



## Fall 2021 NCCGA Nationals Notice to Competitors

### Format & NCCGA Rules

- 36 Hole Stroke Play Championship
  - Championship - Robert Trent Jones & Arthur Hills Courses
  - Invitational – Fazio Course (36 holes)
  - In the event Nationals is reduced to 18 holes, co-champions will be awarded
- Top 5 of scores count towards the team total each day
- Men will play from the Blue Tees and Women will play from the White Tees
- Any grass knee height or higher surrounding a water feature is considered part of the same Red Penalty Area
- One designated coach per team can interact with the players at any time (2-stroke penalty for outside advice from non-designated coach per occurrence)
- Electronic devices may be used during the round as long as it does not interfere with pace of play
- No caddies are permitted
- Drug and alcohol use is not permitted. Failure to comply during the course of play will result in disqualification
- All rules on the NCCGA Hard Card below and on the NCCGA Rules & Eligibility webpage are in effect
- Double par is the maximum any player can take on a hole
- Players may be subbed in/out between rounds. Must be announced at round 1 scoring
- If a player is disqualified due to signing an incorrect scorecard, that player may compete in round 2
- If a player is disqualified for misconduct in round 1, they will be unable to compete in round 2
- Practice on or near the hole last played is prohibited
- Awards
  - Championship – Top 3 teams and 16 individuals
  - Invitational – Top 3 Teams and 8 individuals

### Team Tiebreaker\*:

- To determine the Champion for teams that are tied, the 5 players with the lowest tournament total for each team will compete in a sudden death playoff with other teams that are tied (if a tie for 5<sup>th</sup> lowest tournament total the Club President may decide 5<sup>th</sup> player to participate in the playoff).
- After each hole, all 5 scores will be accumulated and compared with the other team(s) that are tied. In the event these scores are the same, the playoff will continue until a single team remains. Each hole the order of play reverses
- Championship Rotation – Arthur Hills 18, 10, 18 etc.
- Invitational Rotation – Fazio 10, 18, 10 etc.

### Medalist Tiebreaker\*:

- Playoff will loop on same progression as the team tiebreaker. After each hole, scores are compared with the other player(s) that are tied. In the event these scores are the same, the playoff will continue until a single player remains. Each hole the order of play reverses

### Scorecard Tiebreaker:

- Compare scores to par from the #1 handicap hole of all rounds played combined (regardless of courses played)
- Continue to compare the next hardest hole in a sudden death format until one person remains

\*If a playoff is possible and the team(s) or individual(s) are not available to compete, they forfeit the playoff. If a playoff cannot occur or is shortened due to darkness, the standard NCCGA Scorecard Tiebreaker policy will be used. The Committee has the authority to permit players not in the top 5 to compete in the team playoff.



## Rules Hard Card

**1. OUT OF BOUNDS AND COURSE BOUNDARIES:** Out of Bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts.

**2. PUTTING GREENS LIMITING WHEN STROKE MADE FROM PUTTING GREEN MUST BE REPLAYED UNDER EXCEPTION 2 TO RULE 11.1b:** 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 defined as a loose impediment, (that is, worms, insects and similar animals that can be removed easily) the stroke counts and the ball must be played as it lies. ***Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.***

**3. SPECIAL OR REQUIRED RELIEF PROCEDURES BALL PLAYED FROM OUTSIDE RELIEF AREA WHEN TAKING BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF:** When taking Back-On-The-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule (Rule 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b or 19.3b) but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball, when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped. This exemption from penalty applies even if the ball is played from nearer the hole than the reference point (but not if played from nearer the hole than the spot of the original ball or the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area). This Local Rule does not change the procedure for taking Back-On-The-Line relief under a relevant Rule. This means that the reference point and relief area are not changed by this Local Rule and that Rule 14.3c(2) can be applied by a player who drops a ball in the right way and it comes to rest outside the relief area, whether this occurs on the first or second drop.

