

# Local Rules & Terms of the Competition For Senior Four-Ball One-Day Events



The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and The R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all CGA One-Day Four-Ball events. See any additional Notice to Players at the starter's table or announced prior to start of the round and Entry Information for modifications or additions to the following. The complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the current [Official Guide to the Rules of Golf](#), effective January 2023.

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

**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-1.

**ONE BALL RULE & GROOVES AND PUNCH MARK SPECIFICATIONS** – Local Rules **NOT** in effect.

**LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-3.

**TEES TO PLAY** – The tees to play are listed on the official tournament scorecard.

**PLAY the BALL AS IT LIES** unless noted before the start of play.

**HOLE LOCATIONS** noted before the start of play.

**CART RULES** noted before the start of play.

**DROPPING ZONES** – Players will be informed of Drop Zones, if any, before the start of play. Model Local Rule E-1.

**RESOLVING RULES ISSUES DURING ROUND** – Players must not unreasonably delay play when seeking help with the Rules during a round. If the Committee is not available in a reasonable amount of time to help with a Rules issue, the player must decide what to do and play on. The player may protect their rights by playing two balls in stroke play (Rule 20.1c (3)).

**OUT OF BOUNDS** – Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes or fence posts; by white lines on the ground that connect stakes or roads; by the course-side edge of paved roads and beyond, even if the ball comes to rest on another part of the course. Model Local Rule A-5.

**ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE and DISTANCE** – When a player's ball has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under stroke and distance. For two penalty strokes, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway of the hole being played that is not nearer the hole (see Rule 14.3). Model Local Rule E-5.

**TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** – Include greenside fans and starting/scoring tents. Model Local Rule F-23, relief may be taken on "either side".

**Note:** CGA Tournament Signage (including hole sign posts, banners, and tee signs) is considered Movable Obstructions. Any CGA sign that is not readily movable is considered a TIO.

**BALL DEFLECTED BY POWER LINE** – If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line [or tower or a wire or pole supporting a power line during the round, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 14.6 for what to do). Model Local Rule E-11.

**IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (GENERAL AREA CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT)** – Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16.1. In addition, if the player's ball lies off the putting green and an immovable obstruction within two club lengths of the putting green and within two club lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1. This Local Rule only applies when both the ball and the obstruction are in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. Model Local Rule F-5.2.

**PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES (METAL SPIKES)** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-7. Penalty for breach of Local Rule - see Rule 4.3.

**RELIEF FROM AERATION HOLES** – If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole: (a) Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b (drop ball). If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule. (b) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d (place ball). But interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play. Model Local Rule E-4.

**GROUND UNDER REPAIR** – Defined by white lines. Ground under repair also includes French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones and newly trenched areas.

**RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-7.

**WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH** – Are loose impediments.

**INTEGRAL OBJECTS** – Include cables, rods, wires, or wrappings when closely attached to trees, artificial walls, and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers, unless otherwise denoted.

**STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY** – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1.

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged note of a siren or horn. All players will be notified of suspension verbally and must stop play immediately. All other suspensions will be signaled by three consecutive notes of a siren or horn. In either case, resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of a siren or horn (unless otherwise indicated). See Rule 5.7b. **Note:** All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification under CGA Code of Conduct.

**TIME OF STARTING** – A player is responsible for being at the assigned tee promptly to begin play on time. **Tee Times:** If a player arrives at their starting point, ready to play within five (5) minutes of his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes (Rule 5.3a). **Shotgun Start:** If a player arrives late but within five minutes after the assigned starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes at the first hole instead of disqualification (Rule 5.3a). The assigned starting time for shotgun events is when a) a horn or siren is sounded, b) if no horn or siren is used, when the group can play without interference or c) if the player is in the second group to start on an assigned hole, when that group can play without interference.

**RED PENALTY AREAS** – Defined by red stakes and/or lines and includes unmarked drainage ditches and other open water courses. Treat all penalty areas as red penalty areas unless otherwise marked.

**RELIEF ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF RED PENALTY AREA COINCIDING WITH OUT OF BOUNDS** – For a ball in a red penalty area that coincides with OB, as an extra relief option by adding one penalty stroke, the player may drop the original ball or another ball on the opposite side of the penalty area within two club lengths of a point equal distance from the hole as point where the ball last crossed the edge of penalty area on boundary side. Model Local Rule B-2.2.

**AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION** – Automotive transportation is strongly recommended.

**HANDICAP ALLOWANCE** – 85% of player's Course Handicap™ derived from a player's Handicap Index®. Maximum of 30 strokes after all reductions. Additional course handicap reductions may be applied according to the multiple low net scores policy. Teams are divided into 55+, 65+, 70+, 75+ divisions.

**USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED** – A player must NOT have a caddie during the round. Model Local Rule H-1.1.

**PACE OF PLAY** – Refer to the One-Day Pace of Play Policy. Pace of play guidelines are listed on the player's scorecard. Each group is expected to keep pace with the group ahead. The CGA official-in-charge will decide any necessary pace of play penalties.

**SCORECARDS AND SCORE POSTING** – The USGA Rules of Golf requires each score on the scorecard to be clearly identifiable as the gross and the net score of the individual partner who made it (23.2b (1)). The CGA scoring policy requires markers to record ALL hole scores for all players for handicap purposes. The CGA will automatically post scores from this tournament to each player's handicap scoring record. Please do not post these scores yourself as this will duplicate the CGA's effort. Section 5-2f of the USGA handicap manual allows a tournament committee to post scores for players. For unfinished holes, enter the score you most likely would have made (more often than not) and precede that score with an X (e.g. X-6) to denote that the player did not hole out. For holes not started, enter par plus any handicap strokes you would have received on the hole. Failure to record individual hole scores may jeopardize participation in future CGA Senior Four-Ball one-day tournaments.

**SPECTATORS** are not permitted to ride in a player's cart at any time or rent a spectator cart at any CGA one-day tournament except as provided in the CGA Tournament Manual.

**ROUND** – Except for shotgun starts, the round consists of two nine-hole rounds for a total of 18 holes. Nine-hole scores may be used in the event of inclement weather.

**SCORECARD RETURNED & CERTIFICATION** – A player's/side's scorecard is deemed returned (no changes allowed to the scorecard) 15 minutes after the score is recorded in the tournament scoring software. 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). Model Local Rule L-1.

**TIES, PLAYOFFS & PRIZE DISTRIBUTION** – See prize distribution posted at the scoreboard. Any playoff necessary to determine 1st gross or last place gross, 1st net or last place net in a division will be resolved on the scorecard using the following method. Scorecards playoff will be decided based on the score for the last nine holes (10-18), the last six holes (13-18), the last three holes (16-18) and finally the 18th hole. If there is still a tie, then scorecards will be matched beginning with Hole 18 going backward. Merchandise must be redeemed at the host club. The CGA is not responsible for any unclaimed or unredeemed merchandise certificates after a tournament play date. It is the player's responsibility to claim or redeem a certificate or golf shop credit before leaving a tournament site. The CGA will not replace any lost or unclaimed merchandise certificates/gift cards after a tournament is played.

**WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL** – The competition is final when the prizes have been presented to the winner(s) or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

**RULES COMMITTEE** – CGA official-in-charge has final authority on any rulings.

*Effective January 2025 for CGA Senior Four-Ball One-Day Tournaments*