OKLAHOMA GOLF ASSOCIATION (OGA) & OKLAHOMA JUNIOR GOLF TOUR (OJGT)
Local Rules, Terms of Competition, & Code of Conduct

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2023, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms ofthe Competition. Committee Procedures refers to the Committee Procedures section in the current *Official Guide to the Rules of Golf*. The *Committee* refers to the OGA Rules Committee.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the *General Penalty*.
Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two Strokes

1. **OUT OF BOUNDS AND COURSE BOUNDARIES:** *Out of Bounds* is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes, fence posts and/or other physical objects or features as defined on the Notice to Players. A ball coming to rest on or beyond a road defined as *Out of Bounds* is *Out of Bounds*, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course.

2. **PENALTY AREAS:** When both stakes and lines are used to define *Penalty Areas*, the stakes identify, and the lines define the *Penalty Area* edge. If the color of a *Penalty Area* has not been marked or otherwise identified by the Committee, the *Penalty Area* is treated as red. When a *Penalty Area* is defined on only one side, the *Penalty Area* 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*. If a ball crosses into a red *Penalty Area* where the edge coincides with Out of Bounds, as an extra relief option from the Penalty Area, adding one penalty stroke, the player may drop the original ball or another ball on the opposite side of the *Penalty Area* equidistant from the hole (see Model Local Rule B-2.2).

3. **ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS AND INTEGRAL OBJECTS:**
   a. **Ground Under Repair:**
      i) Any area **encircled by a white line**. When immediately adjacent to an *Immovable Obstruction*, such area is part of the *Immovable Obstruction*
      ii) **Newly trenched areas**, including grass-covered cables.
      iii) **French drains**, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
      iv) **Relief from Seams of Cut Turf –** Model Local Rule F-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.
      v) **A hole made by a *movable obstruction*** (microphone, stakes, signs, tripods, tables, chairs, etc.) may be treated as *ground under repair* by the *Committee*. **But** interference does not exist if the hole interferes with the player's *stance*.
      vi) *Ground Under Repair* may include areas of unusual damage, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee.
      vii) **An exposed *Bunker*** liner that is not in its intended position may be treated as *Ground Under Repair*, but interference does not exist if the liner interferes only with the player's stance.

   b. **Immovable Obstructions:**
      i) **Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths**. White lined areas of *ground under repair* tying into such roads or paths are treated as a single *abnormal course condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
      ii) **Railroad ties**, **curbing** or other similar artificial edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same *obstruction*.
      iii) **Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch**; the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are *Loose Impediments*.
      iv) **Maintained landscape and beautification areas** completely encircled by an artificially surfaced road, path or other *Immovable Obstruction* are treated as a single *Abnormal Course Condition*.
      v) **Secured mats and plastic cable ramps** covering cables.

   c. **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens** - Model Local Rule F-5.2 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule 5.1 applies but with the following addition to the second paragraph: "This Local Rule only applies when both the ball and the obstruction are in part of the *General Area* cut to fairway height or less.
      Exception – There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a *line of play* that is clearly unreasonable.

   d. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions**: Model Local Rule F-23 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect and includes any *Temporary Immovable Obstruction* installed for the competition. **Maintenance fans** used to support air flow near a *Putting Green,* and their supporting post are deemed to be *Temporary Immovable Obstructions*. **Note**: Artificially propelled air and water are *Outside Influences*.
      i) **"Either Side" Relief Option**: The player is permitted to take relief on the other side of **any** TIO. This is in addition to the relief options allowed under Clauses b and c of Model Local Rule F-23. **But** the option to take relief on either side does not apply when using the procedures in Rule 16.1.

   e. **Integral Objects (Free relief not allowed):**
      i) **Artificial retaining walls** and/or pilings when located in *Penalty Areas*.
      ii) **The portion of wires, cables, wrappings, poles, signs and lightning rods** closely attached to trees or closely attached to objects defining *out of bounds*.
      iii) **Gates in Boundary Fences –** Model Local Rule F-26 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. All closed gates that are attached to boundary fences or walls are part of the *Boundary Object*. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rule 15.2 or Rule 16.1 Open gates are not treated as part of the Boundary Object and may be closed or moved to a different position.
      iv) **Bunker liners** in their intended position.
      Note: The *Committee* may treat an exposed liner, not in its intended position, to be *ground under repair*, but interference does not exist if a liner only interferes with the player's *stance*.

