

# Local Rules and Terms of the Competition for 2021 NJSGA Championships

# NJSGA



*The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and the R&A govern all play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all NJSGA championships and qualifiers. Please refer to each competition's "Player Information Sheet" available on-line two weeks prior to the competition and the "Notice to Competitors" available on the starting tee(s) at each competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019. Local Rules on a club scorecard should be disregarded.*

**UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, THE GENERAL PENALTY FOR BREACH OF A LOCAL RULE IS:  
MATCH PLAY — LOSS OF HOLE ♦ STROKE PLAY — TWO STROKES**

## LOCAL RULES

**Out of Bounds** — Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. When Out of Bounds is defined by a painted line on the ground, the line itself is Out of Bounds. Where walls define Out of Bounds the wall is a Boundary Object and a ball is considered Out of Bounds when it comes to rest beyond the wall. A ball which crosses a public road defined as Out of Bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is Out of Bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course. Gates in Boundary Objects are Integral Objects.

**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 the Out of Bounds.

**Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Area** — When the edge of a Red Penalty Area coincides with the boundary of the course, opposite side relief is available as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures. Model Local Rule B-2.1 is in effect, as amended by Model Local Rule B-2.2.

**Taking Back-on-the-Line Relief** — Model Local Rule E-12 as prescribed in Clarifications of the Rules of Golf is in effect.

**Limiting When Stroke Made from Putting Green Must Be Replayed Under Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b** — Model Local Rule D7 is in effect.

**Ground Under Repair** — Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair.

Ground Under Repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where vehicle 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 Immovable Obstruction, such an area is treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1. (Model Local Rule F-3.2)

**Relief from Seams of Cut Turf** — Model Local Rule F-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**Aeration Holes** — Model Local Rule E-4 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**Integral Objects** — Include stakes, wires and wrapping only when closely attached to trees; artificial walls, pilings, and bridges when located in Penalty Areas and Bunkers.

**Bunker Liners** — An exposed bunker liner is treated as being Ground Under Repair, but interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.

**White-Lined Areas Tying into Immovable Obstructions** — White-lined areas connected to an Immovable Obstruction are part of a single Abnormal Course Condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1. (Model Local Rule F-3.1)

**Cultivated Flower Beds Encircled by an Immovable Obstruction** — A cultivated flower bed encircled by an Immovable Obstruction is treated as a single Abnormal Course Condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1. (Model Local Rule F-3.3)

**Turf Nurseries** — All turf nurseries are No Play Zones and treated as Ground Under Repair. Players must proceed under Rule 16.1.

## TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

**When Competition is Final** — The 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. The result of a match is final when the Committee has approved the result as posted on the public scoreboard.

**Playoffs and Ties** — Competitors are responsible for keeping informed of the possibility of a playoff due to ties. The method for resolving ties will be posted on site at each event. **Those who are not present at "roll call" will be disqualified from the playoff.**

**Wood Chips and Mulch** — Are Loose Impediments.

**Stakes, Wires and Cables affixed to trees** — These objects attached to trees for support purposes (not the tree itself) are Immovable Obstructions. Relief is available under Rule 16.1.

**Replacement of Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged** — Model Local Rule G-9 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**List of Conforming Driver Heads** — Model Local Rule G-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**Clubs: Grooves** — Model Local Rule G-2 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect for the following championships (including qualifying rounds): **Women's Amateur & Mid-Amateur Championships;**  
**Men's Amateur, Mid-Amateur, Open, Senior Open and Four-Ball Championships.**

**List of Conforming Golf Balls** — Model Local Rule G-3 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. *NOTE: The One-Ball Rule is NOT in effect, unless otherwise noted.*

**Pace of Play** — The "Checkpoint" system shall be in effect for all competitions unless otherwise stated. Refer to separate document on-line or at the Starter's Table for complete details.

**Stopping and Resuming Play** — Model Local Rule J-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged airhorn note or siren blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes.

All Practice areas are closed while play is suspended for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice while play is suspended for a dangerous situation are subject to disqualification.

**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 must not practice on the competition course both before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Model Local Rule I-1.1, see Rule 5.2.

**Caddies / Carts** — Each competition has specific policies with respect to Caddies/ Carts. Refer to Player Information Sheet for details. In competitions where motorized transportation (i.e., a golf cart) is permitted, the player and the player's caddie are permitted to use a golf cart subject to the "one-seat" policy. Refer to separate document on-line or at the Starter's Table for complete details. **Spectator carts are NOT permitted.**

**Use of Motorized Transportation Prohibited** — Model Local Rule G-6 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. (This Rule may be modified at certain NJSGA events as noted above.)

