



2010

DIVISION II SOUTHERN TEAM MANUAL

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WELCOME TO DIVISION II SOUTHERN TEAM PLAY

The purpose of the Women's Southern California Golf Association Team Play is to foster interest in amateur golf and to encourage friendly competition conducted in a sportsmanlike manner.

USGA Rules of Golf Section I on Etiquette: "Unlike many sports, golf is played, for the most part, without the supervision of a referee or umpire. The game relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and to abide by the Rules. All players should conduct themselves in a disciplined manner, demonstrating courtesy and sportsmanship at all times, irrespective of how competitive they may be. This is the spirit of the game of golf."

The Southern Team Coordinator, under the direction of the WSCGA Team Committee, shall oversee Div II Southern Team Play up to and including the Finals. The WSCGA Team Committee is responsible for organizing Div II Southern Team Play and the Finals competition and for settling all disputes not otherwise resolved.

A. ELIGIBILITY:

- Any WSCGA member who is an amateur in good standing and has an established USGA handicap index.
- The member must be listed on the March 1st Index Report of the Club she represents and throughout team play including the finals.
- If the club fields more than one team, a player shall be designated on one roster only: "1", "2" or "3".
- A player belonging to more than one WSCGA Div. II Southern club may play for only one club.
- A Team Captain shall be a member of the team she represents.

Div II Southern Team Play will be in the month(s) as determined by the WSCGA Team Committee and approved by the WSCGA Board of Directors.

B. TEAM PLAY INDEX:

A twelve month average index will be used for all players for the 2010 Team Play season including the Finals. The twelve month average will be calculated from April 1, 2009 through March 1, 2010. For players without a twelve month index history an average of the months available will be calculated. Players with an index average above 40.4 may play down.

C. TEAMS:

There will be no "A", "B" and or "C" team designations in 2010. A club's team can be comprised of players of any handicap index up to 40.4 and any player with an index above a 40.4 may play down. A club can field as many teams as they are capable of supporting.

The roster shall remain in effect throughout primary play and the Finals.

A club's roster will be comprised of players whose WSCGA index meets the qualifications listed under "Eligibility". There is no maximum number of players on a team roster and each club can utilize their entire women's club membership when

forming their team; however, a club with more than one team may not borrow and /or shift players between the teams.

In order to participate in Team Play, two WSCGA Div II Southern member clubs may, upon the approval of the WSCGA Team Committee, combine to form a team or teams.

D. REGULATIONS:

An area shall consist of not less than three teams.

Primary play for 2010 will be comprised of two areas, High Desert and Mid-Valley. Matches will be played during the months of March, April and May utilizing a round robin format and a neutral course will be used for each area. The scoring system will be both gross and net.

During Primary play if a club is unable to field a team of at least 4 players it shall forfeit, except in an emergency (illness, accident or death) as approved by the WSCGA Team Committee. If an emergency is deemed official, the club in question may reschedule the match with the approval of the Team Committee, the neutral course and the opposing team captain. **All Primary play matches must be completed by May 21, 2010.**

The WSCGA Team Committee will determine and communicate a date for Team Captains to submit their rosters. Once a roster has been submitted no team may withdraw from Team Play without review by the WSCGA Team Committee.

For 2010 Team Captains will create a password and submit their rosters online by **March 22, 2010**. Captains who require assistance can contact the WSCGA Team Manager, Vicki Winchell by phone at 909-592-1281 x 201 office, by fax at 909- 592-7524 or by email at vicki.winchell@womensgolf.org.

E. TEAM CAPTAIN DUTIES:

WSCGA and the Southern Team Coordinator will conduct organizational meetings and/or teleconferences prior to team play. Information packets (including a cover letter, website instructions, a 2010 Manual and Finals information) will be sent to all Team Captains prior to scheduled Primary play.

Team Captains shall have rules sheets, a complete list of players and their indices (available on the web site) and all pertinent information relating to Team Play with them at every match.

WSCGA will designate opponents and appoint a Captain as the “host” for each match. The “host” Captain will be responsible for providing scorecards for her team’s match and for transmitting the results by fax to the WSCGA office at

909-592-7542 immediately following play. Do not transmit results to WSCGA until all claims have been resolved. Results received by the WSCGA office are final with the exception of errors in addition or subtraction.

WSCGA strongly recommends that a Rules Committee be in place prior to the beginning of every match to handle disputes and claims. Both captains and at least one other person should serve on the Committee. In the event a claim is made that cannot be settled by this Committee, please contact WSCGA at 909-592-1281 for a ruling.

F. FORMAT:

Each team shall consist of four pairs (sides) of players. Handicaps (not indices) shall fall in order beginning with the lowest. The two lowest handicap players on the line up shall be side #1, the next two lowest, side #2 and so on. Players with like handicaps can be placed in any order at the discretion of the Team Captain. Penalty for playing out of handicap order shall be loss of any points earned by the offending side or sides.

Each team's line-up is selected at the total discretion of the Team Captain, including playing short. Any one of the four sides may play short as determined by the Team Captain. Each side must be represented when the match begins.

