

## PGA of Alberta Tournament Rules & Regulations

Play is governed by the current Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA) Rules of Golf and its Decisions and where applicable, by the following Local Rules, Conditions and Definitions. Any changes or amendments by the PGA of Alberta Rules Committee, will be provided to all players on the first tee. Unless otherwise specified, penalty for a breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play - Loss of Hole; Stroke Play - two (2) strokes.

**1. GENERAL** The regulations set out below shall govern the operation of all tournaments run under the auspices of the PGA of Alberta and the conduct and responsibilities of the competitors therein. These regulations may be amended or repealed from time to time by the Tournament Committee, if it is felt to be in the interests of the Sponsors and/or the competitors of the game of golf.

**2. TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION** The Executive Director shall administer the tournament rules laid down by the Tournament Committee. He shall refer to the Tournament Committee any matter that he feels requires the consideration of the Board of Directors of the PGA of Alberta. On notice of appeal, the Executive Director shall submit a written report to the Board in time for such meeting.

### 3. ENTRIES & PAYMENT OF ENTRY FEES

- (a) Entries must be made in writing or online with payment made by cheque payable to the PGA of Alberta or by credit card. Entries, accompanied by payment, must be sent to the PGA of Alberta office to arrive before or on the deadline dates specified on the entry forms in this manual, play will not be permitted. **Players are responsible for contacting the office and ensuring the Tournament Eligibility Form as well as all event payments have been received and processed.**
- (b) Phone entries will not be accepted
- Send entries to: PGA of Alberta  
Suite 300, 5 Richard Way SW  
Calgary, Alberta T3E 7M8
- Or fax to: (403) 256-8895.
- (c) Provision for acceptance of entries, other than those announced, will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- (d) All draws are final and will not be adjusted for any reason.
- (e) No person may participate unless they are a member in good standing of the PGA of Alberta and they meet the tournament eligibility criteria as laid out in the Tournament Eligibility Form.
- (f) Unattached and Non-Resident members are ineligible to participate in PGA of Alberta sanctioned events
- (g) Starting times will be available at the registration desk for each tournament. It is the player's responsibility to phone the PGA of Alberta office, the club where the event is being held, or visit the tournament website to confirm starting times.
- (h) Cancellation: Players who wish to withdraw from a tournament, must notify the zone office in WRITING no later than 4:00PM on the Thursday of the week prior to the event. Please refer to the event entry forms for entry and withdrawal deadlines.
- (i) A player who withdraws from an event before the deadline date will be entitled to have 100% of their entry fee refunded.

A player who withdraws from an event after the deadline date, but prior to their tee time will not receive a refund of their entry fee.

A player who fails to notify the Tournament Director of their withdrawal from an event will not receive a refund of their entry fee and will receive an automatic fine. Should a player wish to appeal this fine, the fine must be appealed to the Disciplinary Committee in writing.

- (j) Cheques must be dated no later than the entry deadline date. Credit Card post-dated entries will be processed on the entry deadline date.

### 4. PRO-AM AND TEAM EVENTS

(a) Amateurs are required to provide the Tournament Committee with their current index card signed by a Canadian PGA member. If a card is not provided, the amateur will play the event as a '0' handicap for the purposes of net prizes.

(b) Team competitions allow for one team per golf facility (exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Tournament Committee based on field size on the entry deadline date).

**5. DRESS CODE** All professionals are required to present a neat appearance, in both clothing and personal grooming, and are required at all times to maintain an acceptable standard of dress both on the golf course and in the precinct of the clubhouse. For example, male professionals are strictly forbidden to wear denim-type jeans, t-shirts or shorts on the premises of a golf course hosting a Tournament. Female professionals must be dressed professionally and must follow the requirements of each host club. This dress code applies to all sanctioned PGA of Alberta events. Violation will result in disqualification.

**6. FOOTWEAR - GOLF SPIKES** It is a condition of the competition that shoes with metal or traditionally designed spikes not be worn at any sanctioned PGA of Alberta tournaments. Penalty for breach of this condition: DISQUALIFICATION.

