



FLORIDA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

(Effective January 1, 2019)



The current Rules of the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. See applicable Championship or qualifying round *Notice to Players* and *FSGA Championship Policies* for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules may be found in the current “*Rules of Golf*” and “*Committee Procedures*.”

Disregard Local Rules printed on club scorecards or posted at the course.

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

OUT OF BOUNDS:

- Defined by course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes, lines and perimeter 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.

PENALTY AREAS:

- When a penalty area is bounded by out of bounds, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.
- When a penalty area coincides with the out of bounds line the Local Rule B-2 is in effect allowing an additional relief option on the opposite side of a red penalty area equidistant to the reference point.

OBSTRUCTIONS:

- White lined areas of ground under repair tying into immovable obstructions are treated as a single obstruction.
- When the outside edge (non-golf course side) of a road or path defines the edge of a penalty area or out of bounds, the road or path is an immovable obstruction.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by white lines. Other areas of ground under repair, even when not marked, include:

- French drains (trenches filled with stones or the like)
- Large or hard ant hills on the course

EDGING GROOVES NEAR PUTTING GREENS: The edging grooves around the aprons or fringes of putting greens are ground under repair. If a player’s ball lies in or touches a groove or a groove interferes with the area of intended swing:

- Ball in General Area: The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b (drop a ball).
- Ball on Putting Green: The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1d (place a ball)

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN: Relief is available only when the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in a closely-mown area, the ball lies in the general area, and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole. (Drop ball within one club-length of complete relief)

INTEGRAL OBJECTS:

- When located within penalty areas, artificial walls and pilings are integral objects unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.
- When closely attached to trees, wrappings, electrical wire, and cables are integral objects.

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:

- Ball in General Area: The player may drop a ball under Rule 16.1b
 - Ball on Putting Green: The player may place a ball under Rule 16.1d
- Interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player’s stance

LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS: Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS AND GOLF BALLS: Optional restrictions under Section 8 of the Committee Procedures are in effect. Model Local Rules G-1 and G-3.

PACE OF PLAY: See FSGA policy

SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION: Optional condition as prescribed in Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Failure to comply may result in revocation of entry.

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note.

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes, repeated.

Resume Play: Two short signal notes, repeated.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition is final when the winner has been announced, or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.