



# PGA

Southwest Section

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Greg Leicht, President

## 2017 RULES OF PLAY AND AUTOMOTIVE GOLF CART RULES

Play is governed by the 2016 Rules of Golf, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules, Conditions, and Definitions. Appendix I refers to the Appendix of Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition in the 2016 Rules of Golf booklet. Unless otherwise provided, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition

is; Match Play – Loss of hole and Stroke Play – Two strokes.

1. **GOLF BALLS:** The ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA.

2. **CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS:** The driver the player plays must be named on the list of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA.

3. **PACE OF PLAY:** A player is subject to penalty if he unduly delays play (Rule 6-7). The pace of play guidelines which are in effect are posted on the starting tees.

### 4. **PRACTICE:**

a. Between the play of two holes, a player must not make a practice stroke or roll a ball on or near the putting green of the hole last played.

b. When a round is restricted to a Pro-Am or Team event, practice on or near the hole last played is permitted.

c. The Committee has approved the use of any practice areas and practice putting/chipping greens, which may be located on the competition course, for any practice permitted under Rule 7.

### 5. **SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION:**

Note to Rule 6-8b and Condition as prescribed in Appendix I.

When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption.

NOTE: A suspension for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged siren or horn blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three intermittent siren or horn blasts. Resumption of play will be signaled by two intermittent siren or horn blasts.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: Disqualification. All practice areas will be closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open for use.

6. **LIFTING AN EMBEDDED BALL:** The Embedded Ball Rule as written in Appendix I is in effect "through the green".

### 7. **OUT OF BOUNDS:**

a. White stakes, beyond any wall, fence, brick or cement curbing at ground define the boundary of the course. Defined by the nearest inside points of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level.

b. When a white line on the ground is used, the line itself is out of bounds.

c. A ball that crosses the inside edge of a road or curb defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

### 8. **GROUND UNDER REPAIR:**

(a) Areas defined by white lines (except ball drops), including those marked for gallery crosswalks.

(b) French drains, which are trenches, filled with rocks or stones.

(c) Flower beds.

(d) Newly Trenched Areas and Sod Seams. Relief is for lie of ball or area of intended swing only.

### NOTE:

Erosion areas are common occurrences in the Southwest and not considered to be an abnormal ground conditions. Reference the definition of abnormal ground conditions.

9. **RETAINING WALLS AND PILINGS:** When located within water hazards or within and/or around bunkers, retaining walls and pilings are integral parts of the course. The retaining walls and pilings may be touched with a club or otherwise. When railroads ties, curbing or the like adjoint cart paths, they are deemed to be part of the same obstruction.

10. **TURF PLUGS ON PUTTING GREENS:** On putting greens, in addition to 16-1c, the player may repair turf plugs of any size.

11. **ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED PATHS:** Cement, asphalt and artificially surfaced paths are obstructions. Arranged rock and white lined areas tying into paths have the same status as the paths and thus they are obstructions and not ground under repair. All other paths are deemed to be integral parts of the course, from which relief without penalty is not allowed.

12. **STONES IN BUNKERS:** Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

13. **ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON THE PUTTING GREEN:** The local Rule as prescribed on the USGA's website is in effect.

14. **TREE WRAPPINGS, ELECTRICAL WIRES AND CABLES:** Tree wrappings, electrical wires, cables, signs and lightning rods when closely attached to trees are integral parts of the golf course.

15. **PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES & CABLES:** If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable "on the course", the stroke is cancelled and the player must play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played in accordance with Rule 20-5.

16. **TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS:** Appendix I is in effect and includes any temporary obstruction installed for the competition. White-lined areas along side or tying into temporary obstructions have the same status as the obstructions.

17. **DISTANCE- MEASURING DEVICES:** In competition, 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."

18. **SCORES IN STROKE PLAY:** (Rule 6-6) After completion of the round, the player must ensure that his marker has signed the score card, sign the score card himself and return it to the Committee as soon as possible. The player is deemed to have returned his scorecard when he has left the scoring area, as defined by the Committee.

19. **PRO-AM COMPETITIONS; SCORECARD:** The professional is responsible for maintaining the score card of his team. The score card must be signed by the professional and attested by one amateur partner. Penalties for breaches are consistent with other scoring breaches.

20. **CLOSE OF COMPETITION:** A competition is deemed to be "closed" when all scores have been a.) posted on the official scoreboard and b.) approved by the Rules Committee, and trophies are presented or results have been announced.

21. **SCORECARD RETURNED:** The scorecard is considered to have been returned when the individual has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and it is acknowledged, of his intention to leave the scoring area and immediately return.

## AUTOMOTIVE GOLF CART RULES

1. Players who choose to ride, must have their clubs transported on a golf cart, and must ride from each tee to the area of the drive .

2. A person authorized by a player to drive the golf cart is considered the caddie of the player. A caddie may or may not ride in the golf cart.

3. Maximum of two golf carts per pairing, unless otherwise permitted. Maximum of two people in or on a golf cart.

4. When a golf cart is employed by two players, the cart and any person or thing in it is always deemed to be the equipment of the player whose ball is involved, except when the cart is being driven by one of the players employing it, in which case the cart and its contents are considered the equipment of that player.

5. Golf carts must not be driven up the sides of the green and/or tees. Carts should be driven on the paths as much as possible and across the fairway at a 90-degree angle. When so restricted, the cars must remain on the paths at all times.

6. Spectator carts will not be allowed.

Director of Rules and Competitions - Mike Martino

Tournament Committee Chairman - Doug Hodge

### Rules Committee:

Mike Martino, Greg Leicht, Brad Gregory Tom VanHaaren & Troy Ford