



LOCAL RULES and CONDITIONS of COMPETITIONS for 2008 NCGA QUALIFIERS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Northern California Golf Association tournament play is governed by the 2008-2009 USGA Rules of Golf and its Decisions and, where applicable, the following Local Rules and Conditions, along with additional Local Rules as may be supplied. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the current edition of the Rules of Golf. Unless otherwise specified, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is two strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in match play.

DRESS CODE. Players and Caddies must be properly attired both on the golf course and the premises of the club. Blue jeans, designer jeans, T-shirts and tank tops are prohibited. Golf shirts must be worn and shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh (no jean shorts). **DRESS CODE IS THE SAME FOR MEN AND WOMEN.** This dress code will be used at all NCGA tournaments in conjunction with any additional dress code restrictions of the particular golf course you are assigned. **A player or caddie violating this dress code will not be permitted to start the competition. A violation of the dress code by either the player or his caddie during the stipulated round must be rectified without undue delay or the player will not be allowed to continue play or the caddie will not be allowed to perform the acts of a caddie.**

SERIOUS BREACH OF ETIQUETTE. The use of abusive language, throwing of clubs or other disruptive behavior, contrary to the good conduct of the tournament, will not be tolerated.
PENALTY: DISQUALIFICATION Rule 33-7.

FOR ALL NET COMPETITIONS: The NCGA reserves the right to adjust a player's handicap or decline his entry based upon previous performances in NCGA events.

CELLULAR PHONES. The use of cellular phones or any similar electronic device by a player or his caddie during a stipulated round is prohibited. Failure to observe this Condition of the Competition may result in disciplinary action including withdrawing a player's playing privileges for the rest of the championship or for the event the following year.

GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS AND HAND HELD RANGE FINDERS. Distance-Measuring Devices: In NCGA qualifiers and championships, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However, if, during a stipulated round, a player uses a device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used.

FOR ALL SCRATCH COMPETITIONS: LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS. Note under Rule 5-1 and Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I shall be in effect. **LIMITATION ON GOLF BALLS ("ONE-BALL RULE")** -- Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I shall be in effect. The ball must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA and must be of one brand and type as detailed by a single entry on that list. **PENALTY: See Page 107 of the Rules of Golf Book.**

OFFICIAL TIME/TIME OF STARTING. The clock at the tee where the player begins his stipulated round is the official time of starting. Dec. 6-3a/2.5. Starters will not page players in advance of their starting time. The note under Rule 6-3 and Optional Condition as set forth in Appendix I shall be in effect. Players should arrive at their assigned tee 10 minutes prior to their starting time.

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

SODDED AREAS. If a ball lies in or touches a sod seam, the player may, without penalty, lift the ball and clean it. The player shall drop the ball as near as possible to where it originally lay, which is not nearer the hole, avoids interference by the condition and is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS. White lined areas tying into artificially surfaced roads and paths are part of the obstruction.

DISQUALIFICATION. In an individual competition when a player breaches a Rule where the penalty is disqualification, the player must leave the course immediately. In net team events, the team will be allowed to play at the end of the field on the second day unless the disqualification was for a serious breach of etiquette.

EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN. Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I shall be in effect.

PERMANENT ELEVATED POWER LINES AND CABLES. If a ball strikes a permanent elevated power line or cable on the course, the stroke shall be cancelled and replayed, without penalty (See Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY. A discontinuance of play by the Committee will be signaled as follows:

Non-dangerous condition: Three consecutive air horn notes, repeated. Rule 6-8b.

Dangerous condition: One prolonged air horn note, repeated. Players shall discontinue play immediately and shall not resume play until the Committee orders a resumption of play. All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a dangerous condition until the Committee declares them open.

NOTE: A player has the right to stop play because of the threat of lightning, even if play has not been suspended by the Committee. Rule 6-8a.

Resumption of play: Two consecutive air horn notes, repeated.

NO SHOWS. A player who does not show up and does not notify the NCGA shall receive a one-year suspension from all NCGA events for the calendar year following the infraction. This includes team/club events. NO SHOWS also include a player who starts and withdraws prior to the close of the competition and has not turned in his scorecard personally to a tournament official. Failure to comply will result in the same one-year suspension.

WITHDRAWALS. Players who have entered an NCGA event and wish to **withdraw for any reason MUST notify the NCGA Rules and Competitions Department at (831) 625-4653.** Failure to notify the NCGA will cause the player to be listed as a **NO SHOW** resulting in a **ONE-YEAR SUSPENSION FROM ALL NCGA EVENTS.** A player who only contacts the course and NOT the NCGA will incur the suspension.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION. A competition is deemed to have closed when the result has been officially announced or in stroke play qualifying followed by match play when the player has teed off in his first match. Rule 34-1b.

