

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 appealed 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 and payments may be made using the online booking system using a valid credit card number. Members electing to pay by cheque may submit their entry by mail or fax, however they will not be registered into an event until their cheque has been received.** As an alternative, Members who wish to pay by cheque may register online using a valid credit card number, and once a cheque has been received in the office the credit card number will be removed from the event. Players are responsible for contacting the office and ensuring the Tournament Eligibility Form as well as all event payments have been received and processed. Phone entries will not be accepted.

Credit Cards will be charged two weeks prior to the event unless otherwise requested.

Cheques must be dated no later than the **entry deadline date**.

Send entries to: PGA of Alberta, 517 23 Avenue NW, Calgary, Alberta T2M 1S7

Or fax to: (403) 256-8895

- (b) Provision for acceptance of entries, other than those announced, will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- (c) All draws are final and will not be adjusted for any reason.
- (d) 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
- (e) 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.
- (f) Cancellation: Players who wish to withdraw from a tournament, must withdraw online OR 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 or the tournament page on the website for entry and withdrawal deadlines.
- Withdrawal up to two weeks prior to event, before withdrawal deadline = 100% refund
 - Withdrawal less than two weeks before event, before withdrawal deadline = \$25 administration charge
 - Withdrawal after draw is posted, after registration deadline = NO REFUND
- (g) A player who fails to withdraw online or notify the office staff 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, it must be appealed to the Disciplinary Committee in writing.

4. PRO-AM AND TEAM EVENTS

Amateurs must submit a detailed scoring record of their last 20 rounds, which must be approved by a PGA of Alberta Class A Professional, if they are not searchable on the Golf Canada database. If a scoring record is not provided or they are not

searchable on the Golf Canada database, the amateur will play the event as a '0' handicap for the purposes of net prizes.

5. DRESS CODE

All professionals are required to present a neat, professional 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. SHORTS POLICY

In the best interests of our Members and competitors, the PGA of Alberta looks to protect the safety and well-being of members at all sanctioned events. Only under extreme weather conditions (temperatures exceeding 25 degrees Celsius, including Humidex) will shorts be permitted. When this condition is in effect, the following guidelines apply:

- (a) Shorts with an elasticized waist, shorts supported by a drawstring, shorts extended below the knee and shorts with large "cargo" style pockets are all prohibited.
- (b) Socks must be worn at all times – ankle socks are permitted as long as they can be seen with shoes on.
- (c) **Note:** Penalty for breach of this condition is DISQUALIFICATION.

7. 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.

8. 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 a PGA of Alberta Rules Official of a two-stroke penalty will be given to late starters (within five minutes) on the first tee or as soon as possible.

9. 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.**

10. CADDIES

Caddies may be used at all PGA of Alberta sanctioned events. Caddies, are eligible to ride in a power cart, providing it does not exceed the two-cart maximum per group or takes a seat away from a player. Caddies must wear running shoes or a suitable equivalent. Shoes must not have metal or soft spikes. **It is the player's responsibility to ensure the caddy is well informed as to the etiquette of the game of golf.**

11. DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

A multi-functional device may be used as a distance measuring device, but it must NOT be used to gauge or measure other conditions (such as slope or wind) where doing so would be in breach of rule 14-3.

12. CELL PHONES & LISTENING DEVICES

Cell phones are permitted and refer to Rule 14-3/16 for clarification on what is permitted during play.

13. PACE OF PLAY

A player is subject to penalty if they unduly delay play under the provisions of this Pace of Play Policy under Rule 6-7 Note 2s. All players are required to finish their rounds within the allotted total time par round duration posted on the first tee. A round is considered complete when the scorecard has been handed into the Tournament Committee. Time par for each competition will be placed on all score cards with each host club's pace of play policy taken into consideration. A group is also deemed to be out of position if at least one member of the group is not on a tee box before the group in front puts the flag in for that same hole. The individual(s) will be assessed a two-stroke penalty based on the warning guidelines below. The PGA of Alberta

Tournament Committee Pace of Play guidelines and penalties for slow play are in effect for all PGA of Alberta tournaments and enforceable by the Tournament Rules Committee.

PACE OF PLAY WARNING GUIDELINES

1st Warning	Rules Official warns entire group that they are out of position
2nd Warning	Rules Official must warn one or more individuals who are the cause of the group being out of position and commence timing the individual(s)
3rd Warning	Rules Official to assess a two- stroke penalty to each individual in the group who takes more than 40 seconds to make a stroke when it is clearly their turn to play
4th Warning	Rules Official to assess a penalty of DISQUALIFICATION to one or more individuals who have been assessed a two-stroke penalty and incur a subsequent bad time

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 and is subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Professional Practice.

14. 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. Automotive transportation is also only available to tournament players and caddies; no spectators. When automotive transportation is authorized, it is forbidden to travel beyond 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.

15. 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 the original registrations will be automatically transferred. If you are unable to participate you are required to withdraw from the event.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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) In the event of a tie, Pro-Am events will be decided by retrogression rule. Ties and prize amounts for all Professionals at every Pro-Am team competition will be divided equally amongst all professionals.
- (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 and any points associated with the event 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 and points.

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. 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.

ACTION	MAX. PENALTY
No Show - Any PGA of Alberta Sanctioned Event	\$200.00
Withdrawing without approval of 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 (i.e. running out of golf balls)	\$200

ACTION	MIN. PENALTY
Throwing/damaging golf club or equipment	\$200.00
Conduct/language likely to injure the reputation of the Association, Club or Sponsor	\$200.00

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

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. LIST OF CONFORMING EQUIPMENT

Only equipment listed in the USGA database of clubs with conforming grooves may be used in PGA of Alberta events, with the exception of the Playing Ability Test. Penalty for use of non-conforming equipment: Disqualification.

26. 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 and the SCOTCH BALL FORMAT OF the PRO ASSISTANT.

27. 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.

28. PRACTICE - NOTE UNDER RULE 7-2 AND APPENDIX I, SECTION C

A player may not practice on or near the putting green of the hole last played and may not roll a ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

29. SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION - NOTE UNDER RULE 6-8b

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.

30. EMBEDDED BALL THROUGH THE GREEN - APPENDIX I

Course conditions, including mud and extreme wetness, may interfere with proper playing of the game and warrant relief for an embedded ball anywhere through the green. Rule 25-2 provides relief, without penalty, for a ball embedded in its own pitch-mark in any closely-mown area through the green. **Exceptions:**

(a) A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if the ball is embedded in sand in an area that is not closely-mown.

(b) A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule makes the stroke clearly impracticable.

31. 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 putter head 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).

32. OUT OF BOUNDS - RULE 27

Defined by the nearest inside points of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level.

33. GROUND UNDER REPAIR - RULE 25

All areas enclosed by white lines and/or French drains (exposed trenches filled with rocks or stones) whether they are marked or not.

34. 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.

35. 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.

36. 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.

37. TEMPORARY OBSTRUCTIONS

Local Rule as prescribed in the RCGA Decisions on the Rules of Golf book shall be in effect.

38. SEAMS OF CUT TURF

The Local Rule for seams of Cut Turf as prescribed in Appendix 1 is in effect.

39. 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.

40. ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON A PUTTING GREEN – RULE 18-2

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, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water, or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.