Rosters can be exchanged between Team Captains at any time but the final line up shall be declared no less than one half hour before a scheduled match. (A concurrent exchange of line-ups is recommended.)

No changes are permitted once the final line up is exchanged. Sides shall tee off in order 1-2-3-4 or as determined by mutual consent of the captains.

All Primary play will be a Four Ball Match Play Best Ball format (USGA Rule 30-3).

All matches shall be played on the scheduled date with the following exceptions:

- During heavy rains or extreme weather conditions, Team Captains, by a majority vote, may cancel play prior to tee off.
- Cancellation of the scheduled play by course management over which a Club has no control.
- The course is considered unavailable if carts are unavailable or not permitted to be used. Play shall be rescheduled as soon as possible.

Rain Policy:

If rain commences once the matches have begun, play will continue as long as the course remains open for play. If play is temporarily suspended, apply USGA Rules of Golf 33-2d (The Course, Course Unplayable) and 6-8a, b, and c.

Should the course be closed to all play, the following will apply:

1. If all sides in the match have completed at least thirteen holes (or teed off on the thirteenth hole) the remainder of the holes to be played will be halved for the purpose of calculating team results. Team captains will verify results. For posting purposes only, net par will be used on the remaining holes.
2. If any side has played 12 or fewer holes, the entire match must be rescheduled.
3. Team Captains should attempt to reschedule the match with the approval of the neutral club before they leave the course.
4. If Captains cannot agree on a reschedule date before they leave the course, the match must be played before May 21, 2010.

If a match is cancelled or rescheduled by course management, the Captains of all participating teams shall be informed immediately in person or by telephone by the WSCGA office or the Southern Team Coordinator.

G. USGA RULES GOVERN PLAY

A player may pick up when she has no chance to win or halve a hole. If a player starts but does not complete a hole, she shall for handicap purposes, record the score she most likely would have made if the hole had been completed. Such a score shall not exceed the limit in the Equitable Stroke Control allocation.

When the opponent's ball is at rest, the player may concede a stroke, a hole or a match at any time prior to the conclusion of the hole or match. The concession may not be declined or withdrawn. (Rule 2-4)

If a player has conceded a putt it should be removed by the player, her partner or either opponents. She may pick up and follow the procedure above or she, her partner or either of her opponent's may mark her ball and for handicap purposes she may putt out after the play of the hole is completed by those in contention. If a player putts a conceded putt and her act is of assistance to her partner, the partner is disqualified for that hole

In the event that matches are scheduled on the same day and time as other tournaments at the course being played. (USGA Rule 33-1) the team players may not compete in anything except Team Play. Breach of this rule will result in disqualification of the offending players for the remainder of Team Play.

Caddies, Coaches, galleries or guests are not permitted on the golf course during any team play event. Personnel duly authorized by course management or the WSCGA are an exception.

USGA Rules shall prevail. Local rules not conforming to the USGA Rules of Golf shall be eliminated. Any local rules and the team rosters are distributed to the players on the day of competition.

Rule 30-3 Four Ball Match Play:

Representation of side: "A side may be represented by one partner for all or any part of the match; all partners' need not be present. An absent partner may join the match after completion of a hole, but not during play of the hole. No Team shall commence play with fewer than 4 players.

Balls used in Team play must be on the conforming ball list. Clubs used in Team Play must not be listed on the non-conforming club list. Lists may be found on the USGA website www.usga.org.

Players should be aware of and fully understand how to make a claim, (Rule 2-5)

Temporary greens must be played as permanent greens.

Any group not holding its place shall allow the following group to play through. (USGA Rules of Golf, Section I/Etiquette-Pace of Play)

Please refer to the attachments regarding the cell phone policy and the use of distance measuring devices during team play.

Team Captains shall make decisions as outlined by these rules / procedures and consult with the WSCGA regarding any unsettled disputes or claims. NO outside agencies such as Head Professional, manager, marshal etc. shall be consulted.

I. PRIMARY PLAY SCORING:

Based on a Four Ball Match Play Best Ball format (USGA Rule 30-3)

There are two separate tournaments, the gross tournament and the net tournament. The Win Point, Match Point, Hole Point and Bonus Point scoring system will be applied to each match.

Honors on the first tee will be decided by a coin toss between the Team Captains. Winning gross score has the honor on subsequent tees.

In the net match full difference in strokes shall be designated off of the lowest handicap player of the two sides who will play at scratch. Strokes shall be taken as they fall on the scorecard.

Win Points

One Win point will be awarded as follows:

1. One win point will be awarded to the team with the most total match points won in the team match.
2. The winner has a potential for one gross win point and one net win point.
3. It is possible for a win point to be halved.

Overall winners will be determined by the most gross and net win points earned.

Match Points

Match points are awarded as follows:

1. One gross match point and one net match point will be awarded to each side winning their individual match.
2. It is possible for a match point to be halved.
3. The match is awarded to the side with the most combined gross and net hole points
4. Each team has a potential for four (4) gross points and four (4) net points each match.