### **4. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS AND INTEGRAL OBJECTS**

#### **a. Ground Under Repair:**

- i) Any area **encircled by a white line**, including gallery crosswalks (except dropping zones or out of bounds).
- ii) **Newly trenched areas**, including grass-covered cables.
- iii) **French drains**, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
- iv) If a player's ball lies in or touches a **seam of cut turf** or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing in the general area, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. **But** interference does not exist if the seam **only** interferes with the player's stance. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. This means that if a player has interference from any seam after dropping the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is within one club-length of the reference point.
- v) **A hole made by a movable obstruction** (microphone, stakes, signs, tripods, tables, chairs, etc.) may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. **But** interference does not exist if the hole interferes with the player's stance.
- vi) **Painted lines or dots** in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. **But** interference does not exist if the painted lines or dots interfere **only** with the player's stance.

#### **b. Immovable Obstructions:**

- i) **Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths.** White lined areas of ground under repair tying into such roads or paths are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- ii) **Railroad ties, curbing** or other similar artificial edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same obstruction.
- iii) **Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch;** the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- iv) **Secured mats and plastic cable ramps** covering cables.

#### **c. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens:**

For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less. The player may take relief under **Rule 16.1b** if an ***immovable obstruction*** is:

On the line of play, and is:

- Within two **club-lengths** of the **putting green**, and
- Within two **club-lengths** of the ball.

**Exception** – There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

#### **d. Integral Objects (Free relief not allowed):**

- i) **Artificial retaining walls** and/or pilings when located in penalty areas.

ii) **The portion of wires, cables, wrappings, poles, signs and lightning rods** closely attached to trees or closely attached to objects defining out of bounds.

iii) **Bunker liners** in their intended position.

**Note:** The Committee may treat an exposed liner, not in its intended position, to be ground under repair, but interference does not exist if a liner only interferes with the player's stance.

**e. Temporary Immovable Obstructions:** Model Local Rule F-23 in Committee Procedures is in effect and includes any Temporary Immovable Obstruction installed for the competition.

## 5. RESTRICTIONS ON PRACTICE

### a. Before or Between Rounds:

Rule 5.2 is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.

**Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule:**

**Penalty for first breach: General Penalty** (applied to the player's first hole).

**Penalty for second breach: Disqualification.**

### b. Between the Play of Two Holes:

A player must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed or test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

## 6. PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER AND SUSPENSIONS OF PLAY

### a. Methods for Stopping and Resuming Play:

A suspension for a *dangerous situation* will be signaled by **one prolonged note** of a siren or horn. **All other suspensions** will be signaled by three consecutive notes of a siren or horn. In either case, resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of a siren or horn. See Rule 5.7b.

**Note:** All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open.

### b. Removal of Temporary Water on the Putting Green:

If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green the player may:

- Take free relief under Rule 16-1d or
- Have their line of play squeegeed

Such squeegeeing should be done across the **line of play** and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole (that is at least one roller length) and only be carried out by individuals designated by the Committee.

**Note:** The Committee may squeegee the putting green at any time.

**7. COMMITTEE PACE OF PLAY POLICY:** See Rule 5.6b(3). The Local Rule setting a Pace of Play Policy, including penalties for not following this Policy, is published

**8. USE OF CADDIE PROHIBITED:** Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have a caddie during the round.

**9. STARTING POINT DEFINED:** For the purpose of applying Rule 5.3a, the **starting point** for hole #1 and hole #10 is defined by the rope, gallery stakes, and/or blue stakes, blue dots or blue lines, and/or the closely mown teeing area.

**10. RETURNING SCORECARD:** For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's scorecard is treated as returned when the player has first left the defined scoring area with both feet.

**11. MEASURING CONDITION OF PUTTING GREENS:** Before or between rounds on any day of the competition or play-off, a player must not use any device that measures the condition (slope, texture, firmness, or moisture level) of any putting green on the course. The use of such a device is only permitted on practice days.

**12. WHEN THE RESULT OF THE COMPETITION IS FINAL:** When all scores have been posted and certified by the Committee, the competition is closed.