



# WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

## Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

### 2022



*The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect for all WVGA Championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable Notice to Players for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of Competition. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.*

#### LOCAL RULES

**Out of Bounds** – Rule 18.2. Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. A ball that crosses a road or railroad track defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road or railroad track is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

**Penalty Areas** – Rule 17. 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.

**Abnormal Course Conditions** – Rules 16.1 (**Ground Under Repair**) – Areas completely encircled with white lines. French drains are ground under repair. (**Relief from Seams of Cut Turf**) – Model Local Rules F-7 is in effect. White lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as part of the same obstruction. (**Immovable Obstruction**) - When landscaped areas are completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition. Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch; the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments. (**Removal of Temporary Water**) – Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect. If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may take free relief under Rules 16.1, or have his or her line of play squeegeed by a member of the Rules Committee.

**Back-On-the-Line Relief** —Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect. When taking Back-On-The-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule (Rule 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b or 19.3b) but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped.

**Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens** – Model Local Rules F-5 is in effect and is modified as follows: For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

**Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables** – Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and is modified as follows: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made in accordance with Rules 14.6.

**Temporary Immovable Obstructions** –Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

**Integral Objects** – Include cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers, and bunker liners. An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the liner interferes with only the player's stance.

**Limiting When Stroke Made from Putting Green Must Be Replayed Under Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b**

**(List of Conforming Golf Balls)** – Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. (**Broken or Significantly Damaged Club**) – Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect.

**Stopping Play; Resuming Play** – Rule 5.7, Model Local Rules J-1. Immediate Suspension: One prolonged note of the air horn. Normal Suspension: Three short notes of the air horn. Resume Play: Two short notes of the air horn. Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee as declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

**Practice** –Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Model Local Rule 1-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2a is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.

**Prohibiting Use of Audio and Video Devices:** Model Local Rule G-8 is in effect and is modified as follows: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device during any championship or qualifier.

**Deciding Ties** – In the event of a tie, unless otherwise specified, a hole-by-hole stroke-play play-off will determine the winner immediately following the last round.

**Scorecard Returned** – A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet. Prior to returning the scorecard, a player that needs to leave the scoring area must inform the Scoring Official of his intention to leave and immediately return.

**When Competition is Final** – The competition is final when all scores have been validated in the scoring system and approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.