

# LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION FOR 2022 PENNSYLVANIA GOLF ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENTS

*The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of Competition are in effect at all PAGA championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable Championship or qualifying round Notice to Competitors/Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of Competition. Complete text of Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019.*

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

## LOCAL RULES

**OUT OF BOUNDS** - Defined by the course: side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts.

**PENALTY AREAS** - When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to out-of-bounds, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR** - Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair. For grass-covered trenching, see Temporary Lines and Cables.

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 immovable obstruction, such an area is part of the obstruction.

**RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF** - The Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-7.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** - Include plastic bumpers on roads and paths, and mats secured to the ground with spikes when the bumpers or mats cover cables.

**WHITE LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS** - White lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

**WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH** - Are loose impediments.

**INTEGRAL OBJECTS** - Include cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers.

An exposed bunker line may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the liner interferes only with the player's stance.

**TEMPORARY LINES AND CABLES** - Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-22.

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

**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** - Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-1.

**LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** - Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-3.

**BROKEN OR SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED CLUB** - Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule G-9.

**BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF** - Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule E-12.

**LIMITING WHEN STROKE MADE FROM PUTTING GREEN MUST BE REPLAYED UNDER EXCEPTION 2 TO RULE 11.1b** - Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule D-7.

**PACE OF PLAY** - See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy.

**STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY** - Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1.

All practice areas are closed during an immediate 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 stop practicing may result in disqualification.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes, repeated. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn notes.

**PRACTICE** - In only the Amateur Championship, Mid-Amateur Championship, Open Championship, R. Jay Sigel Amateur Match Play Championship and Junior Boys' & Girls' Championship. Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on any designated practice areas that are part of the course. Rule 5.2a covering practice in match play is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Local Rules, See Rule 5.2. Model Local Rule I-1.1 and Model Local Rule I-1.2.

**PROHIBITING USE OF MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION** - In the Amateur Championship, Open Championship, and Junior Boys' & Girls' Championship; Players shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-6.

## TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

**WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL** - The competition is final when the 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 considered to be final when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

# 2021 PENNSYLVANIA GOLF ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT POLICIES

## ADMINISTRATION FEE

A \$25 administration fee will be charged for withdrawal prior to the entry deadline.

## CANCELATIONS AND POSTPONEMENTS

Tournaments will not be canceled or postponed unless a course is deemed unplayable by the Member Club, a PAGA Tournament Committee Member or an authorized official.

## CELLULAR PHONES

All players/caddies are advised that the use of cellular/smartphones for phone calls/emails/texts/messaging on the course is permitted as long as it is done so within the confines of Rule 4.3 and if the host facility allows those devices to be used. All players are expected to keep their phones in silent mode while on the course. If a player consistently disregards his or her fellow competitors or opponent to their detriment, the Committee will take appropriate disciplinary action. Such action may, for example, include prohibiting play for a limited time or in a certain number of competitions. In the case of serious breach misconduct, the Committee may disqualify a player under Rule 1.2. There could be a penalty for undue delay (Rule 5.6). Golf is considered a gentleman's game, and each player is expected to adhere to the highest standards of conduct on the course.

## DRESS CODE

Male Golfers - Required to observe good taste and to dress appropriately for the golf course. Items of clothing such as cargo pants and shorts (baggy clothing with large pockets in the knee area), blue jeans, short-shorts (bottom of shorts may be not higher than two inches from the top of the knee), tank tops, etc. are considered inappropriate. Anyone attired in such a manner will not be allowed to participate in an Association event.

Female Golfers – Appropriate Attire: Bermuda shorts, skirts, Capri pants, slacks and skorts. Length of shorts, skirts and skorts may be no shorter than four inches above the knee. Sleeveless shirts must have a collar, or a collarless shirt must have sleeves. Inappropriate Attire: denim, tee shirts or tank tops, gym shorts, sweat pants, cargo shorts. Anyone attired in such a manner will not be allowed to participate in an Association event.

## ETIQUETTE

The Committee may take disciplinary action against player(s) who disregard etiquette to the detriment of other players. Such action may, for example, include prohibiting play for a certain number of competitions. This is considered to be justifiable in terms of protecting the interest of the majority of golfers who wish to play in accordance with the guidelines of the Rules of Golf.

In the case of a serious breach of Etiquette, the Committee may disqualify a player under Rule 1.2.

## FAILURE TO RETURN A SCORECARD

Any player who fails to return a scorecard to the scoreboard official or who withdraws during play without notifying an official and personally surrendering his or her scorecard to that official will be suspended from play in all PAGA tournaments for one year.

## NO SHOW

If unable to meet the assigned time, then you must notify the Golf Office by phone at 610-687-2340 ext. 19. If withdrawal is on the day of the event, call or text Neil Gilman, PAGA Director of Competitions, at 610-937-3690, or contact via email at [ngilman@pagolf.org](mailto:ngilman@pagolf.org). Those players who fail to appear for their assigned time without notifying PAGA will be suspended from playing in all PAGA tournaments for one year.

## CART FEE REFUNDS

Refunds for the cart fee portion of the entry fee will be issued only for a withdrawal occurring 14 days prior to the event.