4. **ANIMAL NEAR BALL: Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect.**

5. **RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT:**
   a. **List of Conforming Driver Heads**: Model Local Rule G-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Any driver the player uses to make a *stroke* must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, which is on the current "List of Conforming Driver Heads" issued by the USGA.
      Penalty for making a *Stroke* with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification. There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying but not making a *stroke* with a driver that is not on the "List of Conforming Driver Heads".

   b. **List of Conforming Golf Balls:** Model Local Rule G-3 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Any ball used in making a stroke must be on the current "List of Conforming Golf Balls" issued by the USGA. This list is posted on the Official Notices Board and starting tees, is regularly updated, and can be found at www.usga.org. **Penalty for Making a *Stroke* at a Ball Not on Current List in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

6. **PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER AND SUSPENSIONS OF PLAY:**
   Methods for Stopping and Resuming Play: Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect.
   A suspension for a **dangerous situation** will be signaled by **one prolonged note** of a siren or horn. **All other suspensions** will be signaled by **three consecutive notes** of a siren or horn. In either case, **resumption of play** will be signaled by **two short notes** of a siren or horn. See Rule 5.7b.
   Note: All practice areas are **closed** during immediate suspension for a **dangerous situation** until the *Committee* has declared them open.

OGA Rules Committee
Updated February 16, 2026

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7. **COMMITTEE PACE OF PLAY POLICY:** See Rule 5.6b(3). The Local Rule setting a Pace of Play Policy, including penalties for not following this Policy, is provided on okgolf.org.

8. **MISSING PLAYER OR MARKER CERTIFICATION:** Model Local Rule L-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

9. **STARTING POINT DEFINED:** For the purpose of applying Rule 5.3a, the starting point for hole #1 and hole #10 is defined by either ropes, blue dots, or blue lines.

OJGT EVENTS ONLY (ITEMS 10-11)

10. **TRANSPORTATION:** Model Local Rule G-6 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee. Note: A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: General penalty for each hole where a breach occurred. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

11. **USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED:** Model Local Rule H-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. A player must not have a caddie during the round. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which they have a caddie. If the breach happens or continues between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. **RETURNING SCORECARD:** For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's s*corecard* is treated as returned when:
   a. If a scorecard is validated in the scoring system and the player has left the scoring area, the player may return to correct an error within 15 minutes of its validation.
   b. If a player has left the scoring area and an error is identified before the scorecard is validated in the scoring system, the player may return to correct the error within 15 minutes of the error being identified by the official scoring.
   c. If a player is in the scoring area when the 15 minutes expires, the player's scorecard is returned when the player leaves the scoring area.

   However, exceptions may apply when constraints within the competition limit a player's correction time to less than 15 minutes, such as releasing tee times following a cut, starting a playoff, or the close of competition.

2. **WHEN THE RESULT OF THE COMPETITION IS FINAL:** In stroke play, 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 certified by the *Committee*. In match play, the result of the match is final when the result is recorded on an official scoreboard, or when the result is reported to a member of the Committee. In stroke-play qualifying followed by match play, Rule 20.2e(2) stipulates that the stroke-play portion of the competition is closed when the player has teed off to start his or her first match.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The OGA Code of Conduct is in effect under specific authority of Rule 1.2b. The following penalty structure will apply:

- First Breach – Warning or Committee Sanction
- Second Breach – One Stroke Penalty
- Third Breach – General penalty
- Fourth Breach or Serious Misconduct - Disqualification

Each Player and Caddie in a competition must adhere to commonly accepted standards of golfing etiquette and sportsmanship. To ensure proper standards of behavior during a competition, a Player or Caddie who commits an offense under this Code of Conduct Policy may incur a penalty in accordance with the penalty structure displayed above.

Violations of the Code of Conduct Policy include, but are not limited to:

1. **VERBAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE**
   a. Verbal or physical abuse of any OGA volunteer, OGA staff, facility staff, spectators or any other person.
   b. Audible outbursts of obscene or offensive language.

2. **DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT OR PROPERTY**
   a. Failure to care for course (e.g. not raking bunkers, not replacing divots, not repairing pitch marks).
   b. Throwing or damaging player equipment.
   c. Deliberate or negligent behavior resulting in damage to the golf course or any other property.

3. **POOR ETIQUETTE AND SPORTSMANSHIP**
   a. Deliberately distracting other players while preparing for and making a stroke.
   b. Being disrespectful to other players, referees, or spectators.
   c. Violating the Host Facility's Dress Code or Rules and Regulations.
   d. Other such behavior that falls short of the standards of etiquette and behavior outlined in Rule 1.2a of the Rules of Golf.

4. **AUDIO AND VIDEO USE**
   a. Any use of audio or video must comply with Rule 4.3a(4).
   b. During a round, using headphones or earphones to listen to audio is not permitted.
   c. Volume levels of any audio or video must not be a distraction to other players. The other players or a member of the Committee determines if the audio or video is a distraction.
   d. Audio or video that is audible or visible by other people must not be profane or offensive.

5. **SPECTATORS**
   a. Spectators must always remain on cart paths or in the rough and not within 15 yards from players or caddies.
   b. If a player receives advice from someone other than their partner or caddie without asking, the player must try to stop the person from giving further advice, but player gets no penalty. If the player continues to receive advice from that same person, the player is deemed to have asked for advice and gets the penalty under Rule 10.2a.

NOTE: The OGA Tournament Committee is the sole judge whether an act is a breach of this Code of Conduct Policy. Furthermore, the OGA Tournament Committee may disqualify a player under Rule 1.2a for acting contrary to the spirit of the game if it finds that the player has committed serious misconduct.