



## LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITIONS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play. See applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors" for additional Definitions, Local Rules, and Conditions. A complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the Current Rules of Golf.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for a breach of a Local Rule or Condition is:

Match Play – Loss of Hole      Stroke Play – Two Strokes

### **Out of Bounds – Rule 27-1**

Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes, and/or property fence post. When defined by a line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds.

### **Water Hazards and Lateral Water Hazards – Rule 26**

Water Hazards are defined by yellow lines or stakes. Lateral Water Hazards are defined by red lines or stakes. When Water Hazards and Lateral Water Hazards are bounded by Out of Bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the Out of Bounds line.

### **Abnormal Ground Conditions – Rule 25**

Ground Under Repair is defined by white lines.

- a. French Drains – trenches filled with stones or the like.
- b. Sod Seams – except in a hazard, sod seams (not the sod itself) are deemed to be ground under repair, and relief is available under **Rule 25-1** if the ball lies in or touches a sod seam or the sod seam interferes with the area of intended swing. All seams within the sod area are considered the same seam.

Embedded Ball Through the Green – the local rules as prescribed in Appendix I are in effect.

### **Obstructions – Rule 24**

- a. White lined areas tying into obstructions are deemed to have the same status as the obstruction.
- b. Landscaped garden areas completely encircled by an obstruction are part of the obstruction.
- c. Worn areas adjacent to the approaches and exists from cart paths are part of the obstruction.



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#### **Integral Parts of the Course**

Artificial walls and/or pilings when located within a water hazard.  
Artificial walls and/or piling when used to define the margin of bunkers.  
Cables, rods, wires or wrapping when closely attached to trees.

#### **Specification of the Ball – Note Rule 5-1**

- a. Must be on the list of Conforming Golf Balls
- b. One Ball Condition is not in effect.

#### **Distance-Measuring Devices – Rule 14-3/0.5**

Players may use devices that measure distance only; however, the use of devices that gauge or measure other conditions (e.g. wind and gradient) will not be permitted.

#### **Conditions of Play**

Time of Starting – Note to Rule 6-3a in Appendix I  
Practice – Rule 7  
Practice Between Holes – Note 2 to Rule 7.

#### **Electronic Communicational Devices including Cellular Phones**

The use of electronic communicational devices while competing is prohibited. Violators will be disqualified.

#### **Severe Weather Policy**

When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, play must stop immediately. Play will not resume until the Committee has ordered it so.

Penalty for Breach of Rule – Disqualification

Signals:

One long horn: Stop play immediately

Two Short Horns: Resume play

All practice areas are closed during suspension of dangerous situations and shall remain closed until the Committee has declared them open.

**MSHSAA will follow the NFHS Lightning Policy. Every golf coach and golf course should have a plan for evacuating individuals to safety.**

#### **Pace of Play – Rule 6-7**

A player is subject to penalty if they unduly delay play. See MSHSAA Pace of Play Sheet.

#### **Close of Competition**

The competition shall be 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.



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