Breach of Rule is disqualification. Match play see Rule 7-1a, practice on day of round.

PACE OF PLAY – Riverbend Ladies Golf Association pace of play guidelines are in effect for all competitions. It is each player’s responsibility to see that their group stays up with the group in front of them.

HANDICAP VERIFICATION-Competitors are responsible to verify that their handicap, as listed on scorecard, is correct. Signing for a higher handicap will lead to a disqualification in the NET competition.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION (Note to Rule 6-8b) When play is suspended by the Committee 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** (no further strokes) and must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7. All practice areas are closed during the suspension of play due to the dangerous situation, **except** the driving range, until the Committee has declared them open. A player using such practice areas will be subject to a penalty of disqualification.

Note: A suspension of play due to a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged air horn blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three short air horn blasts, repeated. For all other types of suspensions proceed as prescribed in Rule 6-8. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn blasts, repeated.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES - For all competitions a player **may** obtain distance information using a device that gauges or measures distance only. Use of a device that can measure other information such as wind, elevation, temperature is a breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION- The competition is deemed to be closed when all scores have been posted and the Committee has approved the results.

COMMITTEE: Disputes, claims or matters submitted to the Committee are to be resolved by the Committee. Committee decisions are final.