

INDIANA GOLF



2024 LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION. THESE APPLY TO INDIANA WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION, INDIANA GOLF ASSOCIATION, AND INDIANA PGA TEAM COMPETITIONS.

The Rules of Golf effective January 1, 2023, govern play. See the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf for Model Local Rule references. See the applicable Notice to Players for additional Local Rules. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty.

1. Out of Bounds – Rule 18.2

- Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts. NOTE: A ball coming to rest on or beyond a road defined as out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course, under Model Local Rule A-5.
- Closed gates attached to a boundary object are part of the boundary object under Model Local Rule F-26.

2. Penalty Areas – Rule 17

- 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 penalty area and a drop zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Players" for that penalty area, the player may as an additional option, drop a ball under penalty of one stroke, in the circled white-lined area labeled "DZ" as indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". The ball must be dropped in and come to rest within the drop zone. Model Local Rule E-1.1.
- Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Areas: Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". Model Local Rule B-2.1. NOTE: When the edge of a red penalty area coincides with the boundary of the course, Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the first paragraph of Model Local Rule B-2.1.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) – Rule 16

- Ground Under Repair:
 - Defined by areas completely encircled with white lines.
 - French drains (drainage ditch filled with stones).
 - Seams of cut turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
 - A hole made by a movable obstruction (stakes, signs, tables, chairs, or the like) may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. But interference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.
- Immovable Obstructions:
 - White-lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as part of that same obstruction.
 - Landscaped or garden areas (flowerbeds, shrubbery, or the like) completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and the landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition.
 - Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips, mulch or gravel, the individual pieces of wood chips, mulch or gravel are loose impediments.
 - When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin artificially surfaced roads or paths, they are deemed to be part of the road or path.
 - Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached, are immovable obstructions. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.
- 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 players may:
 - Take free relief under Rule 16.1d; or
 - Have their line of play squeegeed.

Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole (that is at least one roller length) and only be carried out by individuals designated by the Committee. NOTE: The Committee may squeegee the putting green at any time.

4. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens.

Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect. For a ball in the general area, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b only when both the ball and the obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less. The obstruction must be located:

- On or within two club-lengths of the putting green,
- On the player's line of play, and
- The ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction.
- 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.

5. Integral Objects (free relief not allowed).

- Bunker Liners. An exposed liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
- The portion of wrappings, wires, cables, and other objects when closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
- Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings located within penalty areas.
- Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings located on the edge of bunkers, but such objects are not part of the bunker.
- Gates attached to objects defining out of bounds.

6. 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 Rule 14.6.

7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs) – Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

8. Transportation.

Either the player or the player's caddie can ride in or move any golf cart but not at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride on any golf cart during a round. A player of the spectator and the player who allows the spectator to ride may be penalized.

9. Cell Phone Policy.

The use of a cell phone during a round maybe used for non-verbal texting, emailing, checking inclement weather or leaderboards. Such use may not otherwise violate the Rules of Golf including giving, receiving, or sharing advice. The phone must be kept in silent mode.

10. Listening to Music.

Model Local Rule G-8 is in effect and Rule 4.3a(4) is modified as follows: During a round, a player must not listen to music or any other similar broadcast on a personal audio or video device. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 4.3.

11. Restrictions on Use of Specific Equipment.

- List of Conforming Driver Heads – Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (except for amateurs in a Pro-Am competition) – Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect, but the exception referring to Ping Eye 2 irons manufactured before March 31, 1990, does not apply. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification.
- List of Conforming Golf Balls – Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule – Disqualification

12. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged.

Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect and Rule 4.1a(2) is modified as follows: If a player's club is "broken or significantly damaged" during the round by the player or caddie, except in cases of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4.1b(4). When replacing a club, the player must immediately take the broken or significantly damaged club out of play, using the procedure in Rule 4.1c(1). For the purposes of this Local Rule a club is "broken or significantly damaged" when the:

- shaft breaks into pieces, splinters or is bent (but not when the shaft is only dented), or
- club face impact area is visibly deformed (but not when the club face is only scratched), or
- clubhead is visibly and significantly deformed, or
- clubhead is detached or loose from the shaft, or
- grip is loose.
- Exception: A club face or clubhead is not "broken or significantly damaged" solely because it is cracked. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – See Rule 4.1b.

13. Stopping Play; Resuming Play – Rule 5.7

Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:

- Immediate Suspension (Dangerous situation): One prolonged note of the air horn.
- Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation): Three short notes of the air horn.
- Resume Play: Two short notes of the air horn.

NOTE: During an immediate suspension, all players must stop play at once and must not make another stroke until the Committee resumes play. Penalty = Disqualification. During an immediate suspension, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closings are subject to disciplinary action.

14. Practice – Rule 5

- Before or between rounds in stroke play – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2(b) is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course but may practice on the designated practice areas. Penalty for breach, see Rule 5.2.
- Between holes in stroke play – Model Local Rule I-2 is **NOT** in effect and is modified as follows: Between the play of two holes, a player may practice putting or chipping on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, any practice green, or teeing area of the next hole. NOTE: This only applies in team competitions

15. Missing Player or Marker Certification.

Play Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect and modifies the penalty for a missing signature(s) under Rule 3.3b(2).

16. Pace of Play – Rule 5.6b (3).

See Indiana Golf Pace of Play Policy for pace of play penalties (available at the starting tees).

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

17. Deciding Ties.

In the event of a tie for first place, unless otherwise specified, a hole-by-hole play-off will determine the winner immediately following the last round.

18. Scorecard Returned.

For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's scorecard 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/her intention to leave the scoring area and return immediately.

19. When Result of 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.