

# LOCAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION FOR 2017 GAP TOURNAMENTS

*The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. See applicable Championship or qualifying round Notice to Competitors/Players and Entry Application for additional Local Rules and Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Appendix I may be found in the Rules of Golf, effective 2016.*

**Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is:**  
Match Play-Loss of hole; Stroke Play-Two strokes.

## LOCAL RULES

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**OUT OF BOUNDS** - Defined by inside points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. Rule 27-1b

**WATER AND LATERAL WATER HAZARD STAKES AND LINES**  
- When a water hazard or a lateral water hazard is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is 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. Rule 25-1.

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 obstruction, such an area is part of the obstruction.

**ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN**  
- When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, or any of their caddies or equipment. (NOTE: Full text of Local Rule available at [www.usga.org/2017LocalRule](http://www.usga.org/2017LocalRule)).

**SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS)** - The Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

## CONDITIONS

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**LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS** - Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** - Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**PACE OF PLAY** - See separate memorandum to players for pace of play guidelines, when applicable.

**DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY** - The Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to cease doing so; failure to comply may result in revocation of entry.

**NOTE:** A suspension for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes, repeated. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes, repeated.

**WHITE LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS** - Have the same status as roads and paths, that of obstructions.

**TURF PLUGS ON THE PUTTING GREEN** - May be repaired even if they are not 4¼ inches.

**WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH** - Are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.

**EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN** - Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE** - Include cables, rods, wires or wrappings when closely attached to trees; artificial walls and pilings when located in hazards, unless otherwise provided for in the *Notice to Players*.

**TEMPORARY POWER LINES AND CABLES** - Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** - Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect.

**DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES** - For play in all GAP events/tournaments a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. 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

**PRACTICE** - Prior to and after his round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 7-1b applies to other practice in stroke play, and Rule 7-1a covers practice before the round in match play.

**TRANSPORTATION** - In the BMW Philadelphia Amateur Championship, Open Championship, Joseph H. Patterson Cup and the following Junior events - Christman Cup; Junior Boys' Championship; Jr.-Jr. Boys' Championship; Francis X. Hussey Memorial; Jock MacKenzie Memorial - players shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. Exception: Carts are permissible in all other tournaments and qualifiers.

**CLOSE OF COMPETITION** - The competition is deemed to have closed 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 considered to be "officially announced" when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.