

Missouri Golf Association  
Local Rules and Terms of the Competition  
FOR 2025 MGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all MGA championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

**Out of Bounds** - Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts. OB may also be defined by white painted lines and white painted dots.

**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 out of bounds.

- Yellow Penalty Area- Penalty area defined by yellow lines or yellow stakes. Rule 17.1d(1) and (2).
- Red Penalty Area- Penalty area defined by red lines or red stakes. Rule 17.1d(1), (2) and (3).

Note: Yellow Penalty Areas will be played as Red Penalty Areas during the play of any other hole.

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

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** – Model Local Rule F-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**Temporary Immovable Obstructions** – Model Local Rule F-23 (including greenside fans) as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced Roads and Paths** - White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

**Wood Chips and Mulch** – Are loose impediments.

**Landscaped Garden Areas Completely Encircled by an Obstruction are Part of the Obstruction** - Rule 16.1.

**Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens** - Model Local Rule F-5.2 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

**Integral Objects** – Include objects when closely attached to trees and boundary objects, and artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas or in or adjacent to bunkers and bunker liners.

An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair, but interference does not exist if the liner interferes only with the player's stance.

**Prohibiting Use of Certain Types of Shoes** – Model Local Rule G-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see Rule 4.3.

**Prohibiting Use of Audio and Video Devices** -- Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to music on a personal audio device. Penalty for breach of Local Rule -- see Rule 4.3.

**Pace of Play** – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy.

**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. An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged note of airhorn or siren. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive notes of airhorn or siren. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of airhorn or siren. See Rules 5.7b and 5.7c.

**Practice** – Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas even if those areas are part of the course. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may NOT practice on the competition course before or between rounds **except** as noted in the previous sentence. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

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

**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 confirmed the result of the match.

**Note:** MGA does not have an evacuation plan for an immediate suspension of play. Players are responsible for their own safety.