Hole Points

Hole points are awarded as follows:

1. Each of the 18 holes is worth one gross point and one net point. These may be won, lost or halved.
2. Each side has a potential for 18 gross points and 18 net points
3. Each team has a potential for 72 gross points and 72 net points per match (4 sides x 18 = 72 hole points).

Bonus Points:

One gross and one net bonus point will be awarded as follows:

1. One bonus point will be awarded to the team with the most combined hole points scored in the team match
2. It is possible for a bonus point to be halved.

The total points that would be won in each team match will be 5 points (4 match points and one bonus point).

Gross / Net Winners:

The Gross and Net area winners are the teams having the most Win points at the end of Primary Play. If a team wins both the Gross and Net tournament, the team will be designated as the Gross winner and will represent their area in the Gross Finals.

Gross and Net Ties at the end of Primary Play:

Total Win points won during Primary Play will determine the Gross and Net winners in each area. There will be a Gross and Net winner from the High Desert and a Gross and Net winner from the Mid-Valley.

If Win points, either Gross or Net, are tied at the end of Primary play, the following procedure will be used to break the ties:

1. Total Match points won in Primary play will be compared. The team with the most total Match Points is determined to be the winner.
2. If still tied the total number of Match points won in the matches between the tied teams will be compared. The team with the most total Match Points is determined to be the winner.
3. If still tied, total Hole Points won in Primary play will be compared. The team with the most total Hole Points is determined to be the winner.
4. If still tied the total number of Hole points won in matches between the tied teams will be compared. The team with the most total Hole Points is determined to be the winner.
5. If still tied, Match points between the tied teams will be compared side by side until the tie is broken and a winner determined.
6. Any ties not broken by this procedure will be determined by a blind draw done by a representative of the WSCGA.

H. FINAL COMPETITION:

Primary play will be a Four-ball Match Play Best Ball format with a Gross and Net winner in each area, High Desert and Mid-Valley. If a team wins both Gross and Net in their area, that team shall go to the Gross Finals, and the second place Net team then qualifies for the Net Finals.

The Final Competition will also be a Four Ball Match Play Best Ball format (USGA Rule 30-3) and played on a neutral course. Champions and Runners-Up will be determined by the same scoring system as utilized during Primary Play.

A Team Captain has total discretion in choosing her line-up for the Finals and may play any side short. Any player listed on a Team's original roster is eligible to play. No club may acquire a player for Final competition who was not previously listed on the club's roster. Rosters established at the beginning of the season remain in effect throughout the Final Competition.

In the Final competition, the gross match will play at scratch. In the net match full difference in strokes shall be designated off of the lowest handicap player of the two sides who will play at scratch. Strokes shall be taken as they fall on the scorecard.

Honors on the first tee will be decided by a coin toss between the Team Captains. Winning gross score has the honor on subsequent tees for the Gross Final and winning net score has the honor on subsequent tees for the Net Final.

Carts shall be mandatory during the Final matches.

At the conclusion of the Team finals a scorecard return area will be designated and an assigned WSCGA official will attend the score box. Once a scorecard has been placed in the score box, it cannot be rescinded and/or altered. A WSCGA official will be responsible for reviewing the final team scores and determining the winners and/or the necessity for a play-off or tie-breaking procedure.

Ties in the Final Competition:

If match points between the competing teams are tied and there is no definite winner at the end of the competition, a play-off utilizing sides #1 only will commence immediately following regular play **with the approval of the host course**. Gross competitors will play a hole-by-hole sudden death match at scratch. Net competitors will play in 3-hole increments with strokes allocated as they fall and utilizing aggregate hole points. Play will begin on a hole designated by WSCGA in advance of the Finals and will continue in the described manner until a winner is determined.

Should a play-off not be feasible, total Hole points between the competing teams will be compared. The team with the most total Hole points is determined to be the winner. If still tied, Match points will be compared side by side until the tie is broken. Any ties not broken by this procedure will be determined by a blind draw done by a representative of the WSCGA.

I. POSTING:

Team play scores during Primary play are posted as regular scores. Scores from the Finals are posted as (T) Tournament Scores.

DIVISION II SOUTHERN TEAM PLAY
CLUB NUMBERS

HIGH DESERT

CLUB	CLUB NUMBER
Apple Valley	107
Kern Valley	190
Horse Thief	180
Horse Thief #2	180-2
Oak Tree	227
Oak Tree #2	227-2

MID-VALLEY

CLUB	CLUB NUMBER
Black Gold	314
Empire Lakes	161
Upland Hills	294
Upland Hills #2	294-2

**TEAM PLAY SCHEDULE
2010 DIV II SOUTHERN TEAM PLAY
PRIMARY PLAY DATES**

**HIGH DESERT AREA
MATCHES AT ANTELOPE VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB**

Monday, March 29
Monday, April 19
Monday, May 3
Tuesday, May 11
Monday, May 17

**MID-VALLEY AREA
MATCHES AT WESTERN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB**

Monday, April 5
Monday April 12
Monday, April 19

**FINALS
OAK QUARRY GOLF CLUB**
Wednesday, May 26
Reverse shotgun beginning at 8:00 a.m.
\$60 per player (includes green fees, cart, range balls)
Awards Luncheon following hosted by WSCGA