**Scorecards** — Upon conclusion of the round, a player must report immediately to the designated location to return his/her physical scorecard to the Committee, or if electronic scoring is permitted, to confirm individual scores. The scorecard (physical or electronic) is considered "returned" when the player has left the scoring area.

**Score Posting** — In individual Stroke Play competitions only, the NJSGA will post each player's score (after adjustment of hole scores) to his/her GHIN account according to the adjusted Course and Slope Ratings for that day's competition within 24 hours after it concludes.

# Policies and Procedures For 2021 NJSGA Championships

## TOURNAMENT ENTRY POLICIES

NJSGA Championships are open to bona-fide members of NJSGA clubs and courses who meet all event-specific eligibility requirements (i.e., USGA Handicap Index®, age, gender, club/course affiliation). With the exception of the Open and Senior Open Championships (which maintain separate eligibility standards for Golf Professionals), a player who wishes to participate in a NJSGA event must possess unquestionable Amateur Status and appear on the official GHIN Handicap® roster at a NJSGA member club/course at the time of entry through the conclusion of the event. Visit [www.njsga.org](http://www.njsga.org) for more details.

## STANDARDS OF PLAYER CONDUCT (RULE 1.2)

It is the shared privilege of NJSGA and tournament players to be welcomed by many fine clubs and courses for tournament play. As guests, players share the responsibility of demonstrating exemplary conduct, sportsmanship, and courtesy at all times. This is a key to ensuring that our hosts welcome us again.

Further, players are reminded that the game of golf is centered around integrity and proper etiquette. Behavior contrary to this is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Players and their caddies must comply with the following:

- ◆ Abide by the posted dress code.
- ◆ Abide by the club's posted safety procedures, including wearing of masks and social distancing.
- ◆ Abide by the host club's cell phone / electronic device policy.
- ◆ Use the locker room for change of shoes and clothing.
- ◆ Exercise great care for the golf course - replace divots, repair ball marks, and rake bunkers.
- ◆ Abide by the host club's cart policy at all times (including cart path only restrictions.)

**2021 NJSGA Code of Conduct Policy (see Rules 1.2b and Committee Procedure 5H)** - Penalties will be administered by the Rules/Player Conduct Committee. Acts which are likely to result in penalty include (but are not limited to) the following:

- ◆ Failure to comply with any of the above.
- ◆ Use of profanity, either in frustration or directed toward another individual.
- ◆ Inappropriate, derogatory, or abusive language/gestures whether directed toward the host club, host club staff member, or a NJSGA Committee / Staff Member or any other person on the course.
- ◆ Disruptive or distracting behavior, and/or any physical threat to any person.
- ◆ Throwing of equipment.
- ◆ Use of cell phone / electronic device for purposes other than those permitted by the Rules.
- ◆ Other unbecoming or inappropriate conduct as determined by the NJSGA.
- ◆ Intentionally causing damage to the golf course or objects on course property.\*

### PENALTY STRUCTURE FOR BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT:

First breach — Warning  
Second breach — Two Stroke Penalty  
Third breach — Disqualification  
\*Serious Misconduct — Disqualification

\*Guidance from Interpretation 1.2a/1 - Meaning of Serious Misconduct Disqualification

## DRESS CODE

The dress code is established by both the NJSGA and the host club. It applies to all players and caddies.

- ◆ Prohibited dress includes jeans/denim, t-shirts, tank tops, cargo shorts/pants, "short" shorts, sandals, and flip-flops. Mock turtlenecks are also PROHIBITED at many of our tournament venues.
- ◆ Shirts MUST be tucked in at all times.
- ◆ Soft spikes are mandatory. No shoes with spikes are permitted in the Clubhouse.
- ◆ Hats must be worn forward and must be REMOVED when in the Clubhouse.
- ◆ Any other clothing deemed inappropriate by the NJSGA or the host club is also PROHIBITED.

## REFUND POLICIES

All requests for refund must be made by sending an email to [info@njsga.org](mailto:info@njsga.org) or by calling 908-241-GOLF.

### For refunds PRIOR to the close of entries:

Entrant will be refunded his/her entry fee minus a \$25.00 service charge (regardless of reason). For team events, a player may be substituted only with prior approval by the NJSGA, otherwise a \$50.00 service charge applies.

### For refunds AFTER the close of entries:

No refund will be issued after the close of entries EXCEPT in the case of injury or sudden illness as supported by official documentation (i.e., physician's note). In this case, entry fee will be refunded minus the service charge described above.

### No refunds shall be issued in the following cases:

- ◆ After the tournament start date.
- ◆ For withdrawal due to reasons other than illness/injury.
- ◆ For no-shows.
- ◆ Due to weather (unless event postponed).

*For those who enter on-line, refunds will be applied to the entrant's credit card. For those who enter via paper entry, refunds will be issued by check.*