**7. TIME OF STARTING** All players in a group must be present and READY TO PLAY at the time laid down by the Committee, this includes both players in all team competitions. The order of play is not relevant. READY TO PLAY is defined as being on or near the players' first tee accompanied with the necessary equipment needed to put a ball in play. Notification by an PGA of Alberta Rules Official will be given to late starters on the first tee or as soon as possible.

**8. RULES AND LOCAL RULES** The Rules of the Royal Canadian Golf Association govern play as modified by these Local Rules of the PGA of Alberta. Should any Supplementary Local Rules be required, they will be given to each competitor at the players' first tee. Local Rules on the host club scorecards shall not apply.

**9. CADDIES** Caddies may be used at all PGA of Alberta sanctioned events. Caddies are ineligible to ride / accompany a player who elects to use motorized transportation at the Playing Ability Test.

**10. DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES** Distance-measuring devices which measure solely distance and no other factors (such as slope or wind) are allowed at PGA of Alberta events.

**11. PACE OF PLAY POLICY GUIDELINES FOR SLOW PLAY** The PGA of Alberta Tournament Committee Pace of Play guidelines and penalties for slow play are in effect for all PGA of Alberta tournaments.

**OUT OF POSITION DEFINED:** The first group to start is deemed out of position if, at any place during the round, the group exceeds the allotted pace of two hours\* per nine holes.

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All subsequent groups to start are deemed out of position when both of the following conditions apply:

- 1) They exceed the allotted pace of two hours\* for nine holes and:
- 2) They reach any place where there is an open par-3 hole or par-4 hole, or all competitors in the preceding group are on the green of a par-5 hole when the group in question has yet to leave the teeing ground.

1st Warning- official warning to whole group out of position.  
2nd Warning- warning to individual causing group to be out of position.  
3rd Warning- one stroke to individual causing group to be out of position.  
4th Warning- two strokes to same individual causing group to be out of position.  
5th Warning- individual disqualified.

**APPEALS:** Any appeal of a timing penalty must be referred to the on-site PGA of Alberta Tournament Director immediately upon completion of the player in question's round. The PGA of Alberta Tournament Director's decision shall be final.

\*The allotted pace of two hours for nine holes is a guideline used by the PGA of Alberta in 2009 and was deemed to be a success. The enforcement of this rule from a practical standpoint was based on several factors including 1) securing appropriate starting time intervals at host facilities as well as factors beyond the control of the Tournament Committee including 2) weather, 3) course conditions/terrain and 4) unanticipated delays. The PGA of Alberta Tournament Committee will ensure proper communication with all participants regarding projected Pace of Play at each sanctioned event.

In administering the Pace of Play, the PGA of Alberta Rules Committee is acting to improve the general pace of play for all PGA of Alberta tournaments at the direction of the PGA of Alberta Board of Directors. In performance of these duties, a PGA of Alberta Rules Official shall not be subjected to abuse, oral or otherwise. Such abuse by a player is conduct unbecoming of a professional.

**12. MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION - Appendix I** Automotive transportation is permitted at all PGA of Alberta sanctioned tournaments. A maximum of 2 carts will be permitted for each group at every event.

Except where permitted by a PGA of Alberta Rules Official, automotive transportation is **prohibited by Candidates at the Playing Ability Tests and at the PGA of Alberta Tour Championship**. When automotive transportation is authorized, it is forbidden to go passed the ball in play. Penalty in stroke play for breach: Two (2) strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round: four (4) strokes. Use of any unauthorized form of transportation shall be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

**13. STOPPAGE OF PLAY OR CANCELLATION OF TOURNAMENT** If in the judgement of the PGA of Alberta Tournament Committee, adverse weather conditions or any other occurrence beyond the control of the PGA of Alberta renders the commencement or continuation of the tournament impracticable, play shall be postponed until the PGA of Alberta Tournament Committee considers that play can be continued. In the event of the curtailment or cancellation of a tournament, prize money shall be distributed as agreed between the sponsor and the PGA of Alberta.