NAME: _____	
STREET: _____	
CITY: _____	
STATE: _____	ZIP: _____
HOME CLUB: _____	
NAME OF CLUB PLAYED AT: _____	
HOLE NUMBER: _____	CLUB USED: _____
DATE OF HOLE-IN-ONE: _____	YARDAGE: _____

Please mail, fax or email the above form to the WSCGA Office at one of the following addresses:

1. Address: 402 West Arrow Highway, #10, San Dimas, CA, 91773
2. Fax: (909) 592-7542
3. Email Address: wscga@womensgolf.org

This information can also be posted on the website: <http://www.womensgolf.org/wscga>

AERATION HOLES

When several fairways have been aerated the following Local Rule is in effect:

"If a ball comes to rest in or on an aeration hole, the player may, without penalty, lift the ball and clean it. Through the green, the player shall drop the ball as near as possible to where it lay, but not nearer the hole. If a dropped ball rolls into a position covered by this Local Rule or a position covered by **Rule 20-2c**, it shall be re-dropped without penalty. If the ball when re-dropped rolls into such a position, it shall be placed as near as possible to the spot where it first struck a part of the course when re-dropped.

On the putting green, the player shall place the ball at the nearest spot, not nearer the hole which avoids such situation."

If a player wishes to lift her ball to determine if it is in or on an aeration hole, the procedure outlined in **Decision 25-2/7** must be followed (announcing her intention in advance to her opponent).



MATCH PLAY RULES

RULE 1 – THE GAME

1-3 AGREEMENT TO WAIVE RULES

Players must not agree to exclude the operation of any rule or to waive any penalty incurred.

PENALTY -- disqualification.

RULE 2 - MATCH PLAY

2-4 CONCESSION OF NEXT STROKE, HOLE OR MATCH

When the opponent's ball is at rest, the player may concede the opponent to have holed out with her next stroke and the ball may be removed by either side with a club or otherwise.

A player may concede a hole or a match at any time prior to the conclusion of the hole or the match.

Concession of a stroke, hole or match may not be declined or withdrawn.

2-4/3 PLAYER LIFTS BALL IN MISTAKEN BELIEF THAT NEXT STROKE CONCEDED

Q. In a match between "A" and "B," "B" made a statement which "A" interpreted to mean that her ("A's") next stroke was conceded. Accordingly, "A" lifted her ball. "B" then said that she had not conceded "A's" next stroke. What is the ruling?

A. If "B's" statement could reasonably have led "A" to think her next stroke had been conceded, in equity "A" should replace her ball as near as possible to where it lay, without penalty.

Otherwise, "A" would incur a penalty stroke for lifting her ball without marking its position and she must replace her ball as near as possible to where it lay.

2-4/4

WHETHER PICKING UP OPPONENT'S BALL IS CONCESSION OF NEXT STROKE

- Q. In match play, "A" holes a putt and, thinking she has won the match, picks up "B's" ball. "B" then advises "A" that she ("B") had a putt to win the hole. Did "A" concede "B's" next stroke when she picked up "B's" ball?
- A. No. "A" incurred a penalty stroke under **Rule 18-3b**; "B" must replace her ball and now has two putts to win the hole.

2-5

CLAIMS

In match play, if a doubt or dispute arises between the players, a player may make a claim. If no duly-authorized representative of the Committee is available within a reasonable time, the players must continue the match without delay. A player making a claim must notify her opponent (i) that she is making a claim, (ii) of the facts of the situation and (iii) that she wants a ruling. Any claim, if it is to be considered by the Committee, must be made before any player in the match plays from the next teeing ground or, in the case of the last hole of the match, before all players leave the putting green.

RULE 4 - CLUBS

4-4

MAXIMUM OF 14 CLUBS (Also see Illustration #11)

- a. Selection and addition of clubs
- The player must start a ***stipulated round*** with not more than 14 clubs. She is limited to the clubs thus selected for that round except that, if she started with fewer than 14 clubs, she may add any number provided her total number does not exceed 14.
 - The addition of a club or clubs must not unduly delay play (**Rule 6-7**) and must not be made by borrowing any club selected for play by any other person playing on the course.
- b. Partners May Share Clubs
- Partners may share clubs, provided that the total number of clubs carried by the partners so sharing does not exceed 14.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF RULE 4-4a OR b, REGARDLESS OF NUMBER OF EXCESS CLUBS CARRIED:

At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred. Maximum deduction per round: two holes.

4-4a/8

RETRIEVING ANOTHER PLAYER'S CLUB

Q. A player carrying 14 clubs found another player's club on the course. She picked up the lost club, put it in her bag but did not use it, and handed it in at the pro shop when the round was completed. Was the player in breach of **Rule 4-4a** for carrying 15 clubs?

