



**ST. LOUIS WOMEN'S DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION
LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION HARD CARD
FOR 2022 COMPETITIONS**



The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and the R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all STLWDGA competitions. See applicable Notice to Players documents plus any Entry Application and Correspondence to Players for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition Hard Card. Complete text of the Rules of Golf and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019, plus the subsequent Clarifications issued by the USGA. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

LOCAL RULES: The following Local Rules are adopted. **Players are advised to ignore any Local Rules listed on host course scorecards.**

- **Local Rule D-7:** The **Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b** applies, except that when a ball played from the putting green accidentally hits the player, the club used by the player to make the stroke or an animal that is defined as a loose impediment (worms, insects and similar animals that can be removed easily), the stroke counts, and the ball must be played as it lies.
- **Local Rule E-4:** for "*Relief from Aeration Holes.*" For a ball in the General Area (lie of ball only) see **Rule 16.1b**. For Putting Green (no line of play relief), see **Rule 16.1d**.
- **Local Rule E-5:** for "*Alternative to Stroke & Distance for ball that may be lost or out-of-bounds.*" The Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect on holes designated as a Par 4 or Par 5. See Model Local Rule E-5.
- **Local Rule E-11:** for "*Ball Deflected by Power Line*" (including towers, support wires or poles). The player **MUST** play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (See **Rule 14.6**).
- **Local Rule E-12:** for "*Ball Played From Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-On-Line Relief*". There is NO penalty for playing from a Wrong Place if the ball is dropped in the relief area and comes to rest within one club-length of where it first touched the ground.
- **Local Rule F-5:** for "*Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green*" on the line of play, if within 2 club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball. Intervention relief may be taken **only if** both the ball and the Immovable Obstruction are part of the General Area cut to fairway height or less or on the putting green.
- **Local Rule F-7:** for "*Relief from Seams of Cut Turf.*" There is NO relief if such seams only interfere with the player's stance.
- **Local Rule F-13:** for "*Animal Hoof Damage.*" Damage that is clearly identifiable as having been caused by animal hoofs is ground under repair, from which relief is allowed under **Rule 16.1**.
- **Local Rule F-17:** for "*All Roads and Paths Treated as Obstructions.*" Even if roads and paths are not artificially surfaced, they are treated as Immovable Obstructions.
- **Local Rule F-23:** for TIOs, "*Temporary Immovable Obstructions.*" The "Either Side" relief option in **F-23e(2)** is in effect. TIOs include greenside fans and starting and scoring tents, but exclude tables, chairs, and ropes/stakes.
- **Local Rule G-7:** for "Prohibiting Use of Certain Types of Shoes." See **Local Rule G-7**.
- **Local Rule G-9:** for "*Replacement of Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged.*" **Exception:** A clubhead or clubface is NOT broken or significantly damaged solely because it is cracked.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

- **Out of Bounds** - Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts, white painted lines, and white painted dots.
- **Penalty Areas** - When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out-of-bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds. Note: Yellow Penalty Areas will be played as Red Penalty Areas during the play of any other hole.
- **Ground Under Repair** - French drains are ground under repair.
- **White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced Roads and Paths** - White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified immovable obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under **Rule 16.1**.
- **Wood Chips and Mulch** - Are loose impediments.
- **Landscaped Areas of Flowers and Plants (Excluding Native Grasses, Extreme rough and Wildflower Areas Not Otherwise Designated) are No Play Zones- Relief is Mandatory:** Those enclosed by an immovable obstruction are part of the immovable obstruction. Others are ground under repair. **Rule 16.1f** applies to abnormal course conditions on the course other than in penalty areas. **Rule 17.1e** applies to penalty areas. Interference also exists when a ball is outside the no play zone, but the no play zone interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing.
- **Integral Objects** - Include cables, rods, wires, and wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers, and bunker liners when in their intended position.
- **Prohibiting Use of Audio and Video Devices** -- **Rule 4.3a(4)** is modified in this way: During a round, phones must be on silent/vibrate mode.
- **Pace of Play** - See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy.
- **Stopping and Resuming Play** - If the Committee declares an immediate suspension of play for a dangerous situation, all players must stop play at once and must not make another stroke until the Committee resumes play. An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged note of airhorn or siren. All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive notes of airhorn or siren. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of airhorn or siren. See **Rules 5.7b and 5.7c**.
- **Practice** - Prior to and after a round in **stroke play**, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. **Rule 5.2b** covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may NOT practice on the competition course before or between rounds except as stated in the previous sentence and except for practice putting or chipping on or near his/her first teeing area. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see **Rule 5.2**.
- **Caddies** - **Rule 10.3a** is modified in this way: A player must not have relatives, Association members or golf professionals as her caddie. **Local Rule H-1.2** is in effect.

ST. LOUIS WOMEN'S DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT:

- **Attire** - Only proper attire will be allowed. Players must abide by the dress code of the host club for each competition, which will be published in advance.
- **Carts** - Carts are required for all tournaments except Three-Day and Invitational Championship.
- **Cart Drivers** - Only players may drive carts. Penalty for breach of this rule is one stroke for each breach.

WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL:

- Each competition is final 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.
- For Match-Play competitions, the result of a match is final when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

Note: STLWDGA does not have an evacuation plan for an immediate suspension of play. Players are responsible for their own safety.