



PGA

Southern California

Southern California PGA Local Rules and Conditions of Competition Version 1.17

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play, as modified by the SCPGA. The following Local Rules and Conditions of Competition apply and may be found in the current Appendix I of the USGA Rules of Golf as referenced on page numbers below. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors" for additional Definitions, Local Rules, and Conditions of Competition.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is:
Match Play – Loss of Hole
Stroke Play – Two Strokes

SECTION A - LOCAL RULES

1. **Out of Bounds** - Rule 27.

A ball which 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.

2. **Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards)** - Rule 26.

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 water hazard and a Drop Zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Competitors" for that water hazard, 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 Competitors".

3. **Abnormal Ground Conditions** - Rule 25.

Ground Under Repair:

- Areas completely encircled with white lines and include areas marked as gallery crosswalks.
- French drains (drainage ditch filled with stones).
- Seams of cut turf - Appx. I, Part A, Section 3e.
- Fire ant mounds or beds.
- For a ball in a hazard that has interference from a Fire Ant mounds or beds, relief is provided in accordance with Decision 1-4/10.

4. **Embedded Ball Through the Green** – Appx. I, Part A, Section 3a.

5. **Immovable Obstructions** - Rule 24.

- White lined areas tying into obstruction(s) are part of the obstruction(s), not ground under repair.
- A landscaped or garden area (flowerbeds, shrubbery or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction is part of the obstruction.
- Mats secured to the ground and rubber or plastic bumpers covering cables.
- Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch, the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators, unless otherwise defined on the applicable "Notice to Competitors".
- Railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoining artificially surfaced roads or paths are part of the road or path.
- Where the outside edge (non golf course side) of a road or path that defines out of bounds, the road or path is an obstruction.
- Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.

6. **Turf Plugs on Putting Green** - Rule 16-1c.

Turf plugs of any size on putting greens have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired as in Rule 16- 1c.

7. **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green.**

If a ball lies through the green and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief as follows: The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the holes, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

If the player's ball lies on the putting green and an immovable obstruction within two club-lengths of the putting green intervenes on his line of putt, the player may take relief as follows:

The ball must be lifted and placed at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard.

The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if interference by anything other than the immovable obstruction makes the stroke clearly impracticable.

8. **Accidental Movement of a Ball or Ball Marker on Putting Green.**

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows: 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.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

This Local Rules applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and

any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

9. **Integral Parts of the Course.**

- a. The portion of wrappings, wires, or cables when closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
- b. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within water hazards.

10. **Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables.**

If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable, the stroke must be cancelled and replayed without penalty (Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable another ball may be substituted.

11. **Temporary Obstructions** – Appx. I, Part A, Section 4b.

12. **Casual Water on Putting Green.**

If casual water exists on the putting green the Committee may:

- a. require the player to proceed under Rule 25-1b (iii);
- b. squeegee the line of putt;
- c. squeegee the putting green until the players are near the putting green;
- d. or in extreme cases any combination of a, b and c above, or as otherwise directed by the Committee.

13. **Scoring Area.**

The scoring area may include, but is not limited to, trailers, tents, rooms or other designated areas. A player's score card has been returned to the

Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and is acknowledged, of his intention to leave the scoring area and immediately return.

14. **Pro-Am Competition - Score Card.**

The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 31-3. The score card shall be signed by the professional player and attested by one of the amateur partners. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

SECTION B - CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. **Specifications of Clubs and the Ball.**

- a. List of Conforming Driver Heads – Appx. I, Part B, Section 1a.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

- b. List of Conforming Golf Balls (Note to Rule 5-1) – Appx. I, Part B, Section 1b.

Penalty for Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

- c. One Ball Condition is not in effect unless noted on the Notice to Competitors- Appx. I, Part B, Section 1c.

2. **Pace of Play** – Appx. I, Part B, Section 3.

See posted SCPGA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play penalties.

3. **Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation** (Note to Rule 6-8b) – Appx. I, Part B, Section 4.

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged blast.

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short blasts.

Resume Play: Two short blasts.

Note: During a suspension for a dangerous situation all practice areas shall be closed until the

Rules Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

4. **Practice.**

Prior to the stipulated round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 7-1b applies to other practice in stroke play. Rule 7-1a covers practice before the stipulated round in match play. Practice Between Holes (Note 2 to Rule 7).

5. **Close of Competition.**

The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been approved by the Rules Committee. In the event of a playoff, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the playoff scores have been approved by the Committee.