Local Rules and Conditions of Competition
For 2018 MGA Men’s & Women’s Sanctioned Events

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Application for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the Rules of Golf, effective January 2017.

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

Out of Bounds — Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes, white lines, fence posts, and public roads. Rule 27-1.

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 enclosed white lines. Fire ant hills 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.

White-lined Areas Tying into Artificially-Surfaced Roads and Paths — have the same status as the roads and paths, that of obstructions.

Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows: 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 as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. 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.

Seams of Cut Turf (Sod Seams) — The Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

Embedded Ball Through the Green — Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

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.

Turf Plugs on Putting Greens — Turf plugs on putting greens have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired as described in Rule 16-1 c.

Wood Chips and Mulch — Are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Players.

Distance Measuring Devices- In this competition, 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, for which the penalty is loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play, with disqualification applied as the penalty for a subsequent breach.

Close of Competition—The competition is deemed to have closed when the trophy has 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 considered to have been “officially announced” when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

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 revocation of entry.

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

Spectators and Spectator Carts- Spectator carts must remain on cart paths at all times and spectators must remain 15 yards from the players at all times.