## SPECTATOR CARTS

In order to protect the players and the courses on which the Association hosts its events, the use of spectator golf carts in any event is prohibited.

## TEE TIMES

Assignment of starting times will be made according to preference. In the event this can't be equitably arranged, priority will be determined on a first-come, first-serve basis. In the event that the number of entries can't facilitate an afternoon wave of starting times, all players will receive a morning starting time.

## WEATHER

Unless otherwise noted, if a Championship course is declared unplayable and as a result it is not possible to complete play in the period in which the Championship is scheduled, the Championship shall not be extended beyond the last scheduled day and the winner shall be the individual(s) who returns the lowest score for the number of stipulated rounds completed. The Committee may institute a change in the cut format in order to complete the Championship. Qualifying may be subject to rescheduling.



## 2022 Pennsylvania Golf Association Pace of Play Policy



The following conditions and policies shall govern regulation of the pace of play by the PAGA Rules Committee.

### **STROKE PLAY**

Players should play at a prompt pace throughout the round. Players are both allowed and encouraged to play “ready golf” in a safe and responsible way (Rule 6.4b) and should make a stroke in no more than 40 seconds. (Rule 5.6b)

### **General**

The Committee will designate four (4) holes on the course as pace of play checkpoint holes. Under unavoidable circumstances and during qualifying events, the PAGA will utilize two (2) holes. Players will be provided the Pace of Play Policy on their 1<sup>st</sup> tee and are expected to adhere to the time limits as indicated on the Official Scorecard. When a group has been notified by a checkpoint official of a missed checkpoint (out of position), the group is expected to regain its position.

### **Maximum Allowable Time**

Maximum allowable time is the MAXIMUM time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per hole and aggregate time format on the player scorecard.

### **Out of Position**

A group is out of position when it:

- Takes more than the maximum allowable time to finish a checkpoint hole **and**
- Completes play of that checkpoint hole more than 14 minutes after the group in front of them.

A hole is complete when the ball of the last player in the group to hole out has been holed.

The first group(s) of each wave is measured only against maximum allowable time until they are within 14 minutes of the group in front of them.

### **Group Out of Position – Monitored by a Rules Official**

- Any group that is out of position may be monitored by a Rules Official who may individually time strokes made by a player(s).
- Bad times (see below) and other information gathered at any time, including extensive rulings, will be considered during the review process.
- Regardless of position, if the Pace of Play Committee determines that a player(s) in the group is delaying play of their group, following groups, or the competition in general:
  - The player(s) may be spoken to by a Rules Official.
  - The penalty for a breach of Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay of Play) may be applied.
- Any player(s) concerned about another player(s) in the group should request a Rules Official to monitor the group.

### **Timing/Bad times**

- If the group misses a checkpoint, then it will be notified by a Checkpoint Official.
- Bad times will be considered when determining penalties.
- Each player is permitted a maximum of 40 seconds to make a stroke. A player is considered to have made a bad time only when the player exceeds 40 seconds, plus an additional 10 percent timing margin.
- The timing of a player’s stroke begins when it is the player’s turn to play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage and other conditions, such as wind, will count as time taken for the stroke.
  - **On the putting green**, the actions allowed under Rule 13.1 are not included in the timing of a player’s stroke, provided the player is not unreasonably delaying play. However, time spent surveying the line of play from any angle will count as time taken for the stroke.

- A player may inquire about their bad times at any point during the round.

#### **Penalties (4 Point Checkpoint)**

The following penalty structure applies for players in a group that have missed one or more checkpoints:

- 1 missed checkpoint – warning
- 2 missed checkpoints – one penalty stroke
- 3 missed checkpoints – additional two penalty strokes
- 4 missed checkpoints – disqualification

If a group misses multiple checkpoints but finishes the round under their maximum allowable time, then the group is still liable to penalty.

Any penalty strokes that are to be applied to a player(s) score are applied on the checkpoint hole(s) where he or she became liable to penalty.

#### **Penalties (2 Point Checkpoint)**

- 1 missed checkpoint – warning
- 2 missed checkpoints – two penalty strokes

If a group clears the first checkpoint, but is out of position at the second checkpoint, then each player in the group is liable for a one-stroke penalty if, in the Committee's view, a reasonable effort was not made by the players to complete their round within the allotted time for the final checkpoint.

Any penalty strokes that are to be applied to a player(s) score are applied on the checkpoint hole(s) where he or she became liable to penalty.

#### **Concerned Players**

A player concerned about slow players in a group should first remind said player of the pace of play policy and encourage him or her to play more efficiently. A player concerned about a non-responsive (slow) fellow competitor in his or her group, who is delaying play, should request a Rules Rover to monitor the group in case the group is, or becomes, liable to penalty under these guidelines.

#### **Review Process**

Pace of Play reviews will not take place during the round. The Pace of Play Committee will review missed checkpoints in the scoring area only (before scorecards are returned) and make a final determination whether penalties will be assessed.

Lost balls, bad play and time waiting for a ruling are not viable excuses for slow play. In order for an appeal to be considered, there must have been circumstances or situations beyond the player's control. Information from other Rules Officials assigned to the event may be considered in reviewing the appeal and in determining penalties. The final decision rests with the Pace of Play Committee.