



2025 West Virginia State High School Golf Championship October 14th & 15th @ Speidel Golf Club

Local Rules and Conditions of Competition

The Rules of the USGA (Effective January 2019) and conditions govern play. See applicable competition's "Notice to competitors" for additional local rules. **DISREGARD ALL LOCAL RULES ON CLUB SCORECARDS.** Appendix I refers to the Appendix of Local Rules in the current Rules of Golf.

Local Rules

Appendix I Part A

Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2) – Defined by the inside points at ground level, of white stakes, lines, or fence posts.

Penalty Areas (Rule 17) – **Penalty areas** are defined by yellow or red stakes or lines. When both stakes and lines are present, the stakes identify the penalty area, and the lines define the margin of the penalty area. Stakes or lines which define the margin of a penalty area are in the penalty area. Penalty area stakes are moveable obstructions.

Practice (Section 8 Model Local Rule I-2) No practice will be allowed on or near the putting green of the hole last played.

Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16) – Covers free relief from interference by animal holes, ground under repair, immovable obstructions, or temporary water. Defined by enclosed white lines. French drains (which are exposed trenches filled with rocks or stones) are ground under repair. Flowerbeds are abnormal course conditions from which play is prohibited. **Skunk Damage is considered ground under repair when it interferes with the lie of the golf ball or the intended area of a player's swing.**

Immovable Obstruction (Rule 16-1)

- A. All service roads and cart paths, unless otherwise noted by the Committee.
- B. White lined areas tied into artificially surfaced roads, paths or obstruction and are not ground under repair.

Integral Parts of the Course – Include cables, rods, wires, or wrapping when closely attached to trees, artificial wall and pilings when located in penalty areas, unless otherwise noted by the Committee. **No Free Relief**

Doubt as to Procedure (Rule 20.1) In stroke play, players must not unreasonably delay play when seeking help. If a referee is not immediately available, the player may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. The player must report the facts to the committee in a timely manner and declare to their marker which ball they want to score with.

Maximum Score – Maximum score of **10** on **any** hole will be utilized.

Conditions of Competition

Tee Markers: Men shall play from the BLUE Markers and Ladies from the WHITE Markers.

Time of Starting (Rule 5.3): Modified to two-stroke penalty if player arrives within five (5) minutes after his starting time.

Discontinuance of Play: One long blast of horn (players are not allowed to finish hole). All practice areas shall be closed during suspension of dangerous situation until the Committee declares them open. A player using such a practice area will be subject to penalty of disqualification. **Resume Play:** Two short blasts of horn.

Transportation: Players **MUST NOT** ride in any form of transportation during the stipulated round unless authorized by the committee.

Close of Competition: The competition shall be deemed to have closed when all scores have been approved and posted on the official online scoreboard.

Player Conduct: Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include but not be limited to: club throwing, willful acts which damage property or equipment on the course, use of abusive language, profanity, obscenities, and other unsportsmanlike conduct as determined by the Golf Rules Committee. This includes verbal abuse of fellow competitors, coaches, spectators, officials, and staff members of Oglebay. Penalties imposed will be disqualification. **Zero Tolerance**

Use of Tobacco Products: Smoking or the use of tobacco products by coaches or players on the course or near the clubhouse is not permitted. *Violation will result in disqualification.*

Spectators: Spectators are **NOT PERMITTED** to converse with participants. It will be the responsibility of each competitor to caution **ANY** spectator from talking to or interfering with players in their group. Failure to do so may result in a penalty of disqualification of the players involved.

The head coach and one assistant coach may coach the entire course until the player walks onto the putting green.

Cell Phones & Smart Watches: Use of Cell Phones and Smart watches (phone ringing is considered usage) is prohibited. The penalty for the first offense is two shots. The penalty for the second offense is disqualification. No penalty if using to score or check yardage.

PACE OF PLAY – Groups are expected to stay in position in relation to the group in front of them. A group is out of position when there is an open hole in front of them. Penalties can be imposed if a group cannot maintain its position on the golf course. Groups will be warned when they are out of position. *Penalty for after warning is 2 Strokes and This Penalty Could be Assigned only to Individual players.*

TEAM SCORING – Each Day, teams will count the three best scores of the four players

Deciding Ties: If there is a team tie for first or second place (in each class), the use of the fourth person's score will decide a tie. Ties for Medalist will be decided by a separate sudden death playoff.

ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF BALL ON PUTTING GREEN – There is no penalty if the player's ball is accidentally moved by the player or his equipment *on the putting green only*. The ball must be replaced.

BATHROOM EMERGENCY – In the case of a bathroom emergency, Parents/Coaches may transport players to the nearest facility in a timely manner.

GOLF RULES COMMITTEE: Mike Rogers, Chris Slack, Danny Ackerman **RULES OFFICIALS:**



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