

SAWGA HARD CARD

The following rules will apply to all SAWGA held events. Any applicable local rules will be provided in a Notice to Competitors.

- SAWGA competitions will be governed according to the USGA Rules of Golf and local rules adopted by our member courses and/or Tournament Committee. It is the player's responsibility to know the rules.
- Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule or Condition is: Match Play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes (General Penalty)
- In case of any question during match play that cannot be resolved, competitors may file a claim according to USGA Rule 20.1b. The Committee may consider a claim only if it has been made in a timely manner and if the player making the claim has notified her opponent at the time that she is making a claim or wants a ruling and if the facts upon which the claim or ruling is to be based. Players must continue without delay.
- SAWGA pace of play policy is in effect.
- In all SAWGA events, the Sweeps and Numerica Cup Chairs will post adjusted (ESC) scores unless they advise otherwise.
- SAWGA competitors should abide by the correct dress code of each venue. Dress codes will be enforced at each venue.
- **Time of Starting:** All players in a group must be present at the proper tee ready to play at their scheduled time or, when starting times fall behind, when the Starter calls the first player in the group to tee off. A player is late when not present, ready to play, when the first player is called to play away. If the player arrives at her starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after her starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of the Rule is disqualification. The official time is with the starter. A clock located on the golf course not brought by the Sweeps and/or Numerica Cup Chairs is unofficial.
- **Distant Measuring Devices:** A Competitor may use a distance measuring device (DMD) and/or a multi-functional measuring device (MFD). The devices may not be used to measure conditions that might affect a player's play such as gradient, wind speed, etc. It is up to the competitors to make sure they are not in breach of Rule 4.3a.

The following examples are provided to help clarify how a variety of common features and applications can be used in such a way that is not in breach of the Rules and how

these same features or applications, when used in a different way, would result in a disqualification penalty under Rule 4.3.

Phone, texting, email and internet: It is okay to make emergency/important calls, respond to or send business email/text, or check weather (on a weather site). It is NOT okay to call a swing coach and discuss your swing.

Camera: It is okay to capture your swing and review your photo or video after your round. It is NOT okay to review an image or video that during your round.

NOTE: These features or applications can be present or installed on a MFD regardless of whether the device is being used to measure distance.

- **Scoring:** Exchange scorecards with one of your fellow competitors (marker) before you tee off on the first hole. You are responsible for hole by hole accuracy but not the total addition; please go over this closely with your marker before signing the scorecard. If you have unresolved questions, please bring it to the Chair's attention before signing the scorecard. Scorecards are to be returned as soon as possible following completion of the round in the scoring area. Once you leave scoring area, scorecards are final with the exception of Rule 3.3b.
- **Doubt as to Procedure, (second ball) Stroke play only:** Rule 20.1c, a player doubtful of her rights or the correct procedure during play of a hole may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, the player must announce to her marker or fellow competitors that she intends to play two balls and which ball she intends to count if the rule permits. The player must report the facts of the situation to the appropriate Chair prior to turning in her scorecard even if the score is the same with both balls. If she fails to do so, she is disqualified.
- **No Play Zones:** Mandatory free relief is given provided it is virtually certain the original ball lies within a No Play Zone. Absent of virtual certainty for a ball not found, Rule 18.2b applies (stroke and distance).
- **Procedure for Mandatory Relief:** Player must properly drop the ball in the relief area according to Rule 14.3 – no penalty. If the ball has not been found and virtual certainty exist, player must properly drop a substituted ball according to Rule 14.3– no penalty. An estimated spot where the original ball last crossed the margin of the No Play Zone is used as the reference point. Player who makes a stroke within a No Play Zone in which relief is mandatory incurs a 2 stroke penalty.
- **Out of Bounds:** is defined by white lines, stakes, or fences. When defined by a line on the ground the line itself is out of bounds. If defined by stakes or a fence it is considered out of bounds when all of the ball lies beyond the line determined by the nearest inside point at ground level of the stakes or fence posts.

- **Penalty Areas:** are marked with yellow or red stakes and/or lines. The stakes identify the penalty areas and the lines define the margins of the penalty areas.
- **Ground Under Repair (GUR):** is marked with white lines. The line is within the ground under repair. You may properly drop the ball in the relief area according to Rule 14.3 without penalty. A ball may be substituted if the ball is not immediately recoverable.
- **Embedded Ball In The General Area:** Relief is given, without penalty, for a ball embedded in its own pitch mark in the General Area (Rule 16.3). Ball must be properly dropped in the Relief Area according to Rule 14.3.
- **Wood Chips and Mulch:** are loose impediments, unless otherwise provided for in the Notice to Competitors.
- **Close of Competition:** The competition is deemed to be closed when all scorecards have been returned and the results have been approved by the appropriate Chairs.
- **Hoof Prints on Green:** On the putting green, damage that is clearly identifiable as having been caused by animal hooves maybe repaired.
- **Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green:** Rule 13.1d
 - When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, her partner, her opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. This includes when grounding her club or taking a practice swing
 - The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in rule 13.1d.
 - If a player has marked her ball, picked it up, and put it back and it rolls away afterwards, she must put it back on the original spot without penalty.
 - If the ball was moved by the wind or gravity before being marked and picked up it must be played from the new spot as it lies.
- **Immoveable obstructions close to Putting Greens (Sprinkler Heads):** If the ball is in the General Area and on a short cut apron or fringe where putting is likely to be a common choice of stroke, a player make take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immoveable obstruction is on the line of play and is within 2 club lengths of the putting green and within 2 club lengths of the ball. **Exception:** No relief if chosen line of play is clearly unreasonable.