

RULES OF PLAY AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION FOR MSGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

2019

The Rules of the United States Golf Association and their decisions govern play. See applicable Notice to Players and Entry Application for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is the General Penalty

RULES OF PLAY

OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes, fence posts and white lines; Rule 18.2.

YELLOW PENALTY AND RED PENALTY AREAS STAKES AND LINES: When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by enclosed white lined areas. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage including wheel ruts, animal diggings and eroded areas in bunkers, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the committee. **All flower beds** are considered ground under repair from which play is prohibited and the player must take relief under Rule 16.1f. Seams of cut turf are always GUR under the Model Local Rule F-7.

OBSTRUCTIONS:

- Cart paths, whether paved or not, are immovable obstructions. Associated wear areas and white-lined areas tying into paths have the same status as the paths.

LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS: Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments

INTEGRAL OBJECTS ON THE COURSE: Include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Competitors/Local Rules.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS: Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. MLR G-1.

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALL: Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. MLR G-3.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

HANDICAP: The Committee reserves the right to modify a player's course handicap before or between rounds of the competition.

MSGA PACE OF PLAY POLICY: In effect unless otherwise indicated on Local Rules/Notice to Competitors. NOTE: See MSGA Pace of Play Policy.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO DANGEROUS SITUATION: Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of Committee Procedures is in effect. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed areas will be asked to cease doing so; failure to do so may result in revocation of entry.

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note.

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes, repeated. Players may finish hole if started under Rule 5.7b.

Resume Play: Two short signal notes.

PLAY-OFF: If a play-off is required, the play-off will begin at the time and the hole designated by the Committee in charge after all players have completed the stipulated round. If conditions do not allow a play-off to occur or continue, there will be a matching of scorecards as recommended by the USGA in Section 5a of the Committee Procedures (page 403). If this procedure does not produce a winner, the winner will be determined by lot. Any player who fails to report for a play-off will be relegated to last place in the tied group.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition is deemed to have closed 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. The result of a match is considered to have been "officially announced" when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

These rules and any local rules distributed by the Committee supersede anything printed on the host club's scorecard. The Committee in charge of this competition comprises those officials assigned by the MSGA whose decisions are final. (Revised April 2019)