NCGA CART POLICY

PLAYER CARTS AND SPECTATOR CARTS. During NCGA Championships, including all qualifying rounds, a maximum of two carts is allowed per group. In those events in which the player is prohibited from riding, the player's caddie is also prohibited from riding, but the player may use a push/pull cart or a battery operated remote control cart to transport his clubs if permitted by the host course.

Spectator carts are not allowed. A spectator cart is defined as a cart which is **not** used to transport a player's clubs, and the person(s) in the cart is (are) not a player or a player's caddie.

A player cart may be used by the player and/or his caddie to transport a player's clubs. A player may walk and his caddie may drive. A caddie may carry a player's bag and the player may ride. A non-player who drives the cart used to transport the player's clubs is a caddie. Decision 6-4/2.5.

Only the player or his caddie may ride in the cart. If a person other than the player or his caddie moves the cart in a "casual act" the Rules of Golf do not consider this individual to be a caddie or the player to have two caddies. There is no breach of Rule 6-4.

NCGA PACE OF PLAY POLICY

A player shall be subject to penalty if he unduly delays play. Rule 6-7. NOTES 1 and 2 under Rule 6-7 are in effect.

Rule 6-7 states, in part: "The player shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Committee." And thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play. In order to prevent any such penalty we suggest that you review carefully the guidelines for your specific championship or qualifier.

2008 NCGA PACE OF PLAY POLICY

Scorecards will have the expected time your group is to complete each hole. If you fall behind, you are expected to play efficient golf and get back into position. This might mean playing ready golf or continuous putting, which are both allowed in stroke play. If available, atomic clocks will be stationed on holes #5, 9, 14, and 18 giving you the opportunity to check on your pace throughout the course.

CHECKPOINTS: 9th and 18th Greens

There will be an Official present on your 9th and 18th holes to record your pace. The hole is considered complete when the flagstick is returned to the hole. You will be shown a **GREEN** card if your group is within your allotted time; a **YELLOW** card if you are behind your allotted time but within 15 minutes of the preceding group; or a **RED** card if you are **OUT OF POSITION** (behind your allotted time and more than 15 minutes behind the preceding group). **If you are OUT OF POSITION after finishing the 9th or 18th hole, everyone in the group will be assessed a potential pace of play penalty.** Pace of play penalties are to be added to the score on the 9th or 18th hole. No warnings are issued with this policy (**RED card = potential penalty**).

OUT OF POSITION:

First Group Only: If the lead group is behind its expected time after completing one checkpoint (9th or 18th hole), players will be shown a RED card and each player in the group shall add a potential ONE-STROKE PENALTY to his score for that hole. If they also pass the second checkpoint behind their expected time, another RED card will be shown and each player shall add an additional potential TWO-STROKE PENALTY to his score for that hole. A group may appeal the penalty(s) in the scoring area before surrendering their scorecards.

Subsequent Groups: If any subsequent group passes one checkpoint (9th or 18th hole) behind its expected time AND more than 15 minutes behind the preceding group, players will be shown a RED card and each player in the group shall add a potential ONE-STROKE PENALTY to his score for that hole. If they pass the second checkpoint behind their expected time AND more than 15 minutes behind the preceding group, another RED card will be shown and each player shall add an additional potential TWO-STROKE PENALTY to his score for that hole. A group may appeal the penalty(s) in the scoring area before surrendering their scorecards.

A player concerned about a slow player(s) in his group should first speak with the player(s) and encourage them to play more efficiently. Then, the concerned player may, before or after penalties are assessed, ask to have the group monitored. The individual player does not have to be identified; the request just needs to be made. At some point during the stipulated round, the group will be monitored. If a player is identified as holding up the pace of the group, penalties may be applied to that player and rescinded from the others.

APPEAL PROCESS

Pace of Play penalties may be appealed to the Committee and **must be made before scorecards are signed and returned.** In order for an appeal to be considered, there must have been an action by the Committee, a circumstance beyond the players' control, or some similar occurrence that contributed to the delay, such as an action by an individual member of the group. If a group receives a penalty for exceeding the pace of play for each nine, both penalties may be appealed, however, each appeal must be made and handled separately. Each appeal may result in a one step reduction of a penalty (i.e., three strokes to one stroke then one stroke to no penalty, but not three strokes to no penalty).