



Play is governed by the Rules of Golf Book effective January 2016 and 2016/2017 Decisions and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules, Conditions, and Definitions, subject to changes or amendments by the Georgia State Golf Association Rules Committee. Appendix I refers to the Appendix of Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition in the Rules of Golf Book effective January 2016.

Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is two strokes in Stroke Play and loss of hole in Match Play.

1 - LISTS OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS/DRIVER HEADS: Optional conditions as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, pages 154-156.

2 - TRANSPORTATION: GSGA Cart Policy is in effect unless otherwise noted on the Notice to Competitors.

3 - FOOTWEAR: It is a condition of all GSGA Competitions that shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited during the stipulated round. Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION.

4 - ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON THE PUTTING GREEN: Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows: 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 Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental. Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

5 - DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: Optional condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, page 153. "In GSGA Competitions, 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., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3."

6 - OFFICIAL TIME: The official time is located only at the starting tees.

7 - OUT OF BOUNDS: Where white stakes or fence posts are used, the nearest inside points at ground level define out of bounds. When out of bounds is defined by a white line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds. A ball coming to rest on or crossing any public road is considered out of bounds, even if it comes to rest on another part of the golf course.

8 - WATER HAZARDS: Defined by yellow lines and designated by yellow stakes. When both stakes and lines are present, the stakes identify the hazard and the lines define the margin.

9 - LATERAL WATER HAZARDS: Defined by red lines and designated by red stakes. When both stakes and lines are present, the stakes identify the hazard and the lines define the margin.

10 - GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Enclosed white line areas define ground under repair. The white lines are considered in ground under repair. Other areas of ground under repair, even though not so marked include:

- a. French drains (trenches filled with small stones or the like).
- b. Fire ant beds and mounds.
- c. Seams of cut turf: The local rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, page 145.

11 - IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS; WHITE LINES: Curbing, walls, steps, drains, and permanent structures that are part of, immediately adjacent to, or abutting artificially surfaced paths are part of the same obstruction. White-lined areas tying into immovable obstructions are part of the obstruction, thus not ground under repair.

12 - LIFTING AN EMBEDDED BALL: The "EMBEDDED BALL RULE" as written in Appendix I, pages 142-143, is in effect "through the green."

13 - AERATION HOLES: "Through the green", a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

14 - TURF PLUGS/WILT WATCH HOLES ON PUTTING GREENS: On putting greens, in addition to Rule 16-1c, turf plugs/wilt watch holes of any size may be repaired.

15 - INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Includes cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; and artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards. No relief without penalty.

16 - DROPPING ZONES: A "dropping zone" is an area enclosed by a white line having the initials "DZ" printed inside it. A "dropping zone" is not ground under repair. The line itself is in the "dropping zone."

17 - STAKED TREES: If lie of ball, stance, and/or area of intended swing is interfered with by the stake attached to a tree, the stake and/or rope/wire is treated as an Immovable Obstruction. Relief without penalty from the tree itself is not permitted.

18 - TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS: See Appendix I, pages 147-150 (includes obstructions installed for the competition and fans).

19 - ELEVATED OVERHEAD POWER LINES AND CABLES: If a ball strikes such a line or cable, the stroke shall be cancelled and the ball MUST be replayed, without penalty in accordance with Rule 20-5. If a ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

20 - SIGNALS FOR SUSPENSION AND RESUMPTION OF PLAY:

1. **Dangerous Situation:** One prolonged note of siren or air horn and/or verbal notification by an official.
"When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or a group are between the play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play." All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use. Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION.
2. **Suspend Play:** Three consecutive notes of siren or air horn, repeated.
3. **Resume Play:** Two short notes of siren or air horn, repeated.

21 - RESULT OF THE COMPETITION: When all the scores have been posted on the official scoreboard and approved by the Georgia State Golf Association Rules Committee, the result of the competition is deemed to have been officially announced.

22 - NO SHOW POLICY: "Those players who fail to appear for their assigned tee time without notifying the GSGA or the host club may be suspended from play for all GSGA tournaments for one year. Suspension includes the following year's event in which the infraction occurred. NO SHOWS also include any player who fails to turn in a scorecard himself or who withdraws during play without notifying an official and personally surrendering his scorecard to that official."



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1 - LISTS OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS/DRIVER HEADS: Optional conditions as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, pages 154-156.

2 - LIMITATION ON GOLF BALLS ("ONE-BALL RULE"): Optional condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, page 156.

3 - GROOVES SPECIFICATIONS: The player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010. Details of the condition are described in Decision 4-1/1 in the Decisions on the Rules of Golf, pages 68-69.

4 - DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: Optional condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, page 153. "In USGA Competitions, **excluding the US Open, US Women's Open, and US Senior Open and their respective qualifying rounds**, 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., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3."

5 - TRANSPORTATION: Optional condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect, pages 159-160, unless otherwise noted on the Notice to Competitors.

6 - FOOTWEAR: It is a condition of all USGA qualifying events that shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited during the stipulated round. Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION.

7 - OFFICIAL TIME: The official time is located only at the starting tees.

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PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Pace of Play Policy

Rule 6-7 states, in part: "The player shall play without undue delay in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by The Committee," and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play. In order to prevent any such penalty, we suggest that you review carefully the following guidelines:

Definition of "Out of Position"

The **first group** (each side; both morning and afternoon "waves") to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind the prescribed schedule as detailed on the players scorecard and/or the addendum to the rules of play sheet.

Any **subsequent group** will be considered out of position if it is (a) behind the prescribed schedule **and** (b) reaches a **par-3** hole that is open and free of play or reaches a **par-4** or **par-5** hole and all players have not made a stroke from the teeing ground before the hole is open and free of play. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be out of position.

Group Out of Position

If a group (stroke play) or match (match play) is out of position, a GSGA Rover will monitor it. **A group or match will be notified when they are being timed.**

Timing

A group or match may be monitored or timed for compliance with this pace of play guideline if it is "out of position." When a group or match is "out of position" a player in the group or match is expected to play a stroke within 40 seconds. *The timing of a player's stroke will begin when he has had **reasonable** opportunity to reach his ball, it is his turn to play, and he can play without interference or distraction.*

Except on the putting green, if a player has reached his ball, it is his turn to play, and there are no distractions, timing will begin after he has had **reasonable** time to select his club. Time spent walking backward or forward for determining yardages will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a **reasonable** amount of time to 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 part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Pace of Play Penalties

The following are the Stroke and Match Play penalties, in sequence, for any players in a group out of position who take more than 40 seconds to play a stroke when it is his turn to play:

Stroke Play

- One bad timing of more than 40 seconds - warning
- A second bad timing - 1-stroke penalty
- A third bad timing - Additional warning and 2-stroke penalty
- A fourth bad timing - Disqualification

Match Play

- One bad timing of more than 40 seconds - Warning
- A second bad timing - Loss of hole
- A third bad timing - Additional warning and loss of hole
- A fourth bad timing - Disqualification

NOTE: If the group or match in question regains its proper position, any previous timings of more than 40 seconds will be carried over for the remainder of that round or match in the event that the group or match requires additional monitoring.

Rulings or Other Incidents

If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a **reasonable** time.