



2024 TERMS OF THE COMPETITION & LOCAL RULES

Play is governed by the 2023 Golf Canada Rules of Golf, and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of Competition, approved by the PGA of BC Rules Committee, subject to changes, additions, or deletions for particular Championships. The player's attention is drawn to Terms of Competition as printed on the forms accompanying applications for entry. Complete text of Rules may be found in the 2023 Golf Canada Official Guide to the Rules of Golf. Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for a breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty

SECTION A: LOCAL RULES

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2): Defined by course-side points at ground level of white dots or stakes and fence posts. When a paved road or curb defines out of bounds, a ball that is on or beyond the road or curb is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the golf course.

2. Penalty Areas (Rule 17): When penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary

3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16):

Ground Under Repair – Rule 16.1 includes:

- a. Areas defined by white lines
- a. French drains filled with stones
- b. Seams of Cut Turf – If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing:
 - (i) Ball in the General Area: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.
 - (ii) Ball on Putting Green: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does **not** exist if the seam only interferes with the player's **stance**. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. Model Local Rule F-7 in affect.

- d. Immovable Objects – White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced road or path or other identified obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

4. Integral Parts of the Course: The portion of wrappings, wires, or cables where closely attached to trees (,) or objects defining out of bounds. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.

5. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables: MLR E-11 - If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable, the player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (Rule 14.6)

6. Temporary Immovable Obstructions: Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. Temporary Immovable Obstructions include, but are not limited to, starting tents, scoring tents and pace of play stations.

7. Back-on-line-relief – ball must be dropped on the line – relief area is one club length in any direction - This applies in the application of Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b, 19.3b

8. Rule 11.1b – (2) - when a ball played from the putting green accidentally hits the player, the club used by the player to make the stroke, or an animal defined as a loose impediment (that is, worms, insects and similar animals that can be removed easily), the stroke counts and the ball must be played as it lies.

9. Model Local Rule G-10 – Maximum Allowable Club Length: In making a stroke, the player must not use a club, except for a putter, which exceeds 46-inches in length. There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying but not making a stroke with a club not conforming to this Local Rule. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: **Disqualification**

10. **Use of Green Reading Material – Rule 4.3:** Handwritten notes may be added to approved yardage book or approved hole location sheets before or during a round by the player or the player's caddy only and are limited to information gathered by the player or caddy only, and must be based on the player's and caddy's experiences or observations of a ball rolling on a green, or through the player's or caddy's feel or general observations of the green. Use of a level or other device to gather information is not allowed. The size of the yardage book must not exceed 7" x 4.25" and the scale of the green must not exceed 3/8 " for every 5 yards. **(THE USE OF MOBILE DEVICES IS NOT ALLOWED)**.

11. **Model Local Rule L-1- Signing an incorrect scorecard:** If a player returns a scorecard without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes).

12. **Players with Disabilities - Rule 25:** To be eligible to compete under Rule 25 a player must have EDGA certification.

SECTION B: TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

1. Specification of the Clubs and Balls:

a. List of Conforming Driver Heads: Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of the Local Rule: **Disqualification**

b. List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: **Disqualification**

c. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged - When replacing a club, the player must immediately take the broken or significantly damaged club out of play, using the procedure in Rule 4.1c(1).i.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: See Rule 4.1b.

Note: An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available at www.golfcanada.ca/rules.

2. Pace of Play: See following PGA of BC Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play timing, fines and penalties.

3. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation (Rule 5.7b):

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes

Resume Play: Two short signal notes.

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

4. Practice (Rule 5.2a): Before or between rounds – A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for first breach: **General Penalty (applied to the player's first hole)**. Penalty for second breach: **Disqualification**.

During a round: (Rule 5.5b) Between the play of two holes, a player must not:
Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

5. Transportation: The PGA of BC's Transportation Policy is in effect. When the use of transportation is not mandatory, scouting with the use of a cart is prohibited.

6 How to Decide Ties: In the event of a tie for first place in a stroke play competition; there will be a hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner immediately following the last stipulated round.

7. Close of Competition: The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been validated in the Scoring System and approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition shall be deemed to have closed with the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

PGA OF BC'S PACE OF PLAY POLICY – STROKE PLAY EVENTS

Rule; (5.6b) states, in part: "The player shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish." The following pace of play guidelines, penalties and fines for PGA of BC stroke play competitions has been adopted. In the administration of the pace of play guidelines, a member of the Rules Committee shall not tolerate abuse, oral or otherwise, by a player. Such abuse may constitute conduct unbecoming a professional.

Definition of "Out of Position": The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they exceed the time allotted to play, as detailed on the applicable course's Pace of Play Chart. Any subsequent group will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, they (a) exceed the allotted time to play and (b) reach a par-3 hole that is open and free of play, reach a par-4 and have not played a stroke from the teeing ground before the hole is open and free of play or reach a par-5 and all players have not played a stroke from the teeing ground before the hole is open and free from play.

Note: The Committee reserves the right to time a group when the Committee deems it necessary. Further, if a player is determined by the Rules Committee to be unreasonably slow, he may be timed individually at the Rules Committee's discretion, regardless of whether his group is out of position.

Timing: When the Rules Committee determines that a group or an individual out of position will be timed, all players in the group, or the specific individual, will be informed they are being timed.

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction. Time spent determining yardage 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 his ball, repair his ball mark and other ball marks on his line of putt and remove loose impediments on his line of putt. A player has 40 seconds to play a stroke, with an additional 10 seconds (total of 50) when first to play.

Penalties:

First offense (after 2 bad times): **Verbal warning, no penalty**

Second offense (after 3 bad times): **One (1) penalty stroke**

Third offense (after 4 bad times): **Two (2) penalty strokes**

Fourth offense (after 5 bad times): **Disqualification**

Note: Any timings exceeding the applicable time to play a stroke (bad time) will be carried over throughout the round. All warnings may be subject to written notices issued by PGA of BC Administration Office following the event.

Appeals: Any appeal of a penalty or fine must be referred to the on-site Executive Director immediately upon completion of the player in question's round. The Executive Director's decision shall be final. If the player in question does not appeal immediately upon conclusion of his round any penalties & fines shall stand.