

Georgia Junior Golf Tour Rules of Play

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf of the United States Golf Association, and by Local Rules, Conditions and Definitions. Appendix I, refers to the Conditions of Competition in the most current USGA Rules of Golf booklet. Penalty for breach of a Local Rule is: Stroke Play—Two Stroke Penalty; Match Play—Loss of Hole.



1. Suspension of Play Due to Inclement Weather: Play will be suspended by one prolonged siren or horn blast. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three intermittent horn blasts. Resumption of play will be signaled by two intermittent siren/horn blasts. When play is suspended for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play and immediately and seek shelter. **If players are in the process of playing a hole, they must stop play immediately and must not resume play until the GJGT Committee has ordered play to continue.** All practice areas will be closed during suspension until the Committee has declared them open for use. **Penalty for breach of this condition: Disqualification.**
2. Time of Starting: (Rule 6-3a) Players must start at the time established by the Committee. The penalty for breach of this rule is disqualification. However, if the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play within five minutes of his starting time, the player shall begin his round with a two-stroke penalty assessed to his score.
3. Pace of Play: (Rule 6-7 Undue Delay) A player is subject to penalty if he/she unduly delays play. The Local Rule for Pace of Play is in effect.
 - a. Double Par Rule. To improve the pace of play, the maximum number of strokes allowed is twice the par for the hole being played. (GJGT Local Rule)
 - b. 45 Second Rule. A player has 45 seconds to hit their next shot when it is their turn.
 - c. Keep pace with group ahead of you. If you cannot see the group ahead, then you are out of position. Keep play moving. The goal is to play every hole in 15 minutes or less.
Local Rule: Stones in Bunkers may be removed without penalty
4. Measuring Condition of Putting Greens: A player or his caddie must not use any device that measures the condition (slope, texture, firmness or moisture level) of any putting green on the course before or between rounds on any day of the Competition or playoff. The use of such a device is only permitted on practice days.
 - a. Laser Yardage Devices are allowed to measure distances. Slope measurement devices are not allowed for play.
5. Practice at Putting Green of Last Hole Played is Not Allowed: A player must not play a practice stroke or roll a ball on or near the putting green of the hole last played.
Cell Phone Usage: Must be kept to a minimum and spectators should go away from players with conversations. Frequent violators will be asked to leave the course and return to the clubhouse.
6. Lifting an Embedded Ball: (Rule 25-2) A ball embedded in its own pitch mark in the ground through the green may be lifted, cleaned and dropped without penalty, as near as possible to the spot it lay but not nearer the hole.

7. Out of Bounds: Defined by inside edge of white stakes and/or property fence posts at ground level.
Note: 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.
8. Paved Roads and Paths: Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads and paths are obstructions. White lined areas tying into roads or paths have the same status as the roads or paths, and they are considered obstructions and not ground under repair.
9. Ground Under Repair:
 - a. Defined by white circles or lines (except ball drop areas)
 - b. French Drains, which are trenches, filled with rocks or stones.
 - c. Relief is for lie of ball or area of intended swing for the following:
Sod Seams: All seams within the sod area considered the same seam.
 - d. Newly Trenched Areas
10. Retaining Walls and Pilings: When located within water hazards or within or around bunkers, retaining walls and pilings are integral parts of the course. When railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoin cart paths, they are deemed to be part of the same obstruction.
11. Tree Wrappings, Electrical Wires and Cables: Closely attached to trees: No relief.
Tree wrappings, electrical wires, cables, signs and lightning rods closely attached to trees are not obstructions. They are integral parts of the course.
12. Turf Plugs on Putting Greens: On the putting green in addition to Rule 16-1c, the player may repair turf plugs of any size.
13. Casual Water on Putting Greens: If a temporary accumulation of casual water exists on the putting green, the following policy will occur when a ball lies on the green:
 - a. Player may take relief under the Rules of Golf (Rule 25-1b)
 - b. The Committee may squeegee the putting greens at any time.
 - c. The Committee may use any combination of A or B above.
14. Doubt as to Procedure (Rule 3-3) If a player is doubtful of procedure during play of a hole he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. The player must announce to his fellow competitor that he intends to play two balls and which ball he wishes to count if the rules permit. The competitor must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning his scorecard. If he fails to do so, he is disqualified.
15. Returning Scorecard: The player is considered to have returned his scorecard when he has first left the scoring tent area.
16. Result of the Competition: When all scores have been posted, the result of the Competition is officially announced.