



The Rules of the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play, as modified by the SCGA. See applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for additional Definitions, Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the current Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective January 1, 2023.

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

**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 that comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though it may be on another part of the course. (MLR A-5)
- Other objects may be used to define out of bounds and will be detailed on the Notice to Players.

**PENALTY AREAS**

When both stakes and lines are used to define penalty areas, stakes identify penalty areas and lines define edges.

- Yellow Penalty Areas are defined by yellow stakes and/or yellow lines- Rule 17.1
- Red Penalty Areas are defined by red stakes and/or red lines- Rule 17.1

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR** – Defined by white lines. Fire-ant hills and French drains are deemed to be ground under repair even though they may be unmarked.

**SEAMS OF CUT TURF - For Lie of Ball & Area of Intended Swing Only** - To be treated as "Ground under repair" as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures. Model Local Rule F-7.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (BALL IN GENERAL AREA CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT OR LESS)**  
Relief from interference from 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 or less, and an immovable obstruction in the general area cut to fairway height or less within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1. Model Local Rule F-5.2.

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

**WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS OR PATHS** are declared to have the same status as such roads or paths, that of the same abnormal course condition. Relief may be taken under Rule 16.1.

**TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** - SCGA/SCJGA Championship signage (including hole sign posts, banners, and tee signs) are considered Movable Obstructions. Any SCGA/SCJGA sign that is not readily movable may be considered a TIO. Model Local Rule F-23.

**WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH** – Are treated as loose impediments.

**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 14.6. This includes any pole, tower or, wire supporting structure. Model Local Rule E-11.

**LIST OF CONFORMING BALLS**- Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-3.  
**Penalty for breach of Condition: Disqualification**

**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-1.  
**Penalty for breach of Condition: Disqualification**

**BUNKER LINERS** – Will be treated as obstructions. These liners may be constructed of fabric, concrete, or a similar material. The liner is treated as a movable obstruction if it can be moved without unreasonable effort, unduly delaying play and without causing damage. Otherwise, it is treated as an immovable obstruction. Relief in either case for a ball in a bunker, will be given for the lie of ball and area of intended swing only. No free relief will be given for area of intended stance.

**LIMITATION ON GOLF BALLS USED DURING ROUND** - The "One Ball Rule" will not be in effect.

**PACE OF PLAY** - A player shall be subject to penalty if he is in breach of the Pace of Play Guidelines. Such guidelines are available and posted at competitions.

**SUSPENSION OF PLAY**

- **Dangerous situation** shall be signaled by one prolonged air horn (or siren) blast. See Rule 5.7b
- **Regular suspension** shall be signaled by three consecutive, short air horn (or siren) blasts.
- **Resumption of play** shall be signaled by two consecutive, short air horn or siren blasts.

**PRACTICE BEFORE OR BETWEEN ROUNDS** - Rule 5.2 is modified in this way: In Stroke Play, a player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2. Model Local Rule I-1

**DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE** - In stroke play only, a competitor may play without penalty, a second ball as prescribed in Rule 20.1c(3). **NOTE: Before proceeding, the competitor should declare which ball he wishes to score with AND 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)**

**SCORECARD MUST BE SIGNED, ATTESTED AND RETURNED** to the official scoring area immediately following the completion of the player's or team's round. If a player returns a scorecard without hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes). MLR L-1

**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 or no cards 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 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 Committee has approved the result.

**CADDIES PROHIBITED** – Unless otherwise specified, caddies are **NOT** permitted. MLR H-1.1

**SCGA RULES COMMITTEE**

*Executive Director*  
**Biff Lathrop**

*Sr. Director, Rules & Competitions*  
**Kyle Maloney**

*Tournament Director*  
**Dawson Thornton**

*Director of Member Services*  
**James Park**

*Senior Director of the SCJGA*  
**Justin Fleming**

*Tournament Staff*  
**Austin Sweitzer, Caden Quiles, Cody Proveaux, Charlie Anderson**

*Tournament Officials*  
**SCGA Board Members, SCGA Committee Members,  
& SCGA Volunteers**

**WWW.SCGOLF.ORG**