



GREATER TAMPA JUNIOR GOLF ASSOCIATION



Local Rules and Conditions of Competitions – effective January 10, 2018

The current USGA Rules of Golf and The R & A govern play. See applicable *Notice to Players* and *GTJGA Policies* for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the current “*Rules of Golf*.”

Disregard Local Rules printed on club scorecards and/or posted at the course.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match play -- Loss of hole; Stroke play -- Two strokes.

LOCAL RULES

OUT OF BOUNDS:

- a) Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes, lines, and perimeter fence posts.
- b) When the inside edge of a paved road or curb defines out of bounds, a ball that is on or beyond the road or curb is out of bounds even though it may lie on another part of the golf course.

WATER HAZARDS AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS: When a water hazard or a 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 white lines and/or signs. Other areas of ground under repair, even when not marked, include:

- a) French drains (trenches filled with stones or the like)
- b) Fire ant hills (Note: see Decision 1-4/10 for a ball in a water hazard)

EDGING GROOVES AROUND PUTTING GREEN: If a ball lies in or on an edging groove around a putting green, or if the groove interferes with the area of the player’s intended swing, the ball may, without penalty, be lifted, cleaned, and placed in the nearest position to where it lay that is not nearer the hole and avoids interference by the condition whether on or off the putting green.

OBSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions
- b) White lined areas tying into obstructions are part of the obstruction
- c) When the outside edge (non-golf course side) of a road or path defines the margin of a hazard or out of bounds, the road or path is an obstruction.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE:

- a) When located within hazards, artificial walls, and pilings are integral parts of the course unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.
- b) When closely attached to trees, wrappings, electrical wire, and cables are integral parts of the course.

LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS: Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments

SEAMS OF CUT TURF: Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

TURF PLUGS: On putting greens, turf plugs have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16-1c even if not 4 ¼ “.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN: Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: In all GTJGA competitions, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

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 (NOTE: Full text of Local Rule available at <http://www.usga.org/2017> Local Rule).

SCORING IN STROKE PLAY: The 2018 Exception to Rule 6-6d is in effect.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITIONS

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS AND GOLF BALLS:

Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

PACE OF PLAY: The GTJGA “TIMING” Policy is in effect.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION: 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.

- a) Discontinue Play IMMEDIATELY: One prolonged signal note.
- b) Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes, repeated..
- c) Resumption of play: Two short signal notes, repeated.

OFFICIAL EVENT: One-day tournaments will be comprised of two consecutive 9-hole stipulated rounds. In the event that every player in a division is unable to complete 18 holes but has completed the same 9 holes and the event is subsequently cancelled, the 9-hole score will count and results will be based on this score. Same nine holes must be completed by every person in a division for the winner of that division to count.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: Closed when the winner has been announced, or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.