

COURTESY REMINDER

Contestants are reminded that when a club graciously agrees to host an MGA Championship or USGA qualifying tournament, it inconveniences its members and incurs an expense in staffing the club facilities so that the tournament players may be properly serviced and extended full hospitality.

Due to the time pressures of the day and the need to give full attention to the competitive aspect of play, contestants may forget, as guests, their responsibilities to the host club. Courtesy suggests that players be mindful of the services the club has gone out of its way to provide.

SPECIFICALLY, CONTESTANTS ARE ASKED TO:

USE CLUB LOCKER ROOM FOR CHANGES OF CLOTHES AND SHOES. Players should leave an appropriate gratuity for attendant.

EAT LUNCH AT THE CLUB, WHETHER THIS BE IN THE RESTAURANT, GRILL, OR COFFEE SHOP. Anticipating your needs, the club has prepared food and scheduled its staff for your pleasure and convenience.

SUPPORT THE PRO SHOP AT THE CLUB. The facility has been staffed to provide conveniences for this day(s).

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated. The opportunity to play competitive golf at quality courses may not continue in years ahead, unless contestants recognize their responsibilities as guests to support the host club in the services it offers for your benefit.

Thank you for this consideration.

MGA Rules and Competitions Committee



Effective as of January 1, 2018

**LOCAL RULES AND
CONDITIONS OF
COMPETITION FOR
2018 MGA
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



*USGA Rules Govern Play.
Competitors are encouraged to check
starters table for Notice to Players
and other tournament notes.
Complete text of rules and Appendix I
may be found in the current "Rules of Golf."*

**Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for
breach of a Local Rule or Condition is:**

**MATCH PLAY – LOSS OF HOLE
STROKE PLAY – TWO STROKES**

CONDITIONS

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I, Part B, 1a, is in effect.

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I, Part B, 1b, is in effect.

PACE OF PLAY: Players shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any Pace of Play (PoP) guidelines that the Committee may establish. A separate memorandum on PoP will be posted at the starter's table, if applicable.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I 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 practice areas will be asked to cease doing so; failure to comply may result in revocation of entry. Note: A suspension for a dangerous situation shall be signaled by one prolonged airmorn note, and players must immediately suspend play. All other types of suspension shall be signaled by three consecutive airmorn notes, repeated. Resumption of play shall be signaled by two short airmorn notes, repeated.

PRACTICE: Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 7-1b applies to other practice in stroke play, and Rule 7-1a covers practice before the round in match play.

SPIKED GOLF SHOES: The use of traditionally designed spikes (regardless of composition) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised of metal will not be allowed. Penalty for breach of this condition will result in disqualification.

CADDIE/CARTS: It is the policy of the MGA that caddies be assigned to players by the Club Caddie Manager. Players may bring and use their own caddie only when specifically noted on the MGA Memorandum to Players. There may be occasions when players are required to use a cart or a club caddie. Failure to comply with this policy may result in revocation of entry.

TRANSPORTATION: Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I, Part B, 8, is in effect.

TIES AND PLAYOFFS: When qualifying, contestants are reminded of their responsibility to keep informed regarding the possibility of playoffs due to ties.

SCORE CARD COLLECTION: Immediately on completion of a round, the competitor shall return their card to the Committee. A score card is considered "returned" once the player has left the score card collection area.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition is deemed to be closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of 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 score board.

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES: A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. Should the device be used to gauge or measure other conditions, such as elevation changes or wind speed, the player is in breach of Rule 143, the penalty for which is the general penalty for the first offense and disqualification for any subsequent offense. Smart phones may be used as distance-measuring devices.

CELLULAR PHONES: The use of any mobile or smart phone, when used for the purpose of communications, is prohibited on the course. Host course guidelines should be strictly followed with regard to use in locker rooms and parking lots.

LOCAL RULES

The Notice to Players will be provided at the starter's table and should be reviewed prior to the start of play. Players should not refer to host club score cards for Local Rules as they may not be in effect.

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN: When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by nearest inside points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. Where stone walls are used the wall is deemed an integral part of the course and a ball is considered Out of Bounds when it comes to rest outside the wall. A ball that crosses a road defined as Out of Bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is Out of Bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course. Rule 27-1b.

WATER HAZARDS: When a Lateral Water Hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When bounded by Out of Bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the Out of Bounds line.

AERATION HOLES: Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I, Part A, 3d, is in effect.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by white lines. Sod-covered trenching and French drains are deemed to be Ground Under Repair.

PRESERVATION OF COURSE: Decorative flower beds and turf nurseries shall be considered Ground Under Repair from which play is prohibited. See Rule 25-1b. Stakes and cables supporting trees are considered Immovable Obstructions.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS): Except in a Hazard, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be Ground Under Repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under Rule 25-1.

If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of intended swing, relief is available under Rule 25-1. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam.

BUNKER LINERS: The Rules Committee may deem an exposed liner ground under repair. However, interference by a liner with a player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under Rule 25-1.

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: Stakes and cables supporting trees (but not the trees themselves) are Immovable Obstructions. Relief is available under Rule 24-2.

WHITE LINES TIED INTO OBSTRUCTIONS: White-lined areas tied to an Obstruction are part of that Obstruction, not Ground Under Repair.

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

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN: Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I, Part A, 3a, is in effect.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in Hazards are integral parts of the course.

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I, Part A, 4b, is in effect.

WRONG SCORE FOR HOLE IN STROKE PLAY: If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include a penalty stroke that the player did not know he had incurred, the player is not disqualified. The penalty for the applicable Rule is applied, but there is no additional penalty.