



SOUTH CAROLINA GOLF ASSOCIATION
2016-17 CONDITIONS OF COMPETITIONS AND LOCAL RULES
The Rules of the United States Golf Association Govern Play at All SCGA Championships



TIME OF STARTING: A player is responsible for being at their assigned tee promptly to begin play on time. A player should arrive at the assigned tee prior to the player's starting time in order to receive all information. Players will not be called. Official starting clocks are located on the starting tees. If a player arrives late but within five minutes after the assigned starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes at the first hole (Rule 6-3a)

GOLF BALLS USED DURING ROUND: The "One Ball Rule" will not be in effect. The ball must appear on the USGA Conforming Ball list.

ELECTRONIC MEASURING DEVICES: In SCGA competitions, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc...), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

PACE OF PLAY: A player shall be subject to penalty if he is in breach of the Pace of Play Guidelines. Guidelines are available at each event.

CADDIE/SPECTATOR CART POLICY: During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a cart at any time. Club owned spectator carts are not allowed.

OUT OF BOUNDS: a) When white stakes or fences are used, the out of bounds line is determined by the nearest inside points of the stakes or fence posts at ground level, excluding angled supports. b) When a white line on the ground is used, the line itself is out of bounds. c) A ball that crosses the inside edge of a road or curb defined as out of bounds and that comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though it may be on another part of the course.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS STAKES AND LINES: When both stakes and lines are used to define water and lateral water hazards, stakes identify hazards and lines define margins. Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes and/or yellow lines- Rule 26-1. Lateral water hazards are defined by red stakes and/or red lines- Rule 26-1. When a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When water hazards and lateral water hazards are bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

BALL AT REST MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN: 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. This Local Rule 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.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by white lines. Fire-ant hills and french drains are deemed to be ground under repair even though unmarked. White-lined areas tying into cart paths are part of those obstructions. Sod Seams are GUR for the lie of the ball only or if the seam interferes with the area of the intended swing.

EMBEDDED BALL: "Through the green", a ball that is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. Exceptions: a) A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if the ball is embedded in sand in an area that is not closely mown. b) A player may not take relief under the Local Rule if interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule makes the stroke clearly impracticable.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Includes (a) wrappings, wires and cables when closely attached to objects; and (b) artificial walls and pilings when located within water hazards or within and/or around bunkers.

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: Greenside fans, starting, scoring and concession tents are deemed to be temporary immovable obstructions (TIO's). See page 147 of the 2016-2017 Rules of Golf for interference and relief procedure.

PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES OR CABLES: If a ball strikes such power line or cable, the player must disregard that stroke, abandon the ball and play another ball in accordance with Rule 20-5 (for temporary power lines or cables- see Appendix I).

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE: In stroke play only, a competitor may play without penalty, a second ball as prescribed in Rule 3-3. Note: The competitor must report the facts of the situation to the committee before returning his score card. If he fails to do so, he is disqualified. (Even if the score with both balls is the same)

CELL PHONES: Except for emergencies and rulings, the use of cellular phones and other electronic devices by competitors during SCGA competitions is strongly discouraged. Repeated violations by a competitor shall result in disqualification for a serious breach of etiquette under 33-7. *First offense – Warning; Second offense – Disqualification*

SUSPENSION OF PLAY: signaled by several consecutive, short air horn (or Siren) blasts.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY FOR DANGEROUS SITUATION: signaled by one prolonged air horn (or Siren) blast. All practice areas shall be closed during such suspension until the SCGA Rules Committee has declared them open. *Penalty for breach of Condition: Disqualification*

RESUMPTION OF PLAY: shall be signaled by two consecutive, short air horn (or Siren) blasts.

SCORE CARDS MUST BE SIGNED, ATTESTED AND RETURNED: To the official scoring area immediately following the completion of the player's or team's round.

NO SHOW POLICY: Those players who fail to appear for their assigned tee time without notifying the SCGA or the host club, may be suspended from play for all SCGA tournaments for one year. NO Shows also include withdrawals without notification to the official in charge.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the Championship trophy has been presented to the winner.