

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. Dropping Zones.

When the use of a dropping zone is permitted on the applicable Notice to Competitors for a particular competition round, the provisions in Appendix 1, Part A, Section 6 apply.

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.
- iv. The Committee May prohibit play from an area of Ground Under Repair or an Environmentally Sensitive Area that has been declared Ground Under Repair. See applicable Notice to Competitors.

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 are immovable obstructions. 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. Accidental Movement of a Ball or Ball Marker on Putting Green

- a. Rules 18-2, 18-3, and 20-1 are modified as follows: 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 partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3, and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

NOTE: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new position. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

10. 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.

11. Temporary Obstructions

- a. When an obstruction may be moved without unreasonable effort, without unduly delaying play, and without doing damage to the course it is a movable obstruction even if temporary in nature. Examples: hole indicator signs, mobile concessions carts, tables, chairs, and trash containers.
- b. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO) – Appendix 1, Part A, Section 4b. Examples: tents, scoreboards, and lavatories.

12. Scoring Area, Returning of Scorecard

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.

The Exception to Rule 6-6d is Modified as Follows:

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.

Application of the Exception Modification to Rule 6-6d Following the Cut:

The cut for any New England PGA Championship is official when the following round's pairings have been approved and published by the NEPGA Rules Committee. Once the field has been reduced, and the pairings have been approved and published, no additions to the field will be made. If a player's breach of Rule 6-6d is discovered after the cut is official and the addition of penalty strokes, from a round prior to the cut, results in the player's score being higher than the cut score, the player will be withdrawn from the field and will be considered to have missed the cut. Any such player is ineligible for any "made the cut" prize money, points, or other benefits.

13. 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 under Rule 6-6 apply only to the professional player.

SECTION B – CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION

1. Specifications of Clubs and 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.
- b. Driver Heads: Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft that is named on the current "List of Conforming Driver Heads" issued by the USGA. Exception: A driver with a clubhead that was manufactured prior to 1999 is exempt from this condition.
Penalty for Breach of Condition - See Appendix I
- c. Grooves and/or Punch Marks: The player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from January 1, 2010.
Penalty for Breach of Condition – See penalty for breach of Rule 4-1.

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

Refer to NEPGA Tournament Rules and Regulations, Article X, Section 9 for tie-breaking procedures

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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