

**US Open  
USGA Qualifying  
Oak Tree CC – East Course  
Edmond, Oklahoma  
5/3/21**

**NOTICE TO PLAYERS**

*(This information supplements the Championship entry. The Local Rules and Terms of the Competition for 2021 USGA Championships – See reverse side.)*

**Teeing Area:** White **USGA** Markers

**Format:** 18 Holes of Stroke play

**Footwear:** Rule 4.3 is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not wear shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, of any design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course). Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: See Rule 4.3.

**Transportation:** During a round, a player must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.

- A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation.
- *F or this competition* a caddie may drive the cart with player's bags. (Only designated caddies are allowed on the *caddie cart*)

**Pace of Play:** see separate document

**Out of Bounds:** is defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level of white posts and fence posts surrounding the course. Additionally:

- The line between the course-side points, at ground level of white posts surrounding the driving range
- The course-side edge of residential fence posts and the course-side edge of curbing of public access roads. Brick (or similar) columns between fence posts are *Boundary Objects*.
- A ball is *Out of Bounds* when it is beyond any wall defining the boundary of the *course*.
- Except a ball played from the *Teeing Area* on hole #2, a ball that crosses any public access road and comes to rest on another part of the course is *Out of Bounds*.
- On **Hole #12 only**, the outside edge of the cart path on the right side of the hole between the two white stakes defines *Out of Bounds*
- White stakes supersede both boundary and property line fences when both are present. When both stakes and lines are used to indicate out of bounds, the stakes identify out of bounds and the line defines out of bounds.

**Penalty Areas:** All *Penalty Areas* on the course are Red Penalty Areas. There are no Drop Zones designated for this competition.

**Immovable Obstructions:**

- Fans located near *Putting Greens* are *Immovable Obstructions*, free relief is available only for interference with the lie of ball, stance, or area of intended swing. There is no relief for "line of sight" interference.
- Railroad Ties, Curbing or Other Similar Artificial Edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same obstruction
- Decorative landscape areas (flowerbeds/shrubberies and including everything growing within that area) surrounded by an *Immovable Obstruction* are treated as a single *Abnormal Course Condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1

**Integral Objects:** All railroad ties and pilings located around *Bunkers* and within *Penalty Areas* are *Integral Objects* from which free relief is not available.

**Prohibiting use of Audio and Video Devices:** Model Local Rule G-8 is in effect. Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device, except that such devices may be used to access weather related and tournament related information without penalty.

**Rules Issues in Stroke Play: During Stroke Play Only** – A player who is uncertain about the right procedure while playing a hole may complete the hole with two balls without penalty under **Rule 20.1c(3) & (4)**. The player must decide to play two balls after the uncertain situation arises and before making stroke. The player must announce (1) that he or she will play two balls and (2) the ball he or she wishes to count if the Rules permit. The player must report the facts of the situation to the *Committee* before returning the scorecard, even if the player scores the same with both balls. The player is **disqualified** if he or she fails to do so.

**Play-off:** In the event of a tie for the last qualifiers or alternates places, there will be a hole-by-hole playoff to determine the final qualifiers and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate if necessary. All announcements regarding the play-off will be made upon completion of the qualifying round.

**Rules Committee:** Dane Williams, Bob Phelps, Mark Felder, Bob Ricks and Debe Hauschild



# Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

## FOR 2021 USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

*The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and R&A Rules Limited govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all USGA championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019.*

**Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.**

**Out of Bounds** — Defined by the line between the course-side points of white stakes and fence posts at ground level.

**Penalty Areas** — 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.

**Ground Under Repair** — Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair. For grass-covered trenching, see Temporary Power Lines and Cables.

Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee. When immediately adjacent to an immovable obstruction, such an area is part of that obstruction.

**Relief from Seams of Cut Turf** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-7.

**Immovable Obstructions** — Include plastic bumpers on roads and paths, and mats secured to the ground with spikes when the bumpers or mats cover cables.

**White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced Roads and Paths** — White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

**Wood Chips and Mulch** — Are loose impediments.

**Integral Objects** — Include cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas or in or adjacent to bunkers, and bunker liners.

An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the liner interferes only with the player's stance.

**Temporary Power Lines and Cables** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-22.

**Temporary Immovable Obstructions** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-23.

**List of Conforming Driver Heads** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-1.

**Groove and Punch Mark Specifications** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect, except as modified by the applicable championship Entry Application. Model Local Rule G-2.

**List of Conforming Golf Balls** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-3.

**One Ball Rule** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-4.

**Broken or Significantly Damaged Club** — Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule G-9.

**Back-On-the-Line Relief** — Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule E-12.

**Limiting When Stroke Made From Putting Green Must Be Replayed Under Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b** — Local Rule as prescribed in the Clarifications to the 2019 Rules of Golf is in effect. Model Local Rule D-7.

**Pace of Play** — See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy, when applicable.

**Stopping and Resuming Play** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1.

All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged airhorn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes.

**Practice** — Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

**Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation** — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-6.

**When Competition Is Final** — The competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

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**PACE OF PLAY GUIDELINES**

**SUMMARY**

When a group takes more than the allotted time to play nine holes or eighteen holes, all players in the group will incur penalty strokes. In order to avoid such penalties, players must comply with these Pace of Play Guidelines.

**THE RULE**

**Rule 5.6. Unreasonable Delay; Prompt Pace of Play** states: “A player must not unreasonably delay play, either when playing a hole or between two holes. To promote a prompt pace of play, the *Committee* has adopted the following Pace of Play Policy.

**ALLOTTED TIME**

Play is in groups of three (3). Each group is allotted: **2 hours and 20 minutes** to complete their first nine holes, **2 hours and 25 minutes** to complete their second nine holes, and up to **4 hours and 45 minutes** to complete 18 holes. When a group falls behind, **for any reason**, the group must regain its position. Time for ball searches, rulings, and walking between holes is included in the allotted time.

**PACE OF PLAY PENALTIES**

When a group is out of position at the completion of its first nine holes, each player in the group will incur a penalty of one stroke for a breach of these guidelines. The first group is out of position if it fails to complete play of its 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes within the allotted time. Any following group is out of position when it: (A) completes their first nine holes in longer than **2:20**, or their second nine holes in longer than **2:25**, or their 18<sup>th</sup> hole in longer than **4:45 AND**, (B) is more than fourteen (15) minutes behind the group previously finished. When a group is out of position upon completion of its second 9 holes, each player in the group will incur a penalty of one stroke if it is the first breach of these guidelines **OR** a penalty of two strokes for a second breach (making a total penalty of three (3) strokes after a second breach in the same round.) Penalty strokes apply at the group’s 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes and will be added to the scores for those holes. **It is not a prerequisite to the assessment of a penalty for an Official to first warn a slow player or group.**

**MONITORING OF PLAY AND VERIFICATION OF PACE**

The Committee will have officials on the course to monitor pace of play, to verify the pace of groups when asked, and to advise players of any penalties they may have incurred upon completion of their 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes. A player concerned about a non-responsive fellow competitor in his group should request a Rules Official to monitor the group in case the group incurs a penalty pursuant to these guidelines and wishes to appeal.

**APPEALS**

Before returning his scorecard, a player who has been ASSESSED A PENALTY FOR THE BREACH OF THESE GUIDELINES may lodge an Appeal with the Rules Committee. The Committee will consider an Appeal only if:

- (a) The player was delayed by the Committee; or
- (b) The player was delayed by a circumstance beyond the control of the player or the group; or
- (c) The player was delayed by another player in the group.

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