*Suspension of Play:* If during a tournament it becomes necessary to suspend play, PGA of Alberta Rules Officials will circulate the course, sounding a suspension of play signal prescribed in the PGA of Alberta Rules of Play. Competitors shall proceed under this Rule.

*Resumption of Play:* When conditions allow play to be resumed, PGA of Alberta Rules Officials will circulate the course and sound the resume play signal as prescribed in the PGA of Alberta Rules of Play. Competitors shall proceed under this Rule.

*Re-scheduled Event:* If a tournament has been re-scheduled to a different date or location those original registrations will be automatically transferred. If you are unable to participate you are required to withdraw from the event.

**14. RETURN OF SCORECARDS** Competitors must go directly to the scoring tent (or designated scoring area) immediately following the completion of their final hole. Competitors must not complete and sign their scorecards outside the scoring area. If a competitor fails to report to the scoring area by the time all competitors in the following group have completed play of their final hole, the competitor shall be deemed not to have returned his or her scorecard and shall be disqualified. Competitors in the final group of the draw must report to the Scoring Area without undue delay. A scorecard is deemed to be returned when it has been deposited in the PGA of Alberta Official Scoring Box. It is the competitor's responsibility to hand in his or her own scorecard.

**15. CLOSE OF THE COMPETITION** When all scores have been approved by the PGA of Alberta, the result of the competition is deemed to have been officially announced and the competition closed.

### 16.TIES

a) Any competitor involved in a playoff, and not immediately available, takes last playoff position. Multiple no-shows for playoffs shall be decided by lot.

**b) Ties and prize amounts for all places at every Pro Am team competition will be divided equally amongst all teams. This rule change does not apply to the Pro Pro and the Pro Assistant.**

*Rule 33-6 empowers the Committee to determine how and when a halved match or a stroke play tie shall be decided. The decision should be published in advance.* Under Rule 33-6 it is decided that scorecards will be matched whereas the winner will be the Team with the lowest aggregate score for the first 17 Holes. If the tie is still not broken, then the lower or lowest score for the first 16 holes, 15 holes, and so on, will be used. During a shotgun format, the order of the holes used for matching scorecards is the natural order of holes on the Official Tournament Scorecard, and not the shotgun starting order.

c) In the case of a tie for low professional, a sudden death hole by hole playoff will decide a winner.

d) In the event of a tie in an Individual event, prize money will be divided equally among those tied, except that if a competitor wins a playoff for the Tournament, he or she will receive the first place prize money.

**17.MEDIA RELATIONS** A competitor posting one of the top three scores in a championship or an individual championship round **MUST** report to the Media Area if requested by a PGA of Alberta Tournament Official.

**18. PRIZE PRESENTATION** The **top three** competitors in individual competitions and **all** competitors in team competitions must be present at the prize presentation, or be subject to forfeiting their prize monies and/or gift certificates to the PGA of Alberta, unless consent is given by the Tournament Committee.

**19.DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE** All entrants who have been assessed penalties by the Disciplinary Committee must make payment before being permitted to play in any competition, or participate in other PGA of Alberta events.

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**20. PENALTIES** All penalties must be paid or an appeal made before participation will be allowed in any PGA of Alberta Sanctioned Events, Tournaments or otherwise.

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>MAXIMUM PENALTY</b>
No Show - Any PGA of Alberta Sanctioned Event	\$200.00
Withdrawing without approval of Tournament Committee	\$200.00
Failing to complete round	DQ & \$200.00
Not returning scorecard (Within 15 minutes)	DQ & \$200.00
Not following Dress Code	DQ
Withdrawing from event caused by lack of preparation (ie. running out of golf balls)	\$200

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>MINIMUM PENALTY</b>
Throwing/damaging golf club or other equipment	\$200.00
Conduct/language likely to injure the reputation of the PGA of Alberta, club or the sponsor	\$200.00

All Offences are subject to the above stipulated monetary fine and/or Meeting with the PGA of Alberta Disciplinary Committee.

**21. HOLE-IN-ONE** For Hole-in-One insurance purposes, only holes-in-one on par-threes 175 yards or longer are eligible. The PGA of Alberta will notify players which par threes are eligible for Hole-in-One cash prizes.