A. No.

RULE 6 - THE PLAYER

6-2a/2

HANDICAP STROKE GIVEN AT INCORRECT HOLE IN ERROR

Q. In a match between "A" and "B," under the Handicap Stroke Table, "A" was to receive a handicap stroke at the 9th hole. However, both "A" and "B" mistakenly believed that "A" should receive a handicap stroke at the 7th hole, and the match was played on this basis. Subsequently, the Committee became aware of the error. What should the Committee do?

A. The Committee should take no action. Since the players did not agree to deviate from the Handicap Stroke Table and did so by mistake, there was no breach of **Rule 1-3**. The match should stand as played.

RULE 7 - PRACTICE

7-1

BEFORE OR BETWEEN ROUNDS

On any day of a match play competition, a player may practice on the competition course before a round.

RULE 8 - ADVICE; INDICATING LINE OF PLAY

8-1/2

EXCHANGING DISTANCE INFORMATION

Information regarding the distance between two objects is public information and not advice. It is therefore permissible for players to exchange information relating to the distance between two objects. For example, a player may ask anyone, including his opponent, fellow-competitor or either of their caddies, the distance between his ball and the hole.

Except when the Local Rule allowing the use of distance-measuring devices has been adopted (see Note to Rule 14-3), information regarding distance must not have been obtained from an artificial device used during the stipulated round. A player who obtains distance information

that he knew was measured by anyone with an artificial device during the player's round is disqualified under Rule 14-3. (Revised)

Q. May a player ask or give advice to a member of her team, other than her partner, during a stipulated round?

A. No.

9-2 INFORMATION AS TO STROKES TAKEN

An opponent is entitled to ascertain from the player, during the play of a hole, the number of strokes she has taken, and after play of a hole, the number of strokes taken on the hole just completed.

If, during the play of a hole, the player gives or is deemed to give wrong information as to the number of strokes taken, she shall incur no penalty if she corrects the mistake before her opponent has played her next stroke. If the player fails to correct the wrong information, she loses the hole.

RULE 10 - ORDER OF PLAY

10-1 MATCH PLAY

c. Playing Out of Turn

If a player plays when her opponent should have played, the opponent may immediately require the player to cancel the stroke so played and, in correct order, play a ball without penalty as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played.

RULE 11 - TEEING GROUND

11-4 PLAYING FROM OUTSIDE TEEING GROUND

If a player, when starting a hole, plays a ball from outside the teeing ground, the opponent may immediately require the player to cancel the stroke so played and play a ball from within the teeing ground, without penalty.

RULE 13 - BALL PLAYED AS IT LIES

13-2/8 PLAYER'S LIE OR LINE OF PLAY AFFECTED BY PITCH-MARK (DIVOT) MADE BY PARTNER'S, OPPONENT'S OR FELLOW COMPETITOR'S BALL.

- Q. If a player's lie or line of play through the green is affected by a pitch-mark made by her partner's, her opponent's or a fellow competitor's ball, is the player entitled to relief?
- A. If the pitch-mark was there before the player's ball came to rest, she is not entitled to relief without penalty.

If the pitch-mark was created after the player's ball came to rest, in equity, she may repair the pitch-mark. A player is entitled to the lie which her stroke gave her.

RULE 14 - STRIKING THE BALL

14-2 ASSISTANCE

In making a stroke, a player must not:

- a. Accept physical assistance or protection from the elements, or
- b. Allow her caddie, her partner or her partner's caddie to position herself/himself on or close to an extension of the line of play or the line of putt behind the ball.

14-3 ARTIFICIAL DEVICES AND UNUSUAL EQUIPMENT. See WSCGA Position Statement regarding GPS devices.

14-4 STRIKING THE BALL MORE THAN ONCE

If a player's club strikes the ball more than once in the course of a stroke, the player must count the stroke and add a penalty stroke, making two strokes in all.

RULE 15 - WRONG BALL, SUBSTITUTED BALL

15-3 MATCH PLAY

If a player plays a stroke with a wrong ball, she is disqualified from the hole.

EXCEPTION: In Four Ball Match Play, if the player hits her partner's ball, the player loses the hole. The penalty does not apply to her partner even if it assisted her in subsequent play of the hole.

15/4 PLAYER LIFTS BALL, SETS IT ASIDE AND PLAYS IT FROM WHERE SET ASIDE

Q. A player marks the position of her ball on the putting green, lifts the ball and sets it aside. By mistake, she putts the ball from the spot at which she set it aside. What is the ruling?

A. In match play, the player lost the hole.

RULE 16 - THE PUTTING GREEN

16-1/f MAKING THE STROKE WHILE ANOTHER BALL IN MOTION

The player must not make a *stroke* while another ball is in motion after a *stroke* from the *putting green*, except that, if a player does so, there is no penalty if it was her turn to play.

