



Future Champions Golf Tour Local Rules and Conditions of Competition for the 2012 Season

The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play. See applicable Tournament Notice to Competitors, and Tournament Information for additional Local Rules.

LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules, together with any other additions or amendments as published, will apply in accordance with Rule 33-8:

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27)

Beyond the inside points of any wall, fence (or the extension of such wall or fence points or points of white stakes and/or white lines defining the boundary of the course.

A ball which crosses a public pathway/roadway area defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that area is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

2. Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards) (Rule 26)

Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes or yellow lines. Lateral water hazards are defined by red stakes or red lines. Where both stakes and lines are used to indicate water hazards, the stakes identify the hazard and the lines define the hazard margin.

3. Ground under Repair (Rule 25-1)

- a) French drains (trenches filled with stones or the like)
- b) Fire ants beds and mounds
- c) Deeply rutted wheel marks.
- d) Seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) through the green that interferes with the lie of the ball or the area of intended swing only. All seams within the cut turf are considered the same seam.
- e) Washaways in bunkers and at the margins of bunkers.
- f) Any area of damaged ground (e.g. caused by crowd or vehicle movement) that is declared by a Rules official to be abnormal.

4. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24-2)

- a) The artificial surfaces and sides of roads and paths (includes gravel paths).
- b) White-lined areas adjoining an immovable obstruction are part of that obstruction and not GUR.
- c) Landscaped garden areas completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are part of that obstruction.
- d) Secured mats and plastic cable ramps covering cables are immovable obstructions.

5. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green (e.g. Sprinkler Heads)

Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 24-2. In addition, if a ball lies off the putting green but not in a hazard and an immovable obstruction is on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and is within two club-lengths of the ball and intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief according to Appendix 1 Part B-6

Relief under this Local Rule is also available if the player's ball lies on the putting green and an immovable obstruction within two club-lengths of the putting green intervenes on his line of putt, the player may take relief according to Appendix 1 Part B-6

6. Integral Parts of the Course

- a) All roads and paths which are not artificially surfaced.
- b) Wood-chipped areas are integral parts of the course unless the provisions of another local rule apply (individual woodchips are loose impediments).
- c) Wires, cables, metal, or wrapping or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

7. Staked Trees and Shrubs

If a tree or shrub, that is either supported by stakes and/or wire or ropes and/or propped up by supports and such supports interfere with the player's stance or the area of their intended swing, the ball may be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 24-2b (Immovable Obstruction).

8. Turf Plugs on Putting Green

On any putting green, turf plugs of any size have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16-1c.

9. Stones in Bunkers

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

10. Embedded Ball through the Green

Through the green, a ball that is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible in accordance with the Local Rule (Appendix 1 Part B 4)

11. Permanent Elevated Cables

If a ball strikes an elevated power line or cable, the stroke must be cancelled and replayed without penalty (see Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted. (Appendix 1 Part B 7)

12. Measuring Devices *(Note to Rule 14-3 Appendix 1; part B; section 9))*

In this competition a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring 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 function is actually used.

13. Rules Committee

The rules committee for the competition will be composed of FCGT Rules Officials.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULES:

MATCH PLAY – LOSS OF HOLE; STROKE PLAY – TWO STROKES

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

The following Conditions, together with any additions or amendments as published by the United States Golf Association will apply under Rule 33-1 to all Competitions and Matches run by the Future Champions Golf Tour.

1. Driving Clubs (Note to Rule 4-1a)

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.

PENALTY FOR CARRYING, BUT NOT MAKING A STROKE WITH A CLUB OR CLUBS IN BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: REFER TO PENALTY STATEMENT FOR RULE 4-1.

PENALTY FOR MAKING A STROKE WITH A CLUB OR CLUBS IN BREACH OF THIS CONDITION: DISQUALIFICATION.

2. The Ball (Note to Rule 5-1)

The ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA. An updated List of Conforming Golf Balls is available on the USGA website. Penalty for breach of this condition is disqualification.

3. Caddies/Golf Cars/Push Carts

Except when permitted by the FCGT, players are prohibited from using caddies or golf cars without prior medical approval. Push carts (non-motorized) may be allowed with prior approval from the FCGT Tournament Director for the event and as permitted by the host facility. Players are responsible for carrying their own bag during the competitive round.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

*In **Match Play**- At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which the breach occurred, maximum deduction per round 2 holes.*

*In **Stroke Play**, penalty for breach of this rule is two strokes per hole, maximum of four strokes per round.*

The use of any unauthorized caddie, golf car or push cart shall be discontinued immediately upon discovering that a breach has occurred. Otherwise, the player shall be disqualified.

4. Practice between holes in Stroke Play (Note 2 to Rule 7)

Between the play of two holes, a player must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played and must not test the surface of the putting green of the hole last played by rolling a ball.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: Two Strokes at the next Hole. In the case of a breach at the last hole of the stipulated round, the player incurs the penalty at that hole.

5. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation

(Note to Rule 6-8b)

When play is suspended by the Committee for **A DANGEROUS SITUATION**, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

The following signals for suspending play are used:

Discontinue Play Immediately: one prolonged note of siren

Discontinue Play: three consecutive short notes of siren, repeated

Resume Play: two short notes of siren, repeated

6. Use of mobile phone

Use of a mobile phone by a player or caddie on the golf course is not recommended. However, in case of emergency or danger (for medical reasons etc.) or to call the tournament office, a mobile phone may be used. In any case a mobile phone should be switched off in order to avoid distracting the other players. The following are infractions of golf rule that apply to the use of a mobile phone

1. Use of a mobile phone to ask for or give advice in breach of Rule 8-1: disqualification (R14-3)
2. Use of a mobile phone as authorized by the rules but distracting other players:
 - a) First offense: the player is guilty of a breach of etiquette and should switch off his mobile phone immediately.
 - b) Subsequent offense: the player is guilty of a serious breach of etiquette and the committee may impose a penalty of disqualification under rule 33-7.

7. Returning of Score Card

At the completion of the round, each player is responsible for returning his official scorecard signed and attested to the FCGT Official assigned to the Scoring Table. A player's score card is deemed officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the designated recording area.

8. How to Decide Ties

- a) Stroke Play - In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole "sudden-death" play-off to decide the winner. Holes will be determined by the Rules Committee. For all other positions matching of cards will be applied by comparing the scores at individual holes starting at the handicap 1 through 18, the winner will be the first player to win a hole.
- b) Match Play – In the event of a tied match, the stipulated round is extended by as many holes as required for a match to be won.

9. Results of the Competition – Competition Closed

- a) Match Play – The result of the match is deemed officially announced when it has been officially recorded at the scoreboard.
- b) Stroke Play – The competition is officially closed when all scores have been posted on the scoreboard. In the event of bad weather or because of unforeseen circumstances the competition needs to be shortened, results will be deemed official at the conclusion of 18 holes.

Future Champions Golf Tour
January 2012