



USGA RULES SHALL GOVERN ALL PLAY EXCEPT WHERE MODIFIED BY LOCAL RULES.

MEN – GREEN TEES | WOMEN – ORANGE TEES

Pace of Play – Each round will have a time par (4 ½ hours per round). Groups not completing their round of golf within the proposed pace of play or within 10-minutes of the group directly ahead of them, may be assessed a 2-stroke penalty to their final score. Note: if you complete your round under 4 ½ hours but more than 10-minutes behind the group in front of you, you will not be penalized.

Local Rule 1 – Divots in Fairways:

During the Links Championship, if your ball comes to rest in a divot in the fairway being played, you may lift, clean and place your ball within six inches of the spot (getting full relief), no nearer the hole.

Distance Measuring Devices:

The use of GPS devices, rangefinders and other distance measuring devices are permitted with the exception of devices that provide yardage and slope or wind speed.

Provisional Ball (18.3):

If a ball may be lost outside a penalty area or may be out of bounds, to save time the player may play another ball provisionally in accordance with rule 18.3. The player must inform his marker or a fellow-competitor in stroke play that he intends to play a provisional ball, and he must play it before he or his partner goes forward to search for the original ball.

Model Local Rules E-5 Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds

This option allows the player to drop in a large area between the point where the ball is estimated to have come to rest or gone out of bounds and the edge of the fairway of the hole being played that is not nearer the hole. The player gets two penalty strokes when using this relief option.

No Play Zones (Rule 2.4):

No Play Zones are identified by green topped red stakes. You must also take relief if the no play zone interferes with your stance or area of intended swing when playing a ball outside the no play zone.

Other Help (Rule 10.2b):

A: Other than on Putting Green – A player may have the line of play pointed out anywhere, but any person must move away or any object must be removed before your stroke is made.

B: On the Putting Green – Although you or your caddie may touch the putting green with a hand, foot or anything you are holding, you must not improve the conditions affecting your stroke, and an object must not be set down anywhere on or off the putting green to show your line of play.

Bunkers:

All prepared areas of sand with accompanying rakes are deemed to be bunkers. All other sand areas are "general area." If you are unsure as to the status play it as a bunker.

Immovable Obstruction (Rule 16.1):

If a ball lies in the general area and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief as follows:

The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that (a) is not nearer the hole, (b) avoids intervention and (c) is not in a hazard or on a putting green.

Sod Seams on Bandon Dunes: Players may take relief from temporary sod seams by placing the ball within 6-inches of the seam guaranteeing full relief from the seam.

Determining if ball lies on or touches the putting green:

In certain instances, it may be difficult to determine if a ball in play lies on or touches the putting green and consequently can be marked and lifted under Rule 13. If a member of the Committee is not readily available and there is any doubt as to whether a ball lies on or touches the putting green, the ball is deemed NOT to lie on or touch the putting green and the ball must be played as it lies. A player in doubt of procedure may also play a 2nd ball under Rule 3-3.

In the Event of a Tie:

In the event of a tie for the Overall Links Championship gross champion, Co-Champions will be awarded the resident trophy while individual trophies will be decided using the USGA recommended tie-breaker method. For individual flight winners we will use the same recommended USGA method.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How is the field determined?

The 68 two-person team field will be split into six flights based upon the aggregate total of your team indexes.

Do I have to have a USGA Index?

Players wanting to compete in the "net" divisions must have a valid USGA index. If you do not have an index, you will be entered as a "scratch" golfer.

What indexes are used?

The championship will be using your July 1, 2026 World Handicap Index. Players will get 90% of their handicap following USGA WHS guidelines for Four-Ball stroke play events.

Is there a maximum index allowed?

Yes – the maximum index will be 19.5 per player. Players with indexes over 19.5 will be adjusted down to a 19.5.

What is my course rotation?

The course rotation is determined by what flight you are playing in and will be determined after the handicap cut off date.

Will there be a skins game?

There will be an optional, daily skins game that will be paid in cash. It will combine multiple flights.

Can I use a distance measuring device?

Yes – players can use a rangefinder or other distance-measuring device as long as it does not calculate elevation yardages, wind or caddie suggestions.