16-1a/3 REMOVING DEW OR FROST FROM LINE OF PUTT

Q. May a player brush dew or frost from her line of putt?

A. No. Rule 16-1a prohibits touching the line of putt except in removal of loose impediments, repair of ball marks, etc. Dew or frost is not a loose impediment.

PENALTY -- loss of hole.

16-1a/8 LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS REMOVED FROM LINE OF PUTT WITH CAP OR TOWEL

Q. A player removes loose impediments from her line of putt by brushing them aside with her cap or with a towel. Is this permissible?

A. Yes, provided she does not press anything down.

16-1c/1.5 BALL MARK PARTIALLY ON AND PARTIALLY OFF PUTTING GREEN IS ON LINE OF PLAY.

Q. If a player's ball lies just off the putting green and there is a ball mark on her line of play, she is entitled to repair the ball mark if it is on the green but not if it is off the green. What is the ruling if a ball mark on the line of play is partially on and partially off the green?

A. Since it is impractical to allow the repair of only that part of the ball mark, which is on the putting green, the player may repair the entire ball mark.

16-1d/5 RUBBING BALL ON PUTTING GREEN FOR CLEANING PURPOSES

- Q. May a player clean her ball by rubbing it on the putting green?
- A. Yes, provided the act is not for testing the surface of the putting green. It is recommended that a ball be cleaned in other ways to eliminate any question as to the player's intentions.

RULE 17 - THE FLAGSTICK

17-3/3 BALL STRIKES FLAGSTICK LYING ON GREEN

- Q. A player putts too strongly and her ball strikes the flagstick which has been removed by someone in her match or group and placed on the putting green behind the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. The player incurs a penalty under **Rule 17-3a** -- loss of the hole in match play.

RULE 19 - BALL IN MOTION DEFLECTED OR STOPPED

19-1 BY OUTSIDE AGENCY

If a ball in motion is accidentally deflected or stopped by any **outside agency**, it is a **rub of the green**, no penalty is incurred and the ball must be played as it lies except:

- a. If a ball in motion after a stroke other than on the putting green comes to rest in or on any moving or animate outside agency, the player must, through the green or in a hazard, **drop** the ball, or on the putting green **place** the ball as near as possible to the spot where the outside agency was when the ball came to rest in or on it, and
- b. If a ball in motion after a stroke on the putting green is deflected or stopped by, or comes to rest in or on any moving or animate outside agency except a worm or insect, the stroke is cancelled, the ball must be replaced and the stroke replayed.

19-2 BY PLAYER, PARTNER, CADDIE OR EQUIPMENT

If a player's ball is accidentally deflected or stopped by herself, her partner, or either of their caddies or equipment, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke.

**RULE 20 - LIFTING, DROPPING AND PLACING; PLAYING FROM
WRONG PLACE**

20-1/16 MARKING POSITION OF BALL WITH TOE OF CLUB

Q. A player, prior to lifting her ball under a Rule, marked the position of the ball by placing the toe of a club at the side of, or behind, the ball. Is this permissible?

A. Yes, but not recommended.

20-2 DROPPING AND RE-DROPPING

a. **By Whom and How** -- a ball to be dropped under the **Rules** must be dropped by the player herself. She must stand erect, hold the ball at shoulder height and arm's length and drop it. If the ball touches the player, her partner or their 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 such circumstances.

c. **When to Re-drop** -- a dropped ball must be re-dropped without penalty if it:

- (i) rolls into and comes to rest in a hazard;
- (ii) rolls out of and comes to rest outside a hazard;
- (iii) rolls onto and comes to rest on a putting green;
- (iv) rolls and comes to rest out of bounds;
- (v) rolls to and comes to rest in a position where there is interference by the condition from which relief was taken under **Rule 24-2** (immovable obstruction), **Rule 25-1** (abnormal ground conditions), **Rule 25-3** (wrong putting green) or a local rule (**Rule 33-8a**), or rolls back into the pitch-mark from which it was lifted under **Rule 25-2** (embedded ball);
- (vi) rolls and comes to rest more than two club-lengths from where it first struck a part of the course;
- (vii) rolls and comes to rest nearer the hole than:
 - (a) Its original position or estimated position (see **Rule 20-2b**) unless otherwise permitted by the **Rules**;
 - (b) The nearest point of relief or maximum available relief (**Rule 24-2, 25-1, or 25-3**); or
 - (c) The point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or lateral water hazard (**Rule 26-1c**).

If the ball, when re-dropped, rolls into any position listed above, it must be placed as near as possible to the spot where it first struck a part of the course when re-dropped.

If a ball to be re-dropped or placed under this rule is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

Note: If a ball, when dropped or re-dropped, comes to rest and subsequently moves, the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other rule apply.

20-3 PLACING AND REPLACING

- a. **By whom and where** -- a ball to be placed under the **Rules** must be **placed** by the player or her partner. If a ball is to be **replaced**, the player, her partner or the person who lifted or moved it must place it on the spot from which it was lifted or moved. In any such case, the player is responsible for any breach of the **Rules**.

