



# Local Rules And Conditions Of Competition

## For All 2018 NCGA Competitions

Northern California Golf Association tournament play is governed by the *Rules of Golf* effective January 1, 2016 and the 2016-2017 *Decisions on the Rules of Golf* and, where applicable, the following Local Rules and Conditions, along with additional Local Rules as may be supplied. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the current edition of the *Rules of Golf*.

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

**Match play—Loss of Hole**

**Stroke play—Two Strokes**

### Local Rules

**Score Card**—Any Local Rules listed on the club scorecard or posted at the host club are unofficial and have no status in NCGA competition.

**Water and Lateral Water Hazard Stakes and Lines**—When a water hazard or a 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 and/or stakes. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair (Rule 25-1).

**White-Lined Areas Tying into Artificially-Surfaced Roads and Paths**—White-lined areas tying into artificially surfaced roads and paths are part of the obstruction.

**Aeration Holes**—Local Rule as Prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**Wood Chips and Mulch**—are loose impediments, unless otherwise noted in the Notice to Players

**Embedded Ball Through the Green**—Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**Turf Plugs on the Putting Green**—May be repaired even if they are not 4 1/4 inches.

**Practice Before or Between Rounds**—Practice is permitted on the competition course prior to or between rounds of a stroke-play competition (See Note to Rule 7-1b).

**Seams of Cut Turf (Sod Seams)**—Through the green, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under Rule 25-1. If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of intended swing, relief is available under Rule 25-1. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam.

**Distance-Measuring Devices**—In NCGA qualifiers and championships, 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.

**Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green**—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. (NOTE: Full text of Local Rule available at <http://www.usga.org/2017LocalRule>).

**Wrong Score for Hole in Stroke Play:** If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include a penalty stroke that the player did not know he had incurred, the player is not disqualified. The penalty for the applicable Rule is applied, but there is no additional penalty. (NOTE: Full text of Local Rule available at <http://www.usga.org/2018LocalRule>).

### Conditions

**List of Conforming Driver Heads**—Any driver the player carries must have a club-head, identified by model and loft that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA.

**Discontinuance of Play**—A discontinuance of play by the Committee will be signaled as follows:

**Non-dangerous condition:** Three consecutive air horn notes, repeated (Rule 6-8b).

**Dangerous condition:** One prolonged air horn note, repeated. Players shall discontinue play immediately and shall not resume play until the Committee orders a resumption of play. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous condition until the Committee declares them open.

NOTE: A player has the right to stop play because of the threat of lightning, even if play has not been suspended by the Committee.

**Resumption of play:** Two consecutive air horn notes, repeated.

**Disqualification**—In an individual competition, when a player breaches a Rule where the penalty is disqualification, the player must leave the course immediately.

**Time of Starting**—The clock at the tee where the player begins his stipulated round is the official time of starting (Dec. 6-3a/2.5). Starters will not page players in advance of their starting time. Players should arrive at their assigned tee 10 minutes prior to their starting time.

**Cellular Phones**—Players should ensure that any electronic device taken onto the course does not distract other players. For further guidelines see Decisions 14-3/16 and 14-3/18.

**Serious Breach of Etiquette**—Disruptive or inappropriate behavior contrary to the good conduct of the tournament in the determination of the Committee will not be tolerated. Further disciplinary action may be imposed, including suspension from future events.

PENALTY: DISQUALIFICATION (Rule 33-7).

**Close of Competition**—A competition is deemed to have closed when the result has been officially announced or in stroke play qualifying followed by match play when the player has teed off in their first match (Rule 34-1b). 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.

**Player Carts and Spectator Carts**—During NCGA Championships, including all qualifying rounds, a maximum of two carts are allowed per group. **Players with more than two carts in a group will not be permitted to continue until the players have joined into two carts.** In those events in which the player is prohibited from riding, the player's caddie is also prohibited from riding, but the player may use a push/pull cart or a battery operated remote control cart to transport their clubs if permitted by the host course.

**Spectator carts are not allowed.** A spectator cart is defined as a cart which is **not** used to transport a player's clubs, and the person(s) in the cart is (are) not a player or a player's caddie.

A player cart may be used by the player and/or their caddie to transport a player's clubs. A player may walk and their caddie may drive. A caddie may carry a player's bag and the player may ride. A non-player occupying the cart used to transport the player's clubs is a caddie (Decision 6-4/2.5).

Only the player or caddie may ride in the cart. If a person other than the player or caddie moves the cart in a "casual act" the *Rules of Golf* do not consider this individual to be a caddie or the player to have two caddies. There is no breach of Rule 6-4.

**Dress Code**—PLAYERS and CADDIES must be properly attired both on the golf course and on the premises of the club. Blue jeans, designer jeans, T-shirts and tank tops are prohibited. Golf shirts must be worn and shorts must be of appropriate length (no jean shorts). This dress code will be used at all NCGA tournaments in conjunction with any additional dress code restrictions of the particular golf course involved. **A player or caddie violating this dress code will not be permitted to start the competition. A violation during the stipulated round must be rectified without undue delay or the player or caddie will not be permitted to continue.**

**Pace of Play**—See separate pace of play guidelines.