

Nebraska Golf Association
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RULES INFORMATION FOR PLAYERS

Welcome. The NGA, ArborLinks and Papillion LaVista South High School hope you enjoy this team competition. Some reminders regarding the rules of golf and etiquette that you may want to review prior to your arrival in Nebraska City.

REPLACING DIVOTS: Please replace divots.

RAKING BUNKERS: Please make sure that, after you play from a bunker, you rake the bunker and then place the rake outside the bunker at a place where it will least likely affect play.

RULES OF GOLF: Be sure to read the Notice to Players which was included in the registration packet mailed to your coach. It will also be available at your starting tee March 27th.

OBTAINING RULINGS: Do not hesitate to send for a Rules Committee member. Those authorized to give rulings are identified with badges labeled "Rules". Do not accept rulings from coaches, scorers or other unauthorized persons.

Rule 3-3 authorizes play of a second ball when doubtful of your rights or procedure. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, you must announce to your marker or fellow-competitor your decision to proceed under this rule and which ball you will score if the Rules permit. You must report the facts immediately to the Committee before returning your score card. If you fail to do so, you are disqualified.

MAXIMUM OF 14 CLUBS (Rule 4-4): Check the number of clubs in your bag before starting.

GOLF BALLS: You are required to use a Golf Ball that conforms with the Rules. The "One-Ball Rule" is not in effect.

BALL UNFIT FOR PLAY (Rule 5-3): A ball is unfit for play if it is visibly cut, cracked or out of shape. A ball is not unfit for play solely because mud or other materials adhere to it, its surface is scratched or scraped or its paint is damaged or discolored.

Thus a ball with a "sand burn" or a ball which has been scuffed by hitting a cart path is not unfit for play. Before lifting a ball to determine whether it has become unfit, announce your intention to your marker or fellow-competitor, mark the position of the ball and give your marker or fellow-competitor an opportunity to examine the ball and observe the lifting and replacement. The ball must not be cleaned when lifted under this rule.

SCORING (Rule 6-6): Official Scores—Each competitor will serve as a marker (scorer) for a fellow competitor. After each hole the marker should check the score with the competitor for accuracy.

On completion of the round all cards are to be brought immediately to the Committee at their scoring location near the last green. Each marker shall sign the card of the competitor for whom he is scoring and hand it to the competitor. The competitor shall check his score hole-by-hole and settle any doubtful points with the committee. He shall insure that the marker has signed the card, sign it himself and return it to the Committee.

PACE OF PLAY: To be held up by a preceding group is unpleasant. It can be avoided by simple consideration by each individual. Here are suggestions for maintaining a proper pace:

1. Report to your starting tee a few minutes before your scheduled time.
2. Keep close behind the group playing ahead of you.
3. Clear each hole as promptly as possible, for the benefit of those who follow.

No question can arise if you will merely maintain your position on the course without lag. A group not doing so and not playing at a pace within the NGA's guidelines will be penalized. See separate pace of play policy on this subject.

ADVICE (Rule 8-1): A player may not give advice to anyone in the competition including teammates. A coach may give advice to his players only between the play of two holes.

REPAIR OF HOLE PLUGS, BALL MARKS AND OTHER DAMAGE (Rule 16-1c): The player may repair old hole plugs and ball marks on the putting green, whether or not his ball lies on the putting green. Any other damage to the putting green shall not be repaired if it might assist the player in his subsequent play of the hole.

BALL OVERHANGING HOLE (Rule 16-2): When any part of the ball overhangs the lip of the hole, the player is allowed enough time to reach the hole without unreasonable delay and an additional ten seconds to determine whether the ball is at rest. If by then the ball has not fallen into the hole, it is deemed to be at rest. If the ball subsequently falls into the hole, the player is deemed to have holed out with his last stroke, and he must add a penalty stroke to his score for the hole.

FLAGSTICK (Rule 17-3): A player's ball must not strike (a) an attended flagstick or the flagstick attendant from any distance, or (b) an unattended flagstick in the hole when the stroke has been made on the putting green.

BALL MOVED BY ANOTHER BALL (Rules 18-5 and 19-5): If a ball in play and at rest is moved by another ball in motion after a stroke, the moved ball must be replaced and the deflected ball must be played as it lies.

DROPPING BALL (Rule 20-2a): In dropping a ball under the Rules, the player must stand erect, hold the ball at shoulder height and arm's length and drop it. If a player drops the ball in any other manner and the error is not corrected the player incurs a penalty of one stroke. If the ball touches the player or his equipment before or after it strikes a part of the course, the ball must be re-dropped, without penalty. There is no limit to the number of times a ball must be re-dropped in these circumstances.

CLEANING BALL: A ball lifted under the Rules may be cleaned in some circumstances, but not in others. See Rule 21.

WATER HAZARDS AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS: For difference in relief from a water hazard (defined by yellow lines or stakes) and a lateral water hazard (defined by red lines or stakes), see Rule 26-1.

PROVISIONAL BALL (Rule 27-2): Permissible only If the original ball may be (a) lost outside a water hazard or (b) out of bounds. The player must announce in advance that he intends to play a provisional ball. If he fails to do so and plays another ball, that ball becomes the ball in play under penalty of stroke and distance. If the original ball is lost or out of bounds, the provisional ball becomes the ball in play. If the original ball is in a water hazard or is deemed unplayable, the provisional ball must be abandoned.