

WPGA Junior Foundation HARD CARD

LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF COMPETITION FOR 2026 TOURNAMENTS



The Rules of Golf as approved by the United State Golf Association and the R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all Wisconsin PGA tournaments, championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable Notice to Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2024. **Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.**

LOCAL RULES

Out of Bounds – Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts, unless otherwise defined on the local rules sheet.

Penalty Areas – When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out-of-bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds.

Ground Under Repair - Defined By - a) Any area encircled by a white line. b) French drains, which are trenches filled with rocks or stone. c) Newly trenched areas.

d) Sod Seams. 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: (a) **Ball in General Area**. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. (b) **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. This means that if a player has interference from any seam after *dropping* the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is still within one club-length of the reference point.

Ground under repair also may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee. When immediately adjacent to an immovable obstruction, such an area is part of that obstruction.

White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced Roads and Paths

White lined areas of ground under repair tying into such roads, paths or other immovable obstructions are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

Decorative areas that are surrounded by an artificially surfaced road or path are to be treated as part of the obstruction.

Railroad ties, curbing, or other similar artificial edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same obstruction.

Integral Objects – The portion of cables, rods, wires and wrappings closely attached to a) Trees, b) Objects defining out of bounds, c) Artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers. Closely attached is defined as within inches of the tree, wall or piling. Recognizing that if the cable, rod, wire or wrapping were removed the interference with the tree, object, wall or piling would remain.

Wood Chips and Mulch are loose impediments.

Immovable Obstructions – Bunker Liners in their intended position and any temporary artificial material used to stabilize the bunker walls are considered to be immovable obstructions.

Immovable Obstructions Close to the Putting Green - Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16.1. In addition, under this local rule the player has an extra option to take relief when an immovable obstruction is on or close to the putting green and on the line of play:

Ball in General Area - The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is: On the line of play and is on or within two club-lengths of the putting green, and within two club-lengths of the ball.

Complete relief must be taken, which includes both physical and line of play interference. Exception – No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable. There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-23.

Aeration Holes – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule E-4. 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. 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. **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.

List of Conforming Driver Heads – Any driver the player uses to make a stroke must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, which is on the current USGA issued List of Conforming Driver Heads. Model Local Rule G-1.

List of Conforming Golf Balls – Any ball used in making a stroke must be on the current USGA issued List of Conforming Golf Balls. Model Local Rule G-3.

Pace of Play – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy, when applicable.

Stopping and Resuming Play – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1.

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.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged airhorn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes.

Practice – Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

Missing Player or Marker Certification - Rule 3.3b(2) is modified in this way: If the hole scores for a player are not certified/confirmed either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes). The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION – Stroke Play - For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's scorecard is treated as returned when the player has confirmed their scores and left the scoring area with both feet. The scoring area is defined as one of the following, **Outdoors** - a) A roped off area. b) A specified area that has manufactured boundaries, IE – An area such as a wooden deck or concrete patio. c) When ropes or a specified area are not used, the scoring area will include the general area around the score table (within 20 yards). **Indoors** - a) When a scoring area is located in a building, the boundaries of the room where scores are being confirmed. Currently an electronic signature will not constitute returning the card.

The competition is final when the awards announcement has been completed, in absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee. The result of a match is considered final when it has been officially entered into the WPGA's tournament software and displayed online.