

# 2019 MAPGA Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

The Rules of Golf govern play, except as modified below by the MAPGA. The following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition apply and may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 1, 2019. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Players" for additional definitions, Local Rules or amendments.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is:  
Match Play – Loss of Hole  
Stroke Play – Two Strokes

## 1. Out of Bounds – Rule 18.2. (see MLR A-3)

A ball coming to rest on or beyond the road is out of bounds, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.

## 2. Penalty Areas — When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out of-bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds. Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule B-2.2.

## 3. Abnormal Course Conditions – Rule 16.1.

### a. Ground Under Repair:

- i. Areas completely encircled with white lines.
- ii. French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
- iii. Aeration holes in General Area or on Putting Green – Model Local Rule E-4.
- iv. Seams of cut turf – Model Local Rule F-7.
- v. A hole made by a movable obstruction (stakes, signs, tables, chairs or the like) may be treated as Ground Under Repair by the Committee. But interference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.

### b. Immovable Obstructions:

- White lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition,
- ii. When landscaped garden areas (flower beds, shrubbery, or the like) are completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition.
- iii. Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips gravel, or mulch; the individual pieces of wood chips, gravel, or mulch are loose impediments.
- iv. When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin roads and paths, they are deemed to be part of the same abnormal course condition.

### c. Removal of Temporary Water:

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect. If a ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may:

- i. Proceed under Rule 16.1.
- ii. Have their line of play squeegeed, if available

Note: Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole and only be carried out by individuals designated by the Committee. The Committee may squeegee the putting green at any time.

## 4. Integral Objects

- a. Bunker Liners – The Committee may treat an exposed liner as ground under repair under Rule 16.1, but interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
- b. The portion of wrappings, wires, cables, and other objects when closely attached to trees or objects defining Out of Bounds.
- c. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.

## 5. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO's) – Model Local Rule F-23. Includes tents, signs and other temporary immovable obstructions (which will be listed on the event's NTP) installed for the Competition.

## 6. Specifications of Clubs and the Ball

- a. List of Conforming Driver Heads – Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- b. Groove and Punch Mark – The player's club must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010.
- c. List of Conforming Golf Balls – Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- d. The "One Ball Rule" is not in effect.

## 7. Prohibiting Use of Certain Types of Shoes

During a round, a player must not wear shoes with:

- a. Traditional spikes – that is, spikes having a single or multiple point designed to penetrate deeply into the surface of the ground (regardless of whether made of metal, ceramic, plastic or other materials; or
- b. Spikes of any design that are entirely or partially made of metal, if such metal may come in contact with the course.

## 8. Pace of Play – Rule 5.6b (3).

See posted MAPGA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play and penalties.

## 9. Stopping Play; Resuming Play – Rule 5.7

Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:

- a. Immediate Suspension (Dangerous situation): One prolonged note of the air horn.
- b. Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation): Three short notes of the air horn.
- c. Resume Play: Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

## TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

## 10. Scorecard Returned

A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, and no longer possesses the scorecard. Prior to returning the scorecard, a player that needs to leave the scoring area without possessing it, must inform the Committee of his intention to leave and immediately return.

## 11. When Result of Competition is Final

The competition is final when all scores have been approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

## 12. Code of Conduct

By signing an official entry form, registering online, or verbally committing to compete in an MAPGA event, the player agrees to abide by the prescribed Rules of Conduct that can be found in Section I Article VI of the MAPGA Tournament Rules & Regulations. Violations of the Rules of Conduct can result in a fine and/or loss of playing privileges.

## MAPGA Pace of Play Policy Revised January 2019

The Rules of Golf require that a player shall at all times play without undue delay. The following pace of play policy will be enforced at all MAPGA Section/Chapter events.

### a. Subject to Being Timed (SBT)

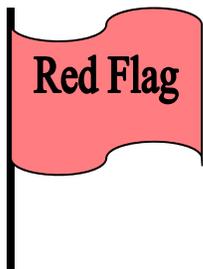
The first group to start will *be subject to being time (SBT)* if, at any time during the round, they exceed the time allotted to play, as detailed on the applicable course's pace of play time chart. Any subsequent group, or in the case of a shotgun start, any group, will be *SBT* if, at any time during the round, they (a.) exceed the allotted time to play **AND** (b.) are *out of position*.

#### **Out of Position:**

A group is out of position if: it has not played a stroke from any teeing ground of a par three before all players in the preceding group have played a stroke from the next teeing ground(s); it has not played a stroke from any teeing ground of a par four before the preceding group has finished the hole and replaced the flagstick; it has not played a stroke from any teeing ground of a par five before any player in the preceding group has executed a putt (i.e. a stroke from the green) on that par five.

**NOTE:** It is the player's responsibility to know if his/her group is *SBT*. Players are encouraged to ask officials if their group is *SBT* whenever a player is unsure of his/her group's status. A group's status is always in relation to the group in front of it. The location or time of any group behind the group in question is irrelevant.

### b. Monitoring Group



When a group is *SBT*, a rules official will place a red flag on the tee, to notify the group that they are *SBT*. **The group will remain *SBT* until it is under the allotted time par, is no longer out of position, or is informed by a rules official that it is no longer *SBT*. The group is expected to play at a pace that will either regain its position OR, bring the group under the allotted time to play. In stroke play only, players are encouraged to play ready golf.** A rules official will monitor and time the players individually as set forth below. Once timing has started, a rules official will stay with that group until the group is no longer *SBT*, or as long as practical. If a bad time is incurred by any individual player in the group, the official will inform that competitor as soon as practical after the bad time

### c. Timing

The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his/her turn to play and he/she can play without interference or distraction. A player is allocated a maximum of 45 seconds per stroke. Any time spent determining yardages, line of play or putt, or club selection, etc. **will** count as 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 mark, lift, clean and replace the ball, repair damage to the green on the line of putt, and remove loose impediments on the line of putt. This does not mean that timing will begin after a player has done all these things, but that it will begin once a reasonable amount of time has passed to accomplish these things.

**NOTE:** An extra 5 seconds will be allowed for: (a.) the first player to play a stroke on a hole, or to play from a different teeing ground (b.) the first player to play a second stroke on a par-4 or par-5, (c.) the first player to play a third stroke on a par-5 hole (provided it is not played from on or around the putting green), and (d.) the first player to play on or around the putting green.

### d. Penalties

First Bad Time – Verbal warning.

Second Bad Time – One stroke penalty.

Third Bad Time – Two stroke penalty (total of three strokes) or loss of hole.

Fourth Bad Time – Disqualification.

Note 1: Bad times and any penalties will apply to the team in Foursome and Scramble type events, but to the individual in Four-Ball type events.

Note 2: Bad time(s) will remain with the team or player for the remainder of the stipulated round.

Note 3: A Player is not exempt from penalty under Rule 5.6b simply because he/she takes less than the allotted time to complete a stroke, hole or round.

### e. Administration

The administration of the Middle Atlantic PGA Pace of Play Policy shall be handled by the on-site Competition Committee. Any appeal of a penalty must be referred to the on-site Competition Committee before the competitor leaves the scoring area and the decision of the Competition Committee will be final.