

54th M&P GROUP TEXAS STATE OPEN
Cascades Country Club
July 30 – August 2

NOTICE TO PLAYERS

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf, the 2024 NTPGA Local Rules and Terms of the Competition sheet, the 2024 Texas State Open Pace of Play Policy, and the following Supplementary Rules of Play which apply to this golf course. NOTE: Disregard any local rules found on the golf course scorecard.

1. **FORMAT:** 72-hole individual stroke play with a 36-hole cut to the low 55 scores and ties. Players will be repaired according to score for the third round and fourth round in groups of three, double tee start off the #1 and #10 tees.
2. **STARTING POINT:** For the purpose of applying Rule 5.3a, the starting point for hole #1 and hole #10 is defined by the rope, green stakes & blue dots. Exception to Model Local Rule A-5: When playing from #1 Teeing Area: The public road between the blue dots is not out of bounds.
3. **SCORECARDS | SCORING AREA:** Scoring areas are located near the 9th and 18th greens. A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee 15 minutes after the last player in each group has exited the defined scoring area (yellow line).
4. **OUT OF BOUNDS:** Defined by the inside edge, golf course side, of (a) white stakes and where white stakes & lines tie into perimeter property fencing/fence posts/rock walls; (b) curbing of public roads; (c) the stone pillars right of #2 tee box, (d) the outside edge of the path between the two blue-topped white stakes behind the 5th green/6th tee and behind the 14th green; (e) parking lot; (f) clubhouse.
5. **DROPPING ZONES FOR PENALTY AREA:** See Item 2(a) on the 2024 NTPGA Local Rules:
 - Available for the Red Penalty Area on hole #5 – located on a forward teeing area.
6. **RED PENALTY AREA WITH OPPOSITE SIDE RELIEF OPTION:** None. See Item 2(b) on the 2024 NTPGA Local Rules.
7. **ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED PATHS | STONES & MULCH BY CART PATH:** Free relief will be afforded from artificial surfaced paths only. Stone edging and mulch adjacent to an artificially surfaced path is considered part of the path. NOTE: Natural sandy paths are not considered an obstruction and free relief will not be afforded.
8. **GROUND UNDER REPAIR ON PUTTING GREENS:** Defined by white dots. Line of play relief is only allowed when the ball is on the putting green.
9. **TREE WELLS | WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH:** No relief without penalty from tree wells. Wood chips and mulch are a loose impediment.
10. **BLUE LINE DEFINING BUNKER EDGE:** A blue line may be used to define the edge of a bunker. If any part of the ball is touching the blue line, the ball is in the bunker.
11. **STAKED TREES:** Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached, are immovable obstructions. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.
12. **BURROWING ANIMAL HOLES (GOPHER HOLES) & SAND CASTS:** Whether or not swept flat are considered ground under repair if not so marked.
13. **TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS (TIO):** Include tents and championship signage.
14. **PLAYING TWO BALLS:** When during play of a hole if a player is doubtful of his rights or procedure, he may, without penalty, play a second ball in accordance with Rule 20.1c(3). The player MUST report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning their scorecard. If the player fails to do so, he is disqualified.
15. **PACE OF PLAY GUIDELINES:** Pace of Play will be 4 hours and 22 minutes during rounds one & two. Please see posted NTPGA Pace of Play Guidelines.
16. **TIES:** In the event of a tie for first place in the overall Championship, there will be a hole-by-hole sudden death playoff immediately following the completion of play. All ties for Low Amateur and Low PGA Professional honors will be equally shared.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRANSPORTATION POLICY: Players are required to use a golf car furnished by the host facility for all championship rounds (unless otherwise approved). A player's golf bag must be on a golf car at all times, thus a player or caddie is not permitted to carry a golf bag. Only two golf cars are permitted per group and no more than two people may ride at any given time. Only players or their caddies are permitted to drive and ride in golf cars. NTPGA staff will shuttle those players and caddies walking from #3 green to #4 teeing area.

- Rounds 1 & 2: Players and their caddies are not permitted to drive and ride in any golf cars at the same time.
- Rounds 3 & 4: After the 36-hole cut, players will be paired in groups of three. Each player will have their own golf car and caddies will be permitted to ride with players. (subject to change based on the number of players who make the cut)
- NOTE: When a player or group is being timed, all players in the group must ride in the provided golf car and caddies must walk. The timing of the player will begin once the player arrives at their golf ball and is clear to play.

STRACKALINE HOLE LOCATION SHEET: Each side of a complete square on the green represents five (5) yards. The selection of hole locations is intended to be "balanced" for each round. With StrackaLine, the nearest edge of the green as the hole is intended to be played has been identified on the hole location sheet.

LIVE SCORING: Each player's scores will be recorded by a volunteer on holes #1, #5, #8, #10, and #14 teeing areas. The final groups will have riding scorers for hole-by-hole scoring during the third round and fourth rounds.

DESIGNATED PRACTICE AREAS | RESTROOMS & WATER STATIONS: Practice areas include the front driving range, practice putting green, and practice chipping green. Water stations and/or restrooms are located on #1 tee, between #5 tee and #8 tee, between #6 and #7, #10 tee, #14 tee, #15 tee, #17 green, and in the clubhouse.

EVACUATION FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER: Immediate suspension of play due to a DANGEROUS SITUATION will be signaled by ONE long note of the air horn. If play is suspended due to inclement weather, we ask that you return immediately to the cart barn and seek shelter inside the clubhouse. The Northern Texas PGA staff will communicate weather delay information with players via email and text.

RULES CALLS: If a Rules Official is not readily available please call the golf shop at (903) 525-0016 or NTPGA staff member Vincent Bachteler, PGA at (402) 219-1686.