



## 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 2019. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty. See applicable Championship Notice to Players 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.

### LOCAL RULES

**OUT OF BOUNDS** — When white stakes or fences are used, the out-of-bounds line is determined by the nearest course-side points of the 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 the ball comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though the ball may be 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** — Defined by white lines. Ground under repair also includes French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones and newly trenched areas, even if not marked as such. Exposed bunker liners are ground under repair for lie of ball only not for player's stance.

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.

**RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS)** — If a player's ball is in the general area 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 16.1b. No interference if the seam only interferes with a player's stance.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (BALL IN GENERAL AREA CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT OR LESS)** Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16.1. In addition, if the player's ball lies off the putting green and in the general area cut to fairway height and an immovable obstruction is within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club lengths of the ball and it intervenes on the line of play, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1. **Model Local Rule F-5.**

**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 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** — defined as loose impediments.

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

**Note:** The Committee may treat an exposed bunker liner, not in its intended position, to be ground under repair. But interference does not exist if the liner interferes only with the player's stance.

**LIMITING WHEN STROKE PLAYED FROM PUTTING GREEN MUST BE REPLAYED UNDER EXCEPTION 2 TO RULE 11.1b.** — Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. **Model Local Rule D-7.**

**PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES OR CABLES** — If a ball strikes an elevated power line or cable, the player must disregard the stroke and play a ball in accordance with Rule 14.6. **Model Local Rule E-11.**

**TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule F-22.**

**TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule F-23.**

**BALL PLAYED FROM OUTSIDE RELIEF AREA WHEN TAKING BACK ON THE LINE RELIEF** — There is no penalty if a ball is played from outside

the relief area within one club length where it touches the ground when dropped. This applies for Back on the Line relief only. **Model Local Rule E-12.**

**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-1.**

**GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATIONS** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-2.**

**REPLACEMENT OF CLUB THAT IS BROKEN OR SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED** — If a player's club is "broken or significantly damaged" during the round by the player or caddie, except in the case of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4.1b(4). **Model Local Rule G-9.**

**LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-3.**

**PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule G-7.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule — see Rule 4.3.

**PROHIBITING USE OF AUDIO AND VIDEO DEVICES** — Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device. **Model Local Rule G-8.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule — see Rule 4.3.

**PACE OF PLAY** — See separate memorandum to players for pace-of-play guidelines, when applicable.

**STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. **Model Local Rule J-1.** All practice areas during an Immediate Suspension (such as 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 practicing; failure to stop practicing could result in disqualification for serious misconduct. An Immediate Suspension [Rule 5.7b(1)] will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. A 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.

**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 before or between rounds, including after completing the final round of that day in stroke play. **Model Local Rule I-1.** Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

**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 is always authorized). A player may accept transportation from a member of the Committee or a coach. 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.

**ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITION** — The coaches who are authorized to give advice are treated as an "outside agency" under the Rules of Golf. However, certain actions by a coach may result in a penalty to the player if the action was taken on instructions from, or with the sanction (tacitly or otherwise) of, the player.

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

**USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED** — Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have a caddie during the round. **Model Local Rule H-1.1.**

**SCORING IN STROKE PLAY** — A daily team score is computed by totaling the lowest four scores of the five team members. The final team score is determined by totaling each daily score.

See Championships Notice to Players for procedures covering returning of score cards to the Committee.

**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.

**MISCONDUCT** — See the NCAA Golf Pre-championships Manual.

**LOGOS, UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT** — See the NCAA Golf Pre-championships Manual.

**EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2025**