Local Rules & Terms of the Competition

CGA One-Day Tournaments

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 Tournaments. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Information for modifications or additions to the following. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the current Rules of Golf, effective January 2023.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is the general penalty. ***RULES COMMITTEE – CGA official-in-charge has final authority on any rulings.***

Effective January 2026 for all One-Day Tournaments

MAXIMUM SCORE ON A HOLE – The maximum gross score per hole will be 9. Players are encouraged to stop playing the hole when they reach a score of 9 and record the maximum score for that hole. See Rule 21.2.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS –Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

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

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS –Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

TEES TO PLAY – The tees to play are listed on the official tournament score card.

PLAY the BALL AS IT LIES unless noted prior to the start of play. The ball must be played as it lies, except as otherwise provided in the Rules.

HOLE LOCATIONS noted prior to the start of play.

CART RULES noted prior to the start of play. Cart use is strongly recommended.

USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED – Rule 10.3a is modified is this way: A player must **NOT** have a caddie during the round. Model Local Rule H-1.1.

SPECTATORS are not permitted to ride in a player's cart at any time.

DROPPING ZONES – Players will be informed of Drop Zones, if any, prior to 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 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 ball comes to rest on another part of 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 Signage (including hole signposts, banners, 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.

PLAYER HAS NOT PLAYED FROM WRONG PLACE WHEN UNAWARE BALL MIGHT HAVE MOVED – Model Local Rule E-14 is in effect.

IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS & GROUND UNDER REPAIR CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN (GENERAL AREA CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT) – Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction or ground under repair 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. MLR F-5.2.

PROHIBITING USE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES (METAL SPIKES) –Model Local Rule G-7 is in effect. 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 –Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.

ANIMAL NEAR BALL – Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect.

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.

PENALTY AREAS – Yellow Penalty Areas are defined by yellow stakes and/or lines. Red Penalty Areas are 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.

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.

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.

HANDICAP ALLOWANCE – ***One-Day Four-Ball:*** 85% of a 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 policy. ***One-Day Individual:*** Player receives 100% of Course Handicap™ derived from a player's Handicap Index®.

PACE OF PLAY – One-Day Tournaments Pace of Play Policy applies. Each group is expected to keep pace with the group ahead. The CGA OIC will decide any necessary pace of play penalties.

SCORE CARDS AND SCORE POSTING – ***One-Day Four-Ball:*** The USGA Rules of Golf require 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. 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, leave the score blank. Failure to record individual hole scores may jeopardize participation in future CGA Four-Ball one-day tournaments. ***One-Day Individual:*** USGA Rules of Golf requires a marker to record only the gross score of the player (Rule 3.3b). 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.

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. Model Local Rule L-1.

TIES, PLAYOFFS & PRIZE DISTRIBUTION – See prize distribution posted at the scoring area. 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 score card using the following method. Scorecards playoff will be decided based on the score for the last nine holes (10-18), last six holes (13-18), last three holes (16-18) and finally the 18th hole. If there is still a tie, then score cards will be matched beginning with Hole 18 going backwards. 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 prior to 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.