# Local Rules and Conditions Evacuation Plan Grooves Pace of Play Procedure

For the good of the game®

# 2019 – Champions Run







# Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

# **FOR 2019 USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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 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.

# **LOCAL RULES**

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

**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 and bunkers.

**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.

**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.

# **TERMS OF THE COMPETITION**

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. The result of a match is final when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

# **U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP - LOCAL QUALIFYING**

CHAMPIONS RUN, OMAHA May 9, 2019





# **NOTICE TO PLAYERS**

(This notice supplements the Local Rules and Terms of Competition for USGA Championships)

### **Abnormal Course Conditions:**

Newly Planted Trees that are staked are deemed to be an abnormal course condition even though not so defined by white lines.

Flower and Plant beds are deemed to be ground under repair even though not so defined by white lines.

Flower Beds that are Surrounded by a Cart Path (including everything growing within that area) and the cart path are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

# **Damaged Clubs:**

Replacement of Broken or Significantly Damaged Club - Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect.

# **Distance Measuring Devices:**

The Use of Distance Measuring Devices is Prohibited - Model Local Rule G-5 is in effect.

### **Dropping Zones:**

Hole #2 Yellow Penalty Area - If a ball is in the yellow penalty area on Hole #2, including when it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the penalty area, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke: 1) Take relief under Rule 17.1; or 2) As an extra option, drop the original ball or another ball in the dropping zone marked "DZ" located in the fairway. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

Hole #11 Yellow Penalty Area - If a ball is in the yellow penalty area on Hole #11, including when it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the penalty area, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke: 1) Take relief under Rule 17.1; or 2) As an extra option, drop the original ball or another ball in the dropping zone marked "DZ" located in the fairway. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

Hole #12 Yellow Penalty Area - If a ball is in the yellow penalty area on Hole #12, including when it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the penalty area, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke: 1) Take relief under Rule 17.1; or 2) As an extra option, drop the original ball or another ball in the dropping zone marked "DZ" located on the forward teeing area. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

### **Obstructions:**

Artificially surfaced roads and paths include those surfaced with crushed rock, gravel, asphalt and mulch.

### **Out of Bounds:**

Out of Bounds is defined by the perimeter fence in addition to white stakes.

Out of Bounds is defined by the inside edge of the brick pillars along the left of holes #2 and #3.

Out of Bounds is defined by the curbing of the street in the following areas. A ball is out of bounds when it lies beyond the curbing even though it may lie on another part of the golf course: Hole #2 - Public street behind the putting green; Hole #4 - Public street behind the putting green; Hole #8 - Public street behind the green.

Out of Bounds is defined by the inside edge of Maple Street along the right side of holes #11, #13 & #14 and is defined by the inside edge of the sidewalk behind hole #14.

# Play-off:

In the event of a play-off to determine the final qualifying spot(s) or alternate spots, concerned players shall immediately play-off hole-by-hole until qualifying spots are determined. The play-off will begin Hole #1 unless otherwise notified by the Committee.

# Relief Area:

Ball Played from Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-on-the-Line Relief - Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect.

# Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO):

<u>USGA tents</u> are deemed to be a Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO). Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

# Scoring Area

<u>Scoring Area</u> – A scorecard is deemed to be returned when the player has left the scoring tent.

# Teeing Area:

The USGA Tee-Markers define the teeing ground.

# Pace of Play Committee:

Justin Ahrens, Craig Ames and Ben Vigil.

# **Championship Rules Committee:**

Justin Ahrens, Craig Ames, Roy Anderson, Gary Austin, Mike Bryson, Kevin Coughlin, Hap Gay, Terry Hexum, Bill Lamme, Pete Miller, Jeff Porter, Bob Taylor and Ben Vigil.





# **Grooves Condition of Competition**

In Local (first stage) and Sectional (second stage) Qualifying as well as in the Championship proper, the player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf effective from January 1, 2010. **Note:** Ping EYE2 clubs manufactured prior to March 31, 1990 may not be used during Local and Sectional Qualifying as well as the Championship proper. The Condition of Competition is available for review on the entry application and applies to all fairway woods, hybrids, irons and wedges.

The USGA and The R&A have created a reference resource called the Informational Club Database to assist golfers in determining whether their irons, wedges, hybrids and fairway woods comply with the Rules of Golf effective from January 1, 2010 and are permissible for play under the groove condition of competition, which is in effect for all USGA Open Championships.

For information about and to access the database, please use the following link: http://www.usga.org/InfoClubsDB/intro.html

Additionally, for other information regarding the groove condition, please use the following link: http://www.usga.org/grooves/

Finally, for information regarding the conformance status of clubs not listed or for any other questions regarding the condition, please contact the USGA Research and Test Center at (908) 234-2300.

Player Club Testing is available for the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Senior Open and U.S. Senior Women's Open Championships. Please use the following link for more information: http://www.usga.org/grooves/

The USGA strongly suggests that all players verify the conformance of their clubs well in advance of their scheduled qualifying competition. It is the player's responsibility, not the USGA's responsibility to ensure that his clubs conform.

