

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf, Effective January 2016, the following Local Rules subject to amendments by the SCGA Rules and Competitions Committee, and the Notice to Players distributed at each site. Complete text of the Rules and [Appendix I](#) may be found in the current [Rules of Golf](#).

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play - Loss of hole; Stroke Play - Two strokes.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS ⓘ – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. [Full list.](#)

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS ⓘ – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. [Full List.](#)

PACE OF PLAY ⓘ – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play guidelines.

LOCAL RULES

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES ⓘ – The use of Distance-Measuring Devices is permitted in all SCGA competitions.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN ⓘ – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN – When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his/her partner, his/her opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. (NOTE: Full text of Local Rule available at usga.org/2017LocalRule).

MODIFICATION OF SCORE CARD PENALTY – Exception: If a competitor returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken due to failure to include one or more penalty strokes that, before returning his score card, he did not know he had incurred, he is not disqualified. In such circumstances, the competitor incurs the penalty prescribed by the applicable Rule, but there is no additional penalty for a breach of Rule 6-6d. This Exception does not apply when the applicable penalty is disqualification from the competition.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARD STAKES AND LINES – When a water hazard or a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

OUT OF BOUNDS ⓘ – A ball which crosses a public road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

SCGA POLICIES

DRESS ATTIRE AND FOOTWEAR – Players must adhere to the dress code and footwear requirements as stated in the Player Information Sheet.

CODE OF CONDUCT – By submitting an entry for any SCGA-administered competition, the contestant understands that his/her participation is at the sole discretion of the SCGA. A contestant may be removed from any competition at the discretion of the SCGA staff or Rules and Competitions Committee at any time before or during the competition. Incidents of unbecoming conduct or actions deemed to be detrimental to the image of the SCGA or the "Spirit of the Game" are grounds for such removal and suspension from future SCGA-administered competitions. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Willful damage of the golf course or golf course property
- Club throwing or unnecessary club tossing
- Offensive or unbecoming language
- Public criticism of golf course or verbal abuse of SCGA staff, officials, volunteers, host club staff or other contestants
- Potential endangerment of others
- Conduct deemed unbecoming
- Failure to post scores for handicapping purposes
- Manipulation of scores posted for handicapping purposes

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY ⓘ – Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

SCORE CARDS – A player is deemed to have returned his/her score card once he/she has left the scoring area.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION – A competition is deemed to have closed when the result (including the result of a playoff, if applicable) has been officially announced or, in stroke play qualifying followed by match play, when the player has teed off in his/her first match.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Defined by white lines. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair.

WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY-SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS ⓘ – have the same status as the roads and paths, that of obstructions.

AERATION HOLES ⓘ – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF ⓘ (SOD SEAMS) – Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

EDGING GROOVES ⓘ – If a ball lies on an edging groove around a putting green, the player may, without penalty, lift the ball, clean it and place it out of the groove in the nearest position to where it lay, whether on or off the putting green, which is not nearer the hole.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH – are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Players.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE – include artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in Notice to Players.

POWER LINES ⓘ – If a ball strikes an overhead power line, the stroke is canceled and the player must play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played in accordance with [Rule 20-5](#). See Notice to Players for further clarification.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY – To withdraw for any reason prior to the start of an SCGA competition, a player must notify the SCGA Rules and Competitions Department at either (818) 980-3630, rules@scga.org, or by clicking [here](#). The player may also withdraw through his/her online player profile.

If a player needs to withdraw on the morning of the competition, he/she should contact the SCGA directly by phone or e-mail. Failure to notify the SCGA of a withdrawal may subject the player to suspension from future SCGA competitions.

WITHDRAWALS DURING AN SCGA COMPETITION – All players are expected to complete the competition which they start. Acceptable reasons for withdrawal during a competition are physical injury, illness, or an emergency. Poor play is not an acceptable reason for withdrawal. A player who withdraws without an acceptable reason or without notifying SCGA personnel (i.e. does not return a score card) may be subject to suspension from future SCGA competitions. Players who withdraw must sign and attest that the hole-by-hole scores are correct on the fellow-competitor's score card they were keeping and return that card to the fellow-competitor or another marker in the group.

For a complete listing of SCGA Tournament Policies and Procedures, click [here](#).

SCGA RULES AND COMPETITIONS CONTACT INFORMATION: