

LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION FOR 2026 CENTRAL LINKS GOLF COMPETITIONS

The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and R&A govern play.

See applicable Championship or qualifying round *Notice to Players and Entry Application* for additional Local Rules & Conditions. Complete text of Rules and Local Rules may be found in the [Official Guide to the Rules of Golf](#), effective January 2023

Unless otherwise noted, penalty for breach of a Local Rule/Condition is the General Penalty.

Penalty Area Stakes and Lines - When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to out of bounds, the penalty area extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line.

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 spectators or other traffic have 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 as worn areas adjacent to cart paths), such an area is part of that obstruction.

Animal Near Ball - Model Local Rule E-13 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Relief from Seams of Cut Turf (Sod Seams) – Model Local Rule F-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam.

White-Lined Areas Tying Obstructions - Have the same status as the roads and paths, that of obstructions.

Wood Chips and Mulch - Are loose impediments.

Integral Objects - Include cables, rods, wires, or wrappings when closely attached to trees, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and adjacent to bunkers. An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.

Aeration Holes – Model Local Rule E-4 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Relief is for lie of ball only.

Temporary Power Lines and Cables – Model Local Rule F-22 is in effect. Cables located within grass-covered trenches are movable obstructions.

Ball Deflected by Power Lines – Model Local Rule E-11 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Immovable Obstructions and Ground Under Repair Near Putting Greens – Model Local Rule F-5.2 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures in effect for a ball in the general area cut to fairway height or less and obstruction or ground under repair in the general area cut to fairway height or less or on the putting green.

Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Model Local Rule F-23 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.

List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

Pace of Play: See separate memorandum for pace of play guidelines posted on the website and at the starting tee.

Code of Conduct: See separate memorandum for Code of Conduct posted on the website and at the starting tee.

Missing Player or Marker Certification: Model Local Rule L-1 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

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

All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation 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.

Signals for discontinuance and resumption of play:

1 One prolonged airhorn note – Discontinue Play Immediately, Dangerous Situation

3 Three Consecutive airhorn notes repeated – Other Suspensions

2 Two Short airhorn notes repeated – Resumption of Play

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.