Waiting until the day of the competition is the fault of the player. The Committee is under no obligation to test the club the competitor may play. However, if it is later determined that the club is non-conforming, including after the competition has closed, the player will be disqualified.

# UNDERSTANDING THE GROOVE AND PUNCH MARK CONDITION OF COMPETITION

# WHAT'S THE CONDITION?

A condition of competition may be in effect for your competition requiring that your clubs conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from Jan. 1, 2010 (see Decision 4-1/1 in the Decisions on the Rules of Golf and Appendix II, 5c(i) of the Rules of Golf).

# WHICH CLUBS DO I NEED TO CHECK?



# IS THE CONDITION IN EFFECT FOR MY COMPETITION?

It's in effect for all USGA championships, including qualifying rounds. For other competitions:



Look at the entry form.



Ask the **committee in charge** of the competition.



Look at the **posted** conditions for your specific competition.

# **RULES SUMMARY**

# WHAT CHANGED?

In addition to the principal requirements regarding width, depth, spacing, symmetry and consistency, among other things, the following new requirements became effective Jan. 1, 2010:

- A maximum groove volume for the clubface which applies to all clubs as previously noted, regardless of loft (measured as the area of a groove's cross-section divided by pitch).
- A limitation on how sharp the grooves' edges can be, which applies to all clubs as previously noted with lofts of 25° or more (effective minimum edge radius).
- A plain groove shape requirement.



# HOW CAN I TELL IF MY CLUBS CONFORM?



Check the Informational Club Database: usga.org/InfoClubsDB/intro.html



Call the USGA Test Center at 908-234-2300.



If after checking the database and calling the Test Center you are still unable to determine the conformance status of your clubs, send your clubs to the USGA for testing:

usga.org/equipment/testing/InviteForOpenClubTesting/

VISIT OUR GROOVE RESOURCE CENTER FOR MORE INFORMATION:

usga.org/grooves/



# 2019 U.S. Open Championship - Local Qualifying Pace of Play Policy





### **SUMMARY**

The Pace of Play Committee will designate four (4) holes on the course as Pace of Play checkpoint holes. A Checkpoint Official will be stationed at each checkpoint hole to monitor and indicate (if needed) a group's position on the course. When a group is *out of position* at any checkpoint (including the 4<sup>th</sup> checkpoint), the players in the group are liable to penalty under these guidelines and will be notified by the Checkpoint Official. When a group has been notified of a missed checkpoint, the group is expected to regain its position by the next checkpoint. If the group reaches **ANY** subsequent checkpoint *out of position*, each player is liable to incur the applicable penalty (see schedule of penalties below).

### **MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TIME**

**Maximum allowable time** is the **MAXIMUM** time deemed necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its stipulated round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format on the chart attached to this document.

- A group's maximum allowable time begins at its assigned starting time, or if the starting time is delayed, at the adjusted starting time.
- Checkpoint hole completion times are determined after all players in the group have holed out and the flagstick has been replaced in the hole.
- Time associated with playing the game, e.g., course difficulty and walking times between holes, is included in all *maximum allowable times*.

### **OUT OF POSITION - STROKE PLAY**

# A group is out of position when it:

• Takes more than the *maximum allowable time* to finish a checkpoint hole <u>and</u> completes play of a checkpoint hole more than 14 minutes after the group ahead of them.\*

\*The first group(s) of each wave is measured only against maximum allowable time until they are within 14 minutes of the group ahead of them.

# **GROUP OUT OF POSITION - MONITORED BY A RULES ROVER**

- Any group that is *out of position* may be monitored by a Rules Rover. A Rules Rover, when monitoring a group, may individually time strokes made by a player(s). A time exceeding 40 seconds to play a stroke may be considered excessive if the group becomes liable to penalty.
- A player(s) concerned about non-responsive (slow) fellow-competitor(s) in the group should request a Rules Rover to monitor the group in case it may become or is liable to penalty.
- Information gathered at any time by a Rules Rover or a member of the Rules Committee may be used by the Pace of Play Committee during the review process to determine whether a group or player(s) is in breach of these guidelines.

# **PENALTIES**

Players in a group that have missed one or more checkpoints are liable to penalty according to the following schedule of penalties:

- 1st missed checkpoint warning\*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> missed checkpoint liable to a penalty of one stroke
- 3<sup>rd</sup> missed checkpoint liable to an additional penalty of two strokes
- 4<sup>th</sup> missed checkpoint liable to disqualification

\*If a group successfully clears each of their first 3 checkpoints, but is out of position (misses) at the 4<sup>th</sup> checkpoint, each player in the group is liable to a penalty of one stroke.

# FINAL DETERMINATION REGARDING BREACH/REVIEW PROCESS

Before returning scorecards, any group that is liable to penalty should consult with the Pace of Play Committee to have a final determination made regarding their breach (i.e. lodge an appeal).

