



# PGA

## Southern California

### Southern California PGA Local Rules and Terms of Competition Version 1.22

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play, except as modified below by the Southern California PGA. The following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition apply as referenced below and may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 1, 2019. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Players" for additional definitions, Local Rules or amendments.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

#### 1. Out of Bounds - Rule 18.2.

Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. A ball that crosses a road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

#### 2. Penalty Areas - Rule 17.

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.

##### a. Dropping Zones:

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area and a drop zone is specified on the applicable

"Notice to Players" for that penalty area, the player may as an additional option, drop a ball under penalty of one stroke, in the white lined area labeled "Drop Zone" located as indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". The ball must be dropped in and come to rest within the drop zone. Model Local Rule E-1.1.

**b. Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Areas:** Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". Model Local Rule B-2.1.

Note: When the edge of a red penalty area coincides with the boundary of the course, Model Local Rules B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the first paragraph of Model Local Rule B-2.1.

#### 3. Abnormal Ground Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) - Rule 16.1.

##### a. Ground Under Repair:

- i. Areas completely encircled with white lines.
- ii. French drains (trenches filled with rocks or stones).
- iii. Seams of cut turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. If a player's ball is in the general area and the ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. But interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance.
- iv. A hole made by a movable obstruction (stakes, signs, tables, chairs or the like) may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. But inference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.

##### b. Immovable Obstructions:

- i. White lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- ii. Mats fastened in position and bumpers covering cables.
- iii. When landscaped or garden areas (flower

beds, shrubbery or the like) are completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and the landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition.

- iv. Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch; the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- v. Where the outside edge (non-golf course side) of a road or path defines out of bounds, the road or path is an obstruction.
- vi. When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin roads and paths, they are deemed to be part of the same abnormal course condition.

##### c. Removal of Temporary Water:

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect.

If a ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the Committee may:

- i. Require the player to proceed under Rule 16.1.
- ii. Squeegee the line of play.
- iii. Squeegee the putting green until the players are near the putting green;
- iv. In extreme cases any combination of i, ii, & iii and as otherwise directed by the Committee.

Note: Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole and only be carried out by individuals designated by the Committee. The Committee may squeegee the putting green at any time.

#### 4. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect and is modified as follows: For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

## **5. Integral Objects**

- a. Bunker Liners.** An exposed liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the bunker liner only interferes with the player's stance.
- b.** The portion of cables, rods, wires or wrappings where closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
- c.** Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas and bunkers.
- d.** Gates attached to boundary objects.

## **6. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables**

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and is modified as follows: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made in accordance to Rule 14.6.

## **7. Temporary Obstructions**

Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.  
Model Local Rule F-23.

## **8. Specifications of Clubs and the Ball**

- a.** List of Conforming Driver Heads – Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.  
Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- b.** List of Conforming Golf Balls – Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- c.** One Ball Rule is not in effect unless noted on the Notice to Players- Model Local Rule G-4.

## **9. Pace of Play** – Rule 5.6b (3).

See the SCPGA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play penalties.

## **10. Stopping Play; Resuming Play** – Rule 5.7.

Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:

- a. Immediate Suspension (Dangerous situation):**  
One prolonged note of the air horn.
- b. Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation):**  
Three short notes of the air horn.
- c. Resume Play:** Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

## **11. Practice** – Rule 5

- a.** Before or between rounds in stroke play – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course, but may practice on the designated practice areas. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.
- b.** Between hole in stroke play – Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and Rule 5.5b is modified as follows:  
Between the play of two holes, a player must not:
  - i.** Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
  - ii.** Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

## **TERMS OF THE COMPETITION**

### **12. Deciding Ties**

In the event of a tie for first place, unless otherwise specified, a hole-by-hole stroke play play-off will determine the winner immediately following the last round.

### **13. Scorecard Returned**

A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined

scoring area with both feet. Prior to returning the scorecard, a player that needs to leave the scoring area must inform the Committee of his intention to leave and immediately return.

### **14. When Result of Competition is Final**

The competition is final when all scores have been approved by the Committee. In the event of a playoff, the competition is final when the playoff scores have been approved by the Committee.

### **15. Code of Conduct**

By signing an official entry form, registering online, or verbally committing to compete in a SCPGA event, the player agrees to abide by the prescribed Rules of Conduct that can be found in Article III of the SCPGA Tournament Rules & Regulations. Violations of the Rules of Conduct can result in a fine and/or loss of playing privileges.

## **SCPGA RULES COMMITTEE**