

2023 MINNESOTA PGA

Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

The Rules of Golf govern play, except as modified below by the Minnesota PGA. The following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition apply and may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 1, 2019. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Players" for additional definitions, Local Rules or amendments.

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

- Match Play – **Loss of Hole**
- Stroke Play – **Two Strokes**

1. Out of Bounds – Rule 18.2.

When the inside edge of a road or curb defines out of bounds, a ball that crosses such boundary is out of bounds even if it lies on another part of the course.

2. Penalty Areas – Rule 17.

a. Dropping Zones:

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area and a drop zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Players" for that penalty area, the player may as an additional option, drop a ball under penalty of one stroke, in the white lined area labeled "Drop Zone" located as indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players." The ball must be dropped in and come to rest within the drop zone. Model Local Rule E-1.1.

b. Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Areas:

Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players." Model Local Rule B-2.1. Note: When the edge of a red penalty area coincides with the boundary of the course, Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the first paragraph of Model Local Rule B-2.1.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions – Rule 16.1.

a. Ground Under Repair:

- Areas completely encircled with white lines.
- French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
- Aeration holes in General Area or on Putting Green – Model Local Rule E-4.
- Seams of cut turf – Model Local Rule F-7.
- A hole made by a movable obstruction (stakes, signs, tables, chairs or the like) may be treated as Ground Under Repair by the Committee. But interference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.

b. Immovable Obstructions:

- White lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition, not ground under repair.
- When landscaped garden areas (flower beds, shrubbery, or the like) are completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition.
- Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch; the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin roads and paths, they are deemed to be part of the same abnormal course condition.

c. Removal of Temporary Water:

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect. If a ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may:

- Proceed under Rule 16.1.
- Have their line of play squeegee

Note: Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole and only be carried out by individuals designated by the Committee. The Committee may squeegee the putting green at any time.

4. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect and is modified as follows: For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

5. Integral Objects

- Bunker Liners – The Committee may treat an exposed liner as ground under repair under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
- The portion of wrappings, wires, cables, and other objects when closely attached to trees or objects defining Out of Bounds.
- Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.

6. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and is modified as follows: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds, the stroke

does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made in accordance with Rule 14.6.

7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO's) – Model Local Rule F-23.

Includes tents, signs and other temporary immovable obstructions installed for the Competition.

8. Gates In Boundary Fences and Walls – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-26:

"All closed gates that are attached to boundary walls and fences are part of the boundary object. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rule 15.2 or 16.1. But an open gate is not treated as part of the boundary object and may be closed or moved to a different position."

9. Specifications of Clubs and the Ball

- List of Conforming Driver Heads – Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of this Local Rule – **Disqualification.**
- List of Conforming Golf Balls – Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule – **Disqualification.**
- Replacement of Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged - Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule – **See Rule 4.1b.**
- The "One Ball Rule" is not in effect.

10. Pace of Play – Rule 5.6b (3).

See posted MNPGEA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play and penalties.

11. Stopping Play; Resuming Play – Rule 5.7

Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:

- Immediate Suspension (Dangerous situation):** One prolonged note of the air horn.
- Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation):** Three short notes of the air horn.
- Resume Play:** Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

12. Practice – Rule 5.

Before or between rounds in stroke play – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course but may practice on the designated practice areas. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

13. Ball Must Be Played as it Lies – Rule 11.1b

Exemption 2 to Rule 11.1b applies, except that when a ball played from the *putting green* accidentally hits: (1) the player, (2) the club used by the player to make the *stroke*, or (3) an *animal* defined as a *loose impediment* (that is worms, insects and similar animals that can be removed easily). If so, the stroke counts, and the ball must be played as it lies.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

14. Deciding Ties

In the event of a tie for first place, unless otherwise specified, a hole-by-hole stroke play play-off will determine the winner immediately following the last round.

15. Scorecard Returned

A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet. Prior to returning the scorecard, a player that needs to leave the scoring area must inform the Committee of his intention to leave and immediately return.

16. When Result of Competition is Final

The competition is final when all scores have been approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

17. Code of Conduct

By signing an official entry form, registering online, or verbally committing to compete in a MNPGEA event, the player agrees to abide by the prescribed Rules of Conduct that can be found in Article VII of the MNPGEA Tournament Regulations. Violations of the Rules of Conduct can result in a fine and/or loss of playing privileges.

Minnesota PGA Tournament Committee

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