



LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS FOR 2017 MSGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association 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 current *Rules of Golf*.

Unless otherwise indicated, 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 and fence posts. Rule 27-1b.

Note: A ball which crosses a public 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.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARD STAKES

AND LINES – When a water hazard or 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 white lines.

Fire ant hills, sod-covered trenching for temporary cables 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.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS) – The Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

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 – have the same status as the roads and paths, that of obstructions.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH – are loose impediments unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE – include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.

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.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES – the local rule outlined in Appendix I part 7 permitting the use of distance-measuring devices is in effect.

CONDITIONS

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

PACE OF PLAY – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play guidelines, when applicable.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. All practice areas are closed during a 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 signalled by one prolonged airhorn note. All other types of suspension will be signalled by three consecutive airhorn notes, repeated. Resumption of play will be signalled by two short airhorn notes, repeated.

PRACTICE – Prior to and after his round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 7-1b applies to other practice in stroke play, and Rule 7-1a covers practice before the round in match play.

TRANSPORTATION – Unless otherwise indicated in the *Notice to Players*, players must not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorized by the Committee. Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION – The competition is deemed to have closed 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 have been “officially announced” when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON THE PUTTING GREEN – The Local Rule is in effect. Text available at www.usga.org/2017LocalRule