LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION FOR
NCAA TOURNAMENTS


Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes.

LOCAL RULES

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF BALL ON PUTTING GREEN – Local Rule as prescribed by USGA announcement dated December 8, 2016 is in effect.

OUT OF BOUNDS – Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. Rule 27-1b.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARD STAKES AND LINES – When a water hazard or a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Defined by white lines. Fire ant hills, sod-covered trenching for temporary cables and French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Rule 25-1. (Note: For a player whose ball is in a water hazard and is affected by a fire ant hill – see Decision 1-4/10.)

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.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS) – The Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

TURF PLUGS ON THE PUTTING GREEN – May be repaired even if they are not 4 1/4 inches.

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 – Have the same status as the roads and paths, that of obstructions.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH – Are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in the Notice to Players.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE – Include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; and artificial walls and plinings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in the Notice to Players.

TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

CONDITIONS

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

GROOVES – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix II is in effect.

PACE OF PLAY – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play guidelines.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to cease doing so; failure to comply may result in sanctions under NCAA misconduct guidelines.

Note: A suspension for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes, repeated. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn notes, repeated.

PRACTICE – Prior to and after her round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 7-1b applies to other practice in stroke play, and Rule 7-1a covers practice before the round in match play.

TRANSPORTATION – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. Exception: A player may ride in designated shuttles, and may accept transportation from a Rules Official or a coach when she is required or elects to proceed under the stroke and distance option of any Rule.

ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITION – In accordance with the Note to Rule 8 of the Rules of Golf, each team may designate two coaches to give advice to members of that team. The coaches must be identified to the Committee before giving advice. A player may accept verbal and hand-signal advice from her institution's designated coaches only. Electronic communication, notes, and any other items left behind by teammates and/or coaches for the purpose of giving advice are prohibited.

Players must avoid communication between other players and spectators that could be deemed advice of any nature during the stipulated round. All institutional personnel, with the exception of the designated coaches, are considered spectators.

COACHES – A coach who is authorized to give advice is an outside agency under the Rules of Golf. However, certain actions by coaches 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. Responsibilities of a competitor in this regard are supported by Decisions 13-2/4, 13-2/33 and 13-2/36. Coaches may also be subject to sanctions under NCAA misconduct guidelines.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES – May be used by coaches in a private manner provided that such use does not breach Rule 8-1 (Advice) or disrupt practice or play. Violations will be considered a breach of NCAA misconduct provisions contained in the NCAA Golf Pre-Championships Manual.

CADDIES – Are prohibited. Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

DISQUALIFICATION PENALTIES – If a player breaches a Rule that results in her being disqualified, the effect shall be to disqualify her for that round only, unless otherwise determined by the Committee.

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 Championship Notice to Players for procedures covering returning of scorecards to the Committee.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION – The competition is deemed to have closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

The result of a match is considered to have been "officially announced" when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

MISCONDUCT – See NCAA Golf Pre-Championships Manual.

LOGOS, UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT – See NCAA Golf Pre-Championships Manual.

EFFECTIVE SPRING 2017