



Local Rules and Terms of Competition For 2026-27 WIAA Tournament Series Meets

WIAA Season Regulations and 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 WIAA tournament series meets and Championships. WIAA member schools are welcome to adopt them for use during regular season meets. The Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin strongly recommends WIAA member schools adopt them for use during regular season meets.

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

LOCAL RULES

Coaching Advice - Two designated coaches are allowed to coach during competition. The designated coach may give rule options to their own players anytime, and rule options to other competitors ONLY when asked by that competitor. The persons acting as a coach must be under contract with the school as a golf coach.

Putting Greens: Coaches are not allowed on putting greens, except a coach may be on the putting green to manage the **flagstick** to help with pace of play. The penalty for breach of this local rule: 1st breach—Warning from Meet Manager; 2nd breach—general penalty to the player's score for that hole.

Bunkers: Coaches are not allowed in bunkers, except a coach may rake the bunker after the player has played out of the bunker. The penalty for breach of this local rule: 1st breach—Warning from Meet Manager; 2nd breach—general penalty to the player's score for that hole.

Out of Bounds – Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts.

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. All fescue grass areas of the course are penalty areas.

Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Area—Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect.

Ground Under Repair – Defined by white lines. French drains are deemed to be ground under repair. Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic has combined with wet conditions to affect materially the ground surface, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the Committee. When immediately adjacent to an immovable obstruction, such an area is part of that obstruction.

Relief from Aeration Holes—Model Local Rule E-4 is in effect. **"Animal Near Ball** – Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect.

Relief from Seams of Cut Turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.

White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificial Surface 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.

Integral Objects – Includes cables, rods, wires and wrappings when closely attached to trees, 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.

Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

List of Conforming Driver Heads – Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. The "Diamond Faced" Wedge is not allowed.

Broken or Significantly Damaged Club Replaced with Similar Club – Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect.

Missing Player or Marker Certification--Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect.

List of Conforming Golf Balls – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-3.

Pace of Play – See attached information for the WIAA Pace of Play Policy, when applicable.

Prohibiting Use of Audio and Video Devices – Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, except when play is suspended, a player must not listen to or watch content in any nature on a personal audio or video device. Penalty for breach of Local Rule: 1st offense--Warning by Meet Manager; 2nd offense—disqualification from competition.

Use of Caddie Prohibited – Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have a caddie during the round.

Stopping and Resuming Play – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1. 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 airhorn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive airhorn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes.

Practice – Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. 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. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2. Practice between holes is prohibited with all WIAA events.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

Close of Competition – A golf meet is closed and all Committee decisions will stand once results of the meet have been officially announced. (WIAA Season Regulations, 15., i.)

WIAA PACE OF PLAY REGULATION

Pace of Play--At their January, 2003, meeting, the WIAA Board of Control approved a Pace of Play regulation as recommended by the Golf Coaches Advisory Committee. This regulation, put into effect at the start of the 2003-04 girls' and boys' seasons, addressed Pace of Play for a group. At the January, 2012, the WIAA Board of Control approved a 40-second shot clock for each individual player. Below you will find a description of how these regulations are administered:

PACE OF PLAY INDIVIDUAL PENALTY -- An individual player is subject to penalty when the group is taking more than their allotted time to play, is out of position and the individual player is taking more than 40 seconds to play a shot. Players should use no more than two practice swings and putt out all putts of six inches or less.

PACE OF PLAY GROUP PENALTY -- A group will be subject to penalty when the group is taking more than the allotted time to play and is out of position (except for the first group of the day*). A group's time will begin with the actual time they tee off and position determined by the following factors:

DETERMINING TIME PAR -- TIME PAR is the time in which the WIAA expects all players to complete a round. It is expressed as an overall time for nine or 18 holes. The WIAA Coaches Advisory Committee has recommended and the WIAA Board of Control has approved golf tournament hosts shall determine an appropriate length of time to play the course. The recommended amount of time is two hours and 15 minutes for nine holes and four hours and 30 minutes for 18 holes. The common recommendation for determining TIME PAR for a course is to use the time limitations found below:

14 minutes to play a par three 15 minutes to play a par four 16 minutes to play a par five

These times may vary in accordance with hole dynamics, special features, etc. As you can see from the University Ridge Scorecard, not all par three holes are 14 minutes and not all par five holes are 16 minutes. Times may vary. The times listed above are a common guide to help meet managers begin to determine the time for each hole.

OUT OF POSITION -- Out of position is when a group is (a) behind in their time par and (b) more than one shot behind the group in front of them. The first group of the day is considered "out of position" when they are over time par on a checkpoint hole. Otherwise, a group is considered to be "out of position" when they:

- Reach the tee of a par 3-hole and the preceding group has cleared the next tee.
- Reach the tee of a par 4-hole and the putting green is clear.
- Reach the tee of a par 5-hole when the preceding group is on the putting green.
- **Note: Both a and b must apply for a group to be out of position.**

*First group of day is responsible to maintain the time par and, preferably, encouraged to play faster than the time par.

ENFORCEMENT OF GROUP PENALTIES -- For the first Pace of Play violation a warning is assessed by the tournament manager to the group. On a second Pace of Play violation, a one-stroke penalty is assessed to each player in the group. The penalty shall be added to the hole in which the infraction occurred. To revoke or cancel the previous hole penalty, a group will have a penalty rescinded once they are in position or on time after being warned/penalized.

TIMING INDIVIDUALS -- When a group is being monitored and players are being timed, each player in the group is expected to play any stroke within 40 seconds after timing of the player's stroke begins. Timing needs to be administered as follows:

Tee Shots:

- Timing begins when the first player puts their tee in the ground or their ball is placed on the teeing area (when tee is not used).
- Timing of the second and subsequent players begins when they put their tee in the ground. *Fairway Shots:*
- Ready golf encouraged (order based on who's ready, not who's away).
- Players are not allowed to walk to green to view pin position.
- Timing of first player begins 20 seconds after cart comes to rest or bag is put down. Total time allowed for first player is one minute.
- Timing of other players begins after ball is struck.

Green Situations:

- Players are allowed to lift, clean and replace ball, fix ball marks, remove loose impediments on green and prepare for putt.
- No continuous realigning of ball allowed.
- Timing begins when first player removes ball mark after replacing ball.
- Other player's clock begins once ball is removed from cup or previous player marks their ball.
- Players should putt out short putts (2-3 feet) whenever possible.

If the group in question regains its proper position, any previous timings of more than 40 seconds will be carried over the remainder of that round in the event that group requires additional monitoring.

ENFORCEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL PENALTIES

For the first violation of the 40-second shot limit, a warning is assessed by the tournament manager to the individual. On the second violation, a one-stroke penalty is assessed to the player. **The Tournament Manager must witness the 40- second shot violation and inform the player of the warning and/or subsequent penalty.**

Warnings and penalties assessed to individuals cannot be rescinded.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs, which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

Questions and/or concerns regarding the Pace of Play Rule can be directed to Mel Dow, Associate Director through e-mail at mdow@wiaawi.org or by calling (715) 344-8580, ext. 1177.

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