**22. LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS** - Only golf balls named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls recognized by the RCGA may be used. Penalty for use of ball not on List: Disqualification.

**23. LIMITATION ON GOLF BALLS USED DURING ROUND (ONE BALL RULE EXCEPT FOR AMATEURS IN PRO-AM - RULES 5-1 and 33-1):** This rule is in effect at all PGA of Alberta sanctioned tournaments except for the Playing Ability Test. (*Appendix 1 Part C section 1c*)

**24. TIME OF STARTING - NOTE UNDER RULE 6-3 AND APPENDIX I** Note under Rule 6-3 as prescribed shall be in effect. All competitors in a group must be present and ready to play at the time set by the Committee. The order of play is not relevant.

**25. SLOW PLAY - NOTE 2 UNDER RULE 6-7:** A player shall be subject to penalty if they are in breach of the Pace of Play Guidelines. Such guidelines are readily available and posted at all tournaments.

**26. PRACTICE - NOTE UNDER RULE 7-2 AND APPENDIX I:** Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I, section C, (Decisions on the Rules of Golf) shall be in effect except when stipulated round is a Pro-Am and does not count in the official competition. During suspension of play, practice is permitted but only on areas specifically designated for practice by the PGA of Alberta Rules Committee.

**27. SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION - NOTE UNDER RULE 6-8b** (lightning, tornado, etc.): In potentially dangerous situations, play shall be discontinued immediately following a suspension of play by the PGA of Alberta Rules Committee. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he shall be disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving such penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

Note: A suspension for a potentially dangerous situation shall be signalled by one prolonged air horn (or siren) note. All other types of suspension shall be signalled by several consecutive, short air horn (or siren) notes. Resumption of play shall be signalled by two consecutive air horn (or siren) notes.

All practice areas shall be closed during suspension for a potentially dangerous situation until the PGA of Alberta Rules Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closed areas shall be subject to disciplinary action.

**28. EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN - APPENDIX I:** Local Rule as prescribed in Appendix I, section 4 (Decisions on the Rules of Golf) is in effect at all sanctioned events including Playing Ability Tests.

**29. MARKING POSITION OF LIFTED BALL** - Before a ball on the putting green is lifted, its position shall be marked by placing a small coin or some similar object immediately behind the ball; if the ball-marker interferes with another player, it should be moved one or more putterhead-lengths to one side. If the position of the ball is not so marked, the player shall incur a penalty of one stroke and the ball shall be replaced. If the ball is not replaced, the player shall incur the penalty for breach of Rule 20-3a, but no additional penalty under this Local Rule shall be applied. (This modifies Rule 20-1).

**30. OUT OF BOUNDS - RULE 27:** Defined by the nearest inside points of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level.

**31. GROUND UNDER REPAIR - RULE 25 a)** All areas enclosed by white lines and/or b) french drains (exposed trenches filled with rocks or stones) whether they are marked or not.

**32. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS - RULE 24-2:** White lined areas tying into artificially surfaced roads, paths or obstructions are declared to have the same status, thus are part of the obstructions and are not ground under repair.

**33. WATER HAZARDS, LATERAL WATER HAZARDS - RULE 26:** Water hazard margins are marked by yellow stakes or defined by yellow lines. Lateral water hazard margins are marked by red stakes or defined by red lines.

**34. INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE COURSE:** When closely attached to objects, wrappings, wires, cables, etc., are not considered obstructions. No FREE relief is provided. They are integral parts of the course and are deemed to be fixed.

**35. TEMPORARY OBSTRUCTIONS:** Local Rule as prescribed in the RCGA Decisions on the Rules of Golf book, Appendix 1 Section 7a shall be in effect.

**36. SEAMS OF CUT TURF** - The Local Rule for seams of Cut Turf as prescribed in Appendix 1 is in effect.

**37. ALCOHOL:** The consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted by any Member of the PGA of Alberta prior to, or during the stipulated round of a stroke play or best ball competition. The stipulated round is deemed to be completed upon the return of the competitor's scorecard.