



PGA

Northern Texas Section

2018 LOCAL RULES & CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2016 and the Decisions on the Rules of Golf as modified by the Northern Texas PGA. The following Conditions of the Competition and Local Rules apply and may be found in the current Appendix I of the Rules of Golf as referenced on page numbers below. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for additional Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition.

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 THE COMPETITION

1. Specifications of Equipment.

- a. List of Conforming Driver Heads – Pages 154-155.
*Penalty for making a stroke with a club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification.
- b. Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (except for amateurs in a Pro-Am competition). Decision 4-1/1 – The exception referring to Ping Eye 2 irons manufactured before March 31, 1990 does not apply.
*Penalty for making a stroke with a club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification.
- c. List of Conforming Golf Balls (Note to Rule 5-1) - Pages 155-156.
*Penalty for Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

2. Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7) – Page 158.

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

3. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b) – Page 158.

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. Players who disregard such closings are subject to disciplinary action.

NOTE: A suspension and resumption of play will be signaled by:

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| Discontinue Play Immediately: | One prolonged signal note. |
| Discontinue Play: | Three consecutive short signal notes. |
| Resume Play: | Two short signal notes. |

4. Practice – Pages 158-159.

Prior to a round in stroke play, 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

Practice (continued) –

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). Rule 7-1a covers practice before the stipulated round in Match Play.

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.

5. 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 (Players)".

6. 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 Rules Committee when the player has returned his score card and has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and it is acknowledged, of his intention to leave the scoring area and return immediately.

7. Close of Competition.

The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been validated in the Scoring System and approved by the Rules Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the play-off scores have been approved by the Rules Committee.

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.

Dropping Zones: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball is in a water hazard and a Drop Zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for that water hazard, 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 Competitors (Players)".

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 – Page 145.

4. **Embedded Ball Through the Green** – Pages 142-143.
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 or garden areas (flowerbeds, shrubberies or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction are part of the obstruction.
 - c. Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips, mulch or gravel, the individual pieces of wood chips, mulch or gravel are loose impediments.
 - 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.
 - e. Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached, are immovable obstructions. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.
6. **Stones in Bunkers** – Pages 145-146.

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. The portion of 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 as near as possible to the original spot, 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 pages 150-151).
10. **Temporary Obstructions** – Pages 147-150.
11. **Distance-Measuring Devices** – Page 153.

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., gradient, wind-speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.
12. **Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green** – Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

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 the Rules.

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, reach a par-4 hole and have not played a stroke from the teeing ground before the hole is open and free to play, or reach a par-5 hole and all players in the group have not played a stroke from the teeing ground before the 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 10 seconds (for a total of 50 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 in Stroke Play / Match Play competitions: **FIRST OFFENSE:** Warning / Warning; **SECOND OFFENSE:** One (1) Stroke Penalty / One (1) Stroke Penalty; **THIRD OFFENSE:** Two (2) Stroke Penalty / Loss of hole; **FOURTH OFFENSE:** Disqualification / Disqualification.

NORTHERN TEXAS PGA RULES COMMITTEE