



## LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION FOR NCAA WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENTS

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 Competitions. 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 applicable Championship Notice to Players and Pre-Championship Manuals 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, unless otherwise determined by the Committee (example: Serious Misconduct under the NCAA Conduct Policy).

**OUT OF BOUNDS:** Defined by the line between course-side points of white stakes or fence posts at ground level, excluding angled supports. When a white line on the ground is used, the line itself is out of bounds. A ball that crosses the inside edge of a road or curb defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though the ball may lie on another part of the course.

**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 (GUR):** Defined by white lines. GUR also includes French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones and newly trenched areas, including grass-covered cables, even if not marked as such.

Exposed bunker liners are GUR for lie of ball & swing only not for player's stance. GUR 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.

**WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS:** White-lined areas of ground under repair and 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**.

**RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS):** If a player's ball is in the general area or on the putting green and the ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or the seam interferes with a player's area of intended swing, the player may take relief under **Rule 16.1**. No interference if the seam only interferes with a player's stance. All sod seams in the same area of cut turf are treated as the same seam when taking relief. **MLR F-7**

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

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN:** Relief may be taken under **Rule 16.1** and **MLR F-5**, if the player's ball lies:

- Within two Club Lengths of an Immovable Obstruction that is on the Player's line of play, **and**,
- The Immovable Obstruction is within two Club Lengths of the Putting Green, **and**,
- Both the Ball and the Immovable Obstruction are located in the General Area that is cut to Fairway height or less

**INTEGRAL OBJECTS:** include cables, rods, wires, or wrappings when closely attached to objects, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas or within and/or around bunkers.

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES:** may be used by coaches in a private manner provided that use does not breach **Rule 10.2** (Advice) or disrupt practice or play. Violations are a breach of the misconduct provisions contained in the NCAA Golf Pre-championships manual.

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

**The ONE BALL RULE:** **MLR G-4** is **NOT** in effect.

**MODEL LOCAL RULES:** The following Model Local Rules (MLR) from Section 8 of the Committee Procedures Manual are in effect:

- **TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES:** **MLR F-22**.
- **TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS:** **MLR F-23** using the "either side" option.
- **LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS:** **MLR G-1**.
- **GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATIONS:** **MLR G-2**.
- **LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS:** **MLR G-3**.
- **USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED:** **Rule 10.3a** is modified in this way: A player must not have a caddie during the round. **MLR H-1.1**.
- **PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES:** **MLR G-7**. Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see **Rule 4.3**.
- **PROHIBITING USE OF CLUBS LONGER THAN 46 INCHES:** **MLR G-10**
- **PROHIBITING USE OF AUDIO AND VIDEO DEVICES:** **MLR G-8**. Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see **Rule 4.3**.
- **MODIFICATION OF PENALTY UNDER RULE 3.3b(2) FOR MISSING PLAYER OR MARKER CERTIFICATION:** **MLR L-1**

**PRACTICE BEFORE OR DURING ROUNDS:** **Rule 5.2** is modified in this way: In match play or stroke play, a player must not practice on the competition course, other than designated practice areas, before or between rounds, including after completing the final round of that day in stroke play. **MLR I-1**. 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). **MLR I-2**

### STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY:

- **Immediate Suspension for Dangerous Situation:** **Rule 5.7b(1)** will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note.
- **Normal Suspension:** **Rule 5.7b(2)** will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes.
- **Resumption of Play:** will be signaled by two short air horn notes.

All practice areas during an Immediate Suspension (when there is imminent danger) are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop; failure to stop could result in disqualification for serious misconduct. **MLR J-1**

**TRANSPORTATION:** During the round, a player must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance, needs medical assistance, or needs a restroom is always authorized. Penalty for breach of Local Rule is the general penalty for each hole where the breach occurred. If the breach occurred between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole. **MLR G-6**

**CLOSE OF COMPETITION:** The competition is deemed to have closed when the trophies have been presented to the winners 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.

**NCAA Policies:** See separate NCAA Policies and Memorandums regarding:

- **ADVICE GIVERS**
- **PACE OF PLAY**
- **SCORING IN STROKE PLAY**
- **RETURN OF SCORE CARDS**
- **CONDUCT**
- **LOGOS, UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**