

NEW ENGLAND SECTION PGA
Local Rules and
Conditions of Competition

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play, as modified by the NEPGA. The following Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition apply and may be found in the current Appendix I of the USGA Rules of Golf as referenced in the Section noted below. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for additional Definitions, Local Rules and Conditions of the Competition.

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

SECTION A: LOCAL RULES

1. Out Of Bounds - Rule 27.

A ball that crosses a 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.

2. Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards) - Rule 26.

Dropping Zones:

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a water hazard and a Drop Zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Competitors (Players)" for that water hazard, the player may as an additional option, drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the white lined area labeled "DZ/Drop Zone" located as indicated on the applicable "Notice to Competitors (Players)".

3. Abnormal Ground Conditions - Rule 25.

a. Ground Under Repair:

- i. Areas completely encircled with white lines.
- ii. French drains (drainage ditch filled with stones).
- iii. Seams of cut turf – Appx. I, Part A, Section 3e.

b. Casual Water:

If casual water exists on the putting green the Committee may:

- i. require the player to proceed under Rule 25-1b (iii);
- ii. squeegee the line of putt;
- iii. squeegee the putting green until the players are near the putting green;
- iv. or in extreme cases any combination of i, ii, or iii.

4. Embedded Ball Through the Green – Appx. I, Part A, Section 3a.

5. Stones in Bunkers

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions. (Rule 24-1. applies)

6. Immovable Obstructions - Rule 24.

- a. White Lined areas tying into obstruction(s) are part of the obstruction(s).
- b. A landscaped or garden area (flower beds, shrubbery or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction is part of the obstruction.
- c. Roads or paths surfaced with shells, wood chips or mulch, the individual pieces of shells, wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- d. Railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoining artificially surfaced roads or paths are part of the road or path.

- e. Where the outside edge (non-golf course side) of a road or path defines out of bounds, the road or path is an obstruction.
- f. Stakes, ropes, wires or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached. The tree or the tree limb is not part of the obstruction.

7. Turf Plugs on Putting Green - Rule 16-1c.

Turf plugs on putting greens have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired as in Rule 16-1c.

8. Integral Parts of the Course

- a. The portion of wrappings, wires, cables and other objects closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
- b. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within water hazards.
- c. Where artificial retaining walls and/or pilings define the margin of bunkers, the artificial retaining walls or pilings are integral parts of the course and are through the green.

9. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables

If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable, the stroke must be canceled and replayed, without penalty (See Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable another ball may be substituted.

10. Temporary Obstructions – Appx. I, Part A, Section 4b.

(include but are not limited to):

- a. Movable Obstructions:
 - i. Hole indicator signs, mobile concession carts, tables, chairs, and trash containers.
- b. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO):
 - i. Tents, scoreboards and lavatories.

11. Scoring Area

The scoring area may include but is not limited to tents or rooms. A player's score card has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and it is acknowledged, of his intention to leave the scoring area and immediately return.

12. Pro-Am Competition - Score Card

The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 31-3. The score card shall be signed by the professional player and attested by one of the amateur partners. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

SECTION B – CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION

1. Specifications of the Ball

- a. List of Conforming Golf Balls (Note to Rule 5-1) – Appx. I, Part B, Section 1b.
Penalty for Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

2. Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7) – Appx. I, Part B, Section 3.

See posted NEPGA Pace of Play Guidelines for pace of play fines and penalties.

3. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b) – Appx. I, Part B, Section 4.

Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged signal note.

Discontinue Play: Three consecutive short signal notes.

Resume Play: Two short signal notes.

Note: During a suspension for a dangerous situation all practice areas shall be closed until the Rules Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing shall be subject to disciplinary action.

4. Practice

a. Before or between rounds – Appx. I, Part B, Section 5a.

A Player may practice on the designated practice areas.

5. Transportation

a. To prevent "Scouting", a player or players using a cart, or their caddies, may not drive the cart past the ball which lies closest to the hole until all shots have been played.

If the cart is driven past the closest ball in searching for a ball, or ahead in the interest of safety, this is not considered a violation.

6. How to Decide Ties

In the event of a tie for first place there will be a hole by hole play-off to determine the winner immediately following the last stipulated round.

7. Close of Competition

The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been validated in the scoring system and approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition shall be deemed to have closed when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

**NEW ENGLAND PGA
RULES COMMITTEE**

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