

HAWAII STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

LOCAL RULES, TERMS OF THE COMPETITION AND CONDUCT POLICIES

The Rules of Golf effective January 2023 as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

PACE OF PLAY – See separate event specific HSGA Pace of Play Guidelines.

OUT OF BOUNDS – Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. All public roads are deemed out of bounds and if not otherwise marked, the inside edge of the curbing shall be the boundary. In the absence of a curb, the nearest edge of the asphalt shall be the boundary. If a ball crosses a public road and comes to rest on another part of the golf course, the ball is deemed out of bounds.

PENALTY AREAS – When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When penalty areas are bounded by out of bounds, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the out of bounds line. When both stakes and lines are used to define penalty areas, the stakes identify the area and the lines define the edges. Rule 17.

RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF AND EDGING GROOVES – When your ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf/edging groove or a seam interferes with your area of intended swing you may take relief.

But, interference does not exist if the seam/edging groove only interferes with your stance. All seams within the area of cut turf/edging groove are treated as the same seam in taking relief.

(a) **Ball in General Area**. You may take free relief under Rule 16.1b. If you have interference from any seam after dropping the ball, you must proceed under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is still within one club-length of the reference point.

(b) **Ball on Putting Green**. The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1d. For grooves defining the Putting Green you may take free relief, **placing** the ball no nearer the hole.

PRACTICE BETWEEN HOLES – Stroke Play only – Between the play of two holes, you must not make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed and must not test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY – All practice areas are closed during suspension for a dangerous situation until the committee has declared them open.

- Immediate Stop: One prolonged note of the siren.
- Normal Stop: Three consecutive notes of the siren.
- Resume Play: Two short notes of siren

FORM AND MAKE OF CLUBS – The HSGA **will accept** the use of clubs conforming to the Club Face Markings prior to January 1, 2010 until further notice.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS – The driver head you play must be named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA. **Penalty = Disqualification.**

LIST OF CONFORMING GOLF BALLS – The ball you play must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA. **Penalty = Disqualification.**

USE OF AUDIO AND VIDEO DEVICES NOT ALLOWED – During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device.

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.

SCORE POSTING – All scores are posted by the HSGA to GHIN.

SPORTSMANSHIP & CONDUCT

CONDUCT – The HSGA expects a high standard of conduct and sportsmanship from all players in HSGA events. Players who conduct themselves in a discourteous or unsportsmanlike manner are subject to warning, penalties or disqualification (Rule 1.2) according to the discretion of the tournament committee. The HSGA Tournament Committee and/or the Executive Committee can extend the disqualification to additional future events if circumstances warrant.

Foul and abusive language, cheating, throwing clubs, drinking alcohol in excess on the course, and showing disrespect for club facilities, tournament officials, volunteers, spectators and other players are actions subject to reprimand, penalty, disqualification and/or suspension.

If a player is disqualified under this policy, he or she shall not be permitted to continue play in that particular tournament and shall be asked to leave the course if his or her conduct remains abusive or threatening.

All players must observe the supplemental HSGA Covid-19 Policy and Procedures effective January 1, 2022 until further notice.

DRESS CODE – Neat and clean golf attire will be considered appropriate dress, unless course policies specify otherwise.