



WOMEN'S OHIO STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

Conditions of Competition and Local Rules

(Effective March 1, 2018)



The current United States Golf Association's (USGA) *Rules of Golf* and the Royal and Ancient (R & A) govern play. See applicable *Notice to Players*, *WOSGA Policies*, and entry form for additional Conditions and Local Rules. Penalty for breach of a Condition or Local Rule, unless otherwise noted, is in Stroke Play – two strokes, Match Play – loss of hole. Disregard Local Rules printed on club scorecards or posted at the course.

CONDITIONS

AMATEUR STATUS: All players must conform to the USGA *Rules of Amateur Status*.

CELL PHONES; PAGERS; BEEPERS; TECH DEVICES; BLUETOOTH DEVICES; SMART WATCHES; HEADPHONES; SPEAKERS: The use of these devices is prohibited during stipulated rounds. Offenses are subject to *Rule 33-7 of The Rules of Golf*.

CODE OF CONDUCT: All players are expected to hold themselves to a high standard of conduct on the golf course. WOSGA may reject, at their discretion, an entry application, revoke an accepted application, expel from a championship or suspend a player from future championships for any reason including improper withdrawal from the championship or unbecoming conduct. Examples of such conduct may include, but are not limited to, damage to the golf course or the player's equipment, verbal or physical abuse of spectators, fellow competitors, officials, volunteers, or staff, blatant or excessive profanity, disorderly behavior, failure to abide by club rules including club dress code, or any other unbecoming conduct. The player is held responsible for the conduct of their caddy. Offenses are subject to *Rule 33-7 of The Rules of Golf*.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION: The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the championship trophies have been presented. The result of a match is considered to have been "officially announced" when the WOSGA Executive Committee has approved the result and posted it on the public scoreboard.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY: *Rule 6-8b* and note to that Rule in *Appendix I of The Rules of Golf* are in effect. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the WOSGA Executive Committee has declared them open. A player using a closed practice area will be asked to cease doing so; failure to comply may result in *disqualification*.

DISPUTES/DECISIONS: Disputes shall be settled by the on-site WOSGA Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.

DRESS CODE: Proper golf attire is required. No short shorts, tank tops, or denim. The host club's dress code will be in effect. Players in violation of dress code may be asked to change clothes or be *disqualified* from the event. Offenses are subject to *Rule 33-7 of The Rules of Golf*.

EQUIPMENT: GOLF BALLS, DRIVER HEADS, CLUBS, GROOVES: The ball the player plays must be named on the current *List of Conforming Golf Balls* issued by the USGA. 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. All clubs must conform to the specifications in *Appendix II of The Rules of Golf*. Visit www.usga.org for lists and specifications of allowable equipment.

EQUIPMENT PERMITTED CONDITIONALLY FOR MEDICAL REASONS: WOSGA adheres to the USGA's *Equipment Permitted for Medical Reasons* procedures (www.usga.org/championships-hub/additional-entry-resources/equipment-permitted-for-medical-reasons.html). The request and associated documentation should be sent by overnight courier to the attention of the Executive Director at WOSGA, 4786 Dressler Road NW, Suite 132, Canton, OH 44718 and postmarked no later than three days after the player's entry form and fee are postmarked. WOSGA must be notified of later diagnosis as soon as possible prior to the event. The Executive Committee determines whether a device could be permitted under *Exception 1 to Rule 14-3*.

FOOTWEAR: It is a condition of the competition that shoes with traditionally designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e. ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal are prohibited. Penalty for breach of this condition is *disqualification*.

GENDER: The WOSGA adheres to the USGA's Gender Policy which can be found at www.usga.org/genderpolicy.html. Gender reassignment documentation must be submitted in triplicate via overnight or first-class mail in an envelope marked "Confidential" and addressed to WOSGA Chief Legal Officer, 887 S High Street, Columbus, OH 43206 and be received by WOSGA Counsel no later than five (5) days after the close of entries for the specific championship.

ONE BALL CONDITION: is not in effect.

PACE OF PLAY: WOSGA *Pace of Play Policy* and *Schedule* are in effect. A player shall be subject to penalty if they are in breach of the WOSGA *Pace of Play Policy* and *Schedule*.

PRACTICE: Prior to and after their round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. *Rule 7-1b* and *Rule 7-2* apply to other practice in stroke play. *Rule 7-1a* applies to practice before the round in match play.

RESPONSIBILITY OF PLAYER: Under *Rule 6-1*, the player is responsible for acquainting themselves with the conditions under which the competition is to be played.

LOCAL RULES

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES: If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect their play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of *Rule 14-3* for which the penalty is *disqualification*. Note that cell phone apps are not recognized as permitted measuring devices.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN: Through the green, a ball that is embedded may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green. See Local Rule in *Appendix I of The Rules of Golf*.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Defined by white lines. *Rule 25-1*.

INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE: Include cables, rods, wires, and wrappings when closely attached to trees, artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.

OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by inside points at ground level, of white stakes and fence points or inside edge of white line. *Rule 27-1b*.

SEAMS OF CUT TURF: Through the green, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under *Rule 25-1*. If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of intended swing, relief is available under *Rule 25-1*. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam. See Local Rule in *Appendix I of The Rules of Golf*.

STONES: Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (*Rule 24-1* applies). See Local Rule in *Appendix I of The Rules of Golf*.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS STAKES AND LINES: When a water hazard or a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or a lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincide with the out of bound line.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH: Are loose impediments (*Rule 23-1* applies), unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.