



# LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

## SPRING 2026 NCAA MEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty. See NCAA Notice to Players and NCAA Golf Pre-Championships Manual for additional Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. If a player in a team competition breaches a Rule that results in disqualification, the effect will be to disqualify the player for that round only. Exception: NCAA serious misconduct, in which it is up to the Committee.

**OUT OF BOUNDS** - Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of the white stakes or fence posts.

**PENALTY AREAS** - When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out of bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR** - Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair. For grass-covered trenching, see Temporary Power Lines and Cables.

Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee. When immediately adjacent to an obstruction, such an area is part of the obstruction.

**ANIMAL NEAR BALL** - Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect

**RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF** - Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** - Include plastic bumpers on roads and paths, and mats secured to the ground with spikes when the bumpers or mats cover cables.

**WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED**

**ROADS AND PATHS** - White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

**WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH** - Are loose impediments.

**INTEGRAL OBJECTS** - Include objects when closely attached to trees and boundary objects, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas or in or adjacent to bunkers, and bunker liners.

An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if a bunker liner only interferes with the player's stance.

**PLAYER HAS NOT PLAYED FROM WRONG PLACE WHEN UNAWARE BALL MIGHT HAVE MOVED** - Model Local Rule E-14 is in effect.

**TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES** - Model Local Rule F-22 is in effect. Cables located within grass-covered trenches are movable obstructions.

**TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** - Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** - Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

**GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATIONS** - Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.

**LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** - Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

**ONE BALL RULE** - Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect.

**PROHIBITING USE OF MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION** - Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation.

**PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES** - Model Local Rule G-7 is in effect.

**PROHIBITING USE OF AUDIO AND VIDEO DEVICES** - Model Local Rule G-8 is in effect.

**REPLACING CLUB THAT IS BROKEN OR SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED** - Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect.

**PROHIBITING USE OF CLUBS LONGER THAN 46 INCHES** - Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect.

**USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED** - Model Local Rule H-1.1 is in effect.

**MODIFICATION OF PENALTY UNDER RULE 3.3b(2) FOR MISSING PLAYER OR MARKER CERTIFICATION** - Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect.

**ADVICE** - See separate memorandum to players and coaches on people who may give advice.

**PACE OF PLAY** - See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy.

**STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY** - Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect. All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification.

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged airhorn note. All other suspensions will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes. In either case, resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes.

**RESTRICTIONS ON PRACTICE BEFORE OR BETWEEN ROUNDS**

- Rule 5.2 is modified in this way: In match play or stroke play, a player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds, other than on the designated practice areas. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

**RESTRICTION ON PRACTICE OR TESTING BETWEEN THE**

**PLAY OF TWO HOLES** - In stroke play only, a player must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball (This includes D-II's stroke play medal/match).

**WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL** - The competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

The result of a match is final when the Head Rules Official has confirmed the result of the match.