20-5 PLAYING NEXT STROKE FROM WHERE PREVIOUS STROKE PLAYED

When, under the **Rules**, a player elects or is required to play her next stroke from where a previous stroke was played, she must proceed as follows: if the stroke is to be played from the teeing ground, the ball to be played must be played from anywhere within the teeing ground and may be teed; if the stroke is to be played from **through the green** or a hazard, it must be dropped; if the stroke is to be played on the putting green, the ball must be placed.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF RULE -- loss of the hole.

RULE 30 – THREE-BALL, BEST BALL AND FOUR-BALL MATCH PLAY

30-3 BEST BALL AND FOUR-BALL MATCH PLAY

a. Representation of a Side

A side may be represented by one **partner** for all or any part of a match; all partners need not be present. An absent **partner** may join a match between holes but not during the play of a hole.

b. Order of Play

Balls belonging to the same **side** may be played in the order the **side** considers best.

c. Wrong Ball

If a player incurs a loss of hole penalty under **Rule 15-3a** for making a stroke at a **wrong ball**, she is disqualified for that hole, but her partner incurs no penalty even if the **wrong ball** belongs to her. If the **wrong ball** belongs to another player, its owner must place a ball on the spot from which the **wrong ball** was first played.

d. Penalty to Side

A side is penalized for breach of any of the following by any partner:

- **Rule 4** – Clubs
- **Rule 6-4** – Caddie
- Any Local Rule or Condition of the Competition for which the penalty is an adjustment to the state of the match.

e. Disqualification of a Side

A **side** is disqualified if any partner incurs a disqualification under any of the following:

- **Rule 1-3** – Agreement to Waive Rules
- **Rule 4** – Clubs.
- **Rule 5-1 or 5-2** – The Ball.
- **Rule 6-2a** – Handicap (playing off higher handicap).
- **Rule 6-7** – Undue Delay; Slow Play (repeated offense)
- **Rule 11-1** – Teeing
- **Rule 14-3** – Artificial Devices, Unusual Equipment and Use of Unusual Equipment
- **Rule 33-7** – Disqualification Penalty Imposed by Committee

A **side** is disqualified for a breach of any of the following **by all partners**:

- **Rule 6-3** – Time of Starting and Groups.
- **Rule 6-8** – Discontinuance of Play.

f. Effect of Other Penalties

If a player's breach of a Rule assists her **partner's** play or adversely affects the opponent's play, **the partner incurs the applicable penalty in addition to any penalty incurred by the player.**

In all other cases where a player incurs a penalty for breach of a Rule, the penalty does not apply to her **partner**. Where the penalty is stated to be loss of hole, **the effect is to disqualify the player for that hole.**



ONE-STROKE PENALTIES

RULE	PENALTY
5-3	Penalty for failure to comply with the proper procedure when lifting a ball to determine if it is unfit for play. (Must announce intention, mark the ball and allow opponent, marker or fellow competitor to examine the ball.)
6-7 Note 2	Undue Delay; Slow Play. USGA suggests a warning for the first breach. However, the Committee may modify the penalty for breach of this rule to a one-stroke penalty for the first offense (Stroke Play only).
12-2	Penalty for failure to comply with the proper procedure when lifting a ball for the purpose of identification. (Ball must be at rest , must announce intention, mark the ball.) Or if he lifts his ball in order to identify it when not necessary to do so.
14-4	Striking the ball more than once in the course of a stroke.
16-2	Ball overhanging the hole falls in after waiting more than 10 seconds.
18-2a	Ball at rest moved by player, partner, caddie or equipment.
18-2b	Ball moving after address.
18-3b	Ball at rest moved by an opponent, her caddie or her equipment other than during search. (Opponent receives the penalty; the ball must be replaced.) (Match play only.)
19-2	Ball in motion accidentally deflected or stopped by player, partner, caddie or equipment.
20-1	Lifting the ball without marking it when a rule requires it to be replaced.
20-2	Ball dropped in an incorrect manner and the error not corrected.
20-3a	A ball to be placed under the Rules must be placed by the player or his partner. If a ball is to be replaced, the player, his partner or the person who lifted or moved it must place it on the spot from which it was lifted or moved. If the ball is placed or replaced by any other person and the error is not corrected as provided in Rule 20-6, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke.
21	Cleaning ball when not permitted by the Rules.
24-2b, ii,b	Taking relief outside a bunker from an immovable obstruction when the ball lies in a bunker.
25-1b	Taking relief outside a hazard from abnormal ground conditions when the ball lies in a hazard.
26	Water hazards (relief from).
27-1	Ball lost or out of bounds.
28	Ball declared unplayable.

