

SENIOR TOUR - MGA RULES OF PLAY AND INFORMATION

Minnesota Golf Association Senior Tour Play is governed by the USGA Rules of Golf and by the following Local Rules and Definitions. Additional Local Rules for each club will be distributed at each event.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Stroke Play-Two Strokes.

TIME OF STARTING - In an Individual event, the player shall start at the time and hole laid down by the Committee. If the player arrives at the starting point, ready to play before his group has completed their first hole, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. If the player arrives after the first hole is completed, he is Disqualified. He may continue to play but cannot turn in a score for the event.

OUT OF BOUNDS - Defined by nearest inside points of stakes, flags, fence posts, masonry walls at ground level. When OB is defined by a white line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds. Rule 27-1.

WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS - Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes, flags or yellow lines. Lateral water hazards are defined by red stakes, flags or red lines. Rule 26-1.

- When stakes, flags and lines are used to define water and lateral water hazards, stakes and flags identify hazards, and lines define margins.
- When a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity.
- When water hazards and lateral water hazards are bounded by out of bounds, the hazard margin extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR - Defined by white lines. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Flower beds are mandatory relief. Rule 25-1.

YARDAGE DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

The Local Rule is as follows:

“For play in all Minnesota Golf Association events, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind, speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is two strokes for the first offense and disqualification for the subsequent offense.”

PACE OF PLAY - Please make every effort to keep a good pace of play. Work with your fellow players and keep up with the group ahead of you at all times. If you fall back at all, close the gap. The host site staff and MGA staff will do their best to range and fore-caddie, but ultimately it is up to you the players to keep up pace. Talk to each other and be aware of the time. If you are having a slow hole take extra steps to make up the time.

*Please note, each Site Captain has the authority to:

- ask a group that has fallen behind to pick up their balls, move to the next hole and record zero points on their scorecards for the skipped/unfinished hole.
- close competition and determine results and prizes when adequate time has been allowed to turn in scorecards. Any cards turned in after close of competition will be considered a disqualification, but score will still be posted to GHIN.

OBSTRUCTIONS - An obstruction is anything artificial, including the artificial surfaces of roads & paths and white lined areas tying into them, except:

- A. Objects defining out of bounds, such as a wall, fences, stakes & railings;
- B. Any part of an immovable artificial object which is out of bounds;
- C. Any construction declared by the Committee to be an integral part of the course. See Rule 24.

NO PRACTICING ON THE COURSE PRIOR TO ROUND -

Players are not to practice on the course before the start on the day of a Senior Tour event. Players may only practice in designated practice areas.

•PRACTICE - RULE 7-1. Before or Between Rounds

7-1b. Stroke Play: Before a round or play-off on any day of a stroke-play competition, a competitor must not practice on the competition course or test the surface of any putting green on the course by rolling a ball or roughening or scraping the surface.

When two or more rounds of a stroke-play competition are to be played over consecutive days, a competitor must not practice between those rounds on any competition course remaining to be played, or test the surface of any putting green on such course by rolling a ball or roughening or scraping the surface.

Exception: Practice putting or chipping on or near the first teeing ground or any practice area before starting a round or play-off is permitted.

•PENALTY FOR BREACH OF RULE 7-1b: Disqualification.

NO PRACTICE PUTTING RULE - Between the play of two holes, a player shall not play any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played. This does not preclude a player from finishing out a hole in a Stableford event where his score may not be used in a team competition. Penalty - Two Strokes at next hole.

DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE - Applies to stroke play. A competitor may play a second ball if the competitor is doubtful of his rights or procedure. Before taking further action, the competitor must announce to his marker or fellow-competitor his decision to proceed under this Rule and which ball he wishes to count if the Rules permit. The player shall report the facts to the Committee before returning his score card even if he scores the same with both balls; if he fails to do so, he shall be Disqualified.

OVERHEAD POWER LINES - If a ball strikes an overhead power line or cable, the player must disregard that stroke, abandon the ball and play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played in accordance with Rule 20-5.

EMBEDDED BALL - Anywhere “through the green,” a ball embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, except in loose sand, may be lifted without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. Appendix I - Local Rules.

REPORTING RESULTS - Upon completion of play, players should check their hole-by-hole scores carefully. Both the player and the marker must sign the card and return it to the Committee in a prompt manner. All scores must be totaled.

PLAYING FROM WRONG TEEING GROUND - If a competitor, when starting a hole, plays a ball from outside the teeing ground or wrong teeing ground, he incurs a penalty of two strokes and must then play a ball from within the teeing ground.