A player(s) who was *out of position* during the round that elects not to consult with the Pace of Play Committee to determine whether they were in breach of these guidelines prior to returning their scorecard is deemed to be in breach of these guidelines and incurs the penalty or penalties according to the above schedule of penalties.

The Pace of Play Committee will determine that a group who has been found to be **out of position** is not in breach of these guidelines only if:

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

Any incurred penalties are to be applied to the player's score on the checkpoint hole where the breach(es) occurred.





# **PACE OF PLAY CHART**

# 2019 U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP - LOCAL QUALIFYING

# **CHAMPIONS RUN**

# THREE (3) PLAYERS

TIME SCHEDULE IN HOURS AND MINUTES										
Hole #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Par	4	5	3	4	4	5	4	3	4	
Time Allotted	0:20	0:19	0:12	0:13	0:16	0:20	0:15	0:11	0:14	
Total Time	0:20	0:39	0:51	1:04	1:20	1:40	1:55	2:06	2:20	

# **TURN TIME**

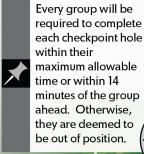
0:05

TIME SCHEDULE IN HOURS AND MINUTES										
Hole #	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Par	5	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	4	
Time Allotted	0:20	0:16	0:11	0:15	0:15	0:17	0:13	0:19	0:18	
Total Time	2:45	3:01	3:12	3:27	3:42	3:59	4:12	4:31	4:49	

# **Group Pace of** Play Guidelines

All players are expected to have an understanding of these guidelines. The Pace of Play Committee will designate four holes on the course as checkpoint holes. Take a closer look at

some of the highlights of these guidelines.





If a group successfully clears each of their first 3 checkpoints, but is out of position at the 4th checkpoint, each player in the group is liable to a penalty.





Posted signs and atomic clocks are on all checkpoint holes.









Maximum allowable time is the MAXIMUM time deemed necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its stipulated round. This is expressed in a per hole and aggregate time format on the player's score card.



A time exceeding 40 seconds to play a stroke may be considered excessive if the group becomes liable to penalty.



A Rules Rover may monitor a group that is out of position.

# **OTHER TIPS**



Repair ball marks on the putting green on the way to marking your ball.



If a fellowcompetitor is not ready to play when it is their turn, someone else should play.



A player may inquire

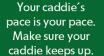


Keep up with the group ahead of you don't worry about the group behind.



Determine yardage

Survey your putt from the opposite side of the hole when your fellow-competitor is playing.



about the group's status at any time.

Walk quickly

to your ball.



# **USGA Group Pace of Play Guidelines**

# Summary

All players are expected to have an understanding of these guidelines prior to playing in the championship. The following is a brief summary of said guidelines.

The Pace of Play Committee will designate four (4) holes on the course as checkpoint holes. A
Checkpoint Official will be stationed at each checkpoint hole to monitor and indicate (if needed) a
group's position on the course.

Each group will be given a maximum allowable time in which to play 4 or 5 holes within each of the four (4) checkpoints. Times will be reflected on the player(s) scorecards. Each group will be required to complete each checkpoint hole within their maximum allowable time or within 14 minutes of the group ahead. Always look ahead – not behind.

- When a group is **out of position** at any checkpoint **(including the 4<sup>th</sup> checkpoint)**, the players in the group are liable to penalty under the guidelines and will be notified by a Checkpoint Official.
- If a group successfully clears each of their first 3 checkpoints, but is **out of position** (misses) at the 4<sup>th</sup> checkpoint, each player in the group is liable to a penalty of one stroke.
- When a group has been notified of a missed checkpoint, the group is expected to regain its position by the next checkpoint. If the group reaches ANY subsequent checkpoint out of position, each player in the group is liable to incur the applicable penalty (see schedule of penalties in guidelines).
- In four-ball stroke play, when a player is determined to be the sole cause of a group's delay and incurs a penalty under these guidelines, the player's partner also incurs the same penalty.
- Any group that is out of position may be monitored by a Rules Rover. A Rules Rover, when
  monitoring a group, may individually time strokes made by a player(s) and record actions made by a
  player(s) between strokes. A time exceeding 40 seconds to play a stroke may be considered
  excessive if the group becomes liable to penalty.
- A player concerned about a non-responsive (slow) fellow-competitor(s) in the group should request a Rules Rover to monitor the group in case the group is or becomes liable to penalty under these guidelines.
- A player may inquire about the group's status at any time.
- A Rules Rover will not advise a group that it has regained its position on the course, i.e. the players will not be told that they are no longer being monitored.
- If a group misses two or more checkpoints, the player(s) may request a review before signing and returning their scorecard(s).
- Review and application of the penalty will only occur in the scoring area, not during the stipulated round. Discussion of the situation with the Checkpoint Official on course will only cause further delay of the group (see review process in guidelines).
- Posted signs and atomic clocks will be located on all checkpoint holes.