



PGA

Northern Texas Section

2011 LOCAL RULES & CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

Play is governed by the 2010-2011 USGA Rules of Golf, as modified by the Northern Texas PGA. See applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for additional Definitions, Local Rules and Conditions. The following Conditions of Competition and Local Rules apply and may be found in the current Appendix I of the USGA Rules of Golf as referenced on page numbers below.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two Strokes.

SECTION A: CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. Specifications of Equipment

- a. Only drivers with a clubhead, identified by model and loft, on the most current USGA List of Conforming Driver Heads – Pages 117-118.
- b. Only brands and models of golf balls named on the most current USGA List of Conforming Golf Balls may be used.
(Note to Rule 5-1) – Page 118.
- c. One Ball Condition is in effect, except for amateurs in Pro-Am competitions. Pages 118-119.

2. Time of Starting (Note to Rule 6-3a) – Page 119.

3. Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7) – Page 120.

See posted NTPGA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play penalties.

4. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation

(Note to Rule 6-8b) – Pages 120-121.

Players must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Rules Committee has ordered a resumption of play. Penalty: Disqualification.

All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Rules Committee has declared them open for use. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action by the Section Tournament Committee.

NOTE: A suspension and resumption of play will be signaled by:
Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note.
Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes.
Resume Play: Two short signal notes.

5. Practice – Page 121.

Prior to a round, a player may only practice on the designated practice areas. Between the play of two holes, a player must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played and must not test the surface of the putting green of the hole last played by rolling a ball. (Note 2 to Rule 7).

Note: This condition does not apply if the stipulated round is a Pro-Am and the round does not count in the official competition or in any Match Play Competition.

6. How to Decide Ties

In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole playoff to determine the winner immediately following the last stipulated round, unless otherwise provided in the competition’s “Notice to Competitors.”

7. Scoring Area

The scoring area may include, but is not limited to tents or rooms. A player’s score card has been returned to the Committee when the player has returned his score card and has exited the defined scoring area with both feet.

8. Close of Competition

The competition is closed when all scores have been approved by the Rules Committee. In the event of a playoff, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the playoff scores have been approved by the Rules Committee.

9. Pro-Am Competition – Score Card

The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 31-3, unless otherwise provided in the competition’s “Notice to Competitors”. The score card shall be signed and returned by the professional player. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

SECTION B: LOCAL RULES

1. Out of Bounds – Rule 27.

When the inside edge of a road or curb defines out of bounds, a ball that crosses such boundary and comes to rest beyond that boundary is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

2. Water Hazards and Lateral Water Hazards – Rule 26.

Water hazards are defined by yellow lines.
Lateral water hazards are defined by red lines.

3. Abnormal Ground Conditions – Rule 25.

Ground Under Repair:

- a. Defined by areas completely encircled with white lines.
- b. French drains filled with stones.
- c. Fire ant mounds or beds.
- d. For a ball in a water hazard, relief for fire ant mounds or beds is provided by Decision 1-4/10.
- e. Seams of cut turf. Pages 109-110.

4. Embedded Ball Through the Green – Page 107.

5. Immovable Obstructions – Rule 24.

- a. White lined areas tying into obstructions are deemed to have the same status as the obstruction and are not ground under repair.
- b. Landscaped garden areas (flowerbeds, shrubberies or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction are part of the obstruction.
- c. Mats secured to the ground and rubber or plastic bumpers covering cables.
- d. When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin artificially surfaced roads or paths, they are deemed to be part of the road or path.

6. Stones in Bunkers – Page 110.

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

7. Turf Plugs on Putting Green – Rule 16-1c.

Turf plugs on putting greens have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired as provided in Rule 16-1c.

8. Integral Parts of the Course

- a. Wrappings, wires, cables and other objects when closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
- b. Artificial walls and/or pilings when located within water hazards.
- c. Artificial walls and/or pilings when used to define the margin of bunkers are integral parts of the course and are through the green.

9. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables

If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable, the stroke must be canceled and replayed, without penalty (See Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable another ball may be substituted. (For temporary power lines or cables see Item 10 Temporary Obstructions).

10. Temporary Obstructions – Pages 111-115.

11. Distance-Measuring Devices – Page 116.

A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.

NTPGA PACE OF PLAY GUIDELINES

DEFINITION OF OUT OF POSITION: The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they exceed the time allotted to play, as detailed on the applicable Pace of Play Time Chart.

Any subsequent groups will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they (a) exceed the allotted time to play and (b) reach a par-3 hole that is open and free of play or fail to clear the tee of a par-4 or par-5 hole before that hole is open and free to play. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.

NOTE: The Rules Committee reserves the right to time a group when the Rules Committee deems it necessary. Further, if a player is determined by the Rules Committee to be unreasonably slow he may be timed individually at the Rules Committee's discretion, regardless of whether his group is out of position.

TIMING: When the Rules Committee determines that a group or an individual will be timed, all players in the group, or the specific individual, will be informed they are being timed. A group or an individual will be informed after leaving the teeing ground and before any further strokes. Timing will discontinue when the group has regained its position. Any timing exceeding the allotted time to play will be carried over for the remainder of the round.

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage will count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will begin after the player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair his ball mark and other ball marks on his line of putt and remove loose impediments on his line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as time taken for that stroke.

NOTE: A player is permitted 40 seconds to play a stroke, and an extra 20 seconds (for a total of 60 seconds) will be allowed for: (a) the first player to play a stroke on a par-3 hole; (b) the first player to play a second stroke on a par-4 or par-5 hole; (c) the first player to play a third stroke on a par-5 hole; (d) the first player to play around the putting green; and (e) the first player to play on the putting green.

PENALTIES: Any player in a group being timed, who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke, will be informed as soon as practicable and is subject to the following penalties: **FIRST OFFENSE:** Warning; **SECOND OFFENSE:** One (1) Stroke Penalty; **THIRD OFFENSE:** Two (2) Stroke Penalty; **FOURTH OFFENSE:** Disqualification.

NORTHERN TEXAS PGA RULES COMMITTEE