Bold denotes new rules in 2008

RULES THAT CAN HELP

1. In match play, knowing how to make a **claim** when you think your opponent has not played by the **Rules of Golf. (Rule 2-5)**
2. In stroke play, knowing how to play a **second ball** when you are in doubt as to procedure. **(Rule 3-3)**
3. In match play, a player may **practice** on the competition course before a round **(7-1a)**. Not so in a stroke play competition **(7-1b)**.
4. A player is entitled to ascertain from her opponent, during the play of a hole, the **number of strokes** she has taken. **(Rule 9-2)**
5. **In search** for a ball in a hazard, you may probe or rake or use other means to find the ball within the allotted five minutes. There is no penalty for moving the ball in this process, but it must be replaced and recovered to only expose a part of the ball. **(Rule 12-1)**
6. In a **hazard** you **may touch** the **ground** only (1) in search, (2) to keep from falling, (3) in removing a movable obstruction, (4) in measuring or lifting, (5) when placing clubs in the hazard, (6) after a stroke, in repairing. You may touch obstructions or growing things. **(Rule 13-4)**
7. You may **touch** your **line of putt only** (i) to remove loose impediments by any means (without pressing down), (ii) in addressing the ball, (iii) in measuring, (iv) in the process of lifting, (v) in pressing down a ball marker, (vi) repairing old hole plugs or ball marks on the green, (vii) in removing movable obstructions. **(Rule 16-1)**
8. You may have the **flagstick attended, removed or held up** to indicate the position of the hole. You need not be on the green to have the flagstick attended. It is deemed to be attended **until the ball comes to rest.** **(Rule 17-1)**
9. There is no penalty for **accidentally moving your ball** (1) while measuring, **18-6** (2), while searching in a hazard, or abnormal ground conditions, **Rule 12-1**, (3) while repairing a hole plug or ball mark on the green, **Rule 16-1c**, (4) while removing loose impediments on the green, **Rule 18-2c**, (5) while lifting ball under a rule, **Rule 20-1**, (6) in placing or replacing ball, **Rule 20-3a**, (7) while removing a movable obstruction, **Rule 24-1**.
10. If your **opponent** accidentally **moves your ball**, except in search, she is assessed a one-stroke penalty. **(Rule 18-3b)**

11. If **your ball in motion** is accidentally **stopped or deflected by** your **opponent**, you may either play the ball as it lies or immediately replay the shot. No penalty. (**Rule 19-3**)
12. If a **ball dropped, under the Rules, touches** the **player**, her partner, their caddies or equipment, there is no penalty and the ball must be redropped. (**Rule 20-2a**)
13. If a **ball** when placed fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, it must be replaced without penalty. If it still **fails to come to rest on that spot**: (i) except in a hazard, it must be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole or in a hazard where it can be placed at rest; (ii) in a hazard, it must be placed in the hazard at the nearest spot not nearer the hole where it can be placed at rest.

If a **ball comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed, and it subsequently moves**, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies. (**Rule 20-3d**)
14. **Erasure Rule:** Ball dropped or placed in wrong place or in a wrong way but not played, may be lifted and done correctly. No penalty. (**Rule 20-6**)
15. Any time a **ball** is lifted, under a Rule, it **may be cleaned, except** when lifted (1) to determine if the ball is **unfit, Rule 5-3**, (2) to **identify** the ball, **Rule 12-2** or (3) when lifting the ball because it is **interfering with or assisting** play, **Rule 22** or (4) to determine if the ball is embedded or in a burrowing animal hole, **Decision 25-2/7**.
16. Any player may have any **ball** lifted if she considers that the ball might interfere with her play or **assist** any other player. (**Rule 22**)
17. **Movable obstructions**, if you wish to get relief, must be **moved**. You may not drop your ball away from a movable obstruction. (**Rule 24-1**)
18. **Except in a water hazard or lateral water hazard**, you are allowed stance or swing **relief from an immovable obstruction**. Drop within one club-length of the nearest point of relief. No penalty. (**Rule 24-2b**)
19. If a ball is **lost in an immovable obstruction**, except in a water hazard, a ball may be substituted and dropped within one club length of the nearest point of relief from **where the ball last crossed the outermost limits of the obstructions**. No penalty. (**Rule 24-3b**)
20. You get stance and swing **relief** (no penalty) from abnormal ground conditions on the course. In a water hazard you get no relief, without penalty, from abnormal ground conditions. (**Rule 25-1**)

21. Except in a water hazard, if your **ball is lost** in an **abnormal ground condition** a ball may be substituted and dropped within one club length at the nearest point of relief from where the original ball last crossed the outermost limits of the abnormal ground condition. (**Rule 25-1c**)
22. An **embedded ball** may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned, and dropped, as near as possible to its own pitch mark, in any closely mown area “through the green” (**Rule 25-2**). Most courses have a local rule, which is authorized by the USGA, allowing relief anywhere “through the green.” See Appendix I (**Local Rules**).
23. **Water Hazards** are defined by yellow stakes and lines. Two relief options, with a one-stroke penalty: (1) **Replay**, (2) **Drop** a ball, behind the water hazard, **keeping the point** at which the original ball **last crossed** the **margin** of the water hazard directly **between the hole and** the **spot** on which the ball is dropped, with no limit as to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped. (**Rule 26-1**)
24. **Lateral Water Hazards** are defined by **red stakes and lines**. The above options may be used with the following two additional options: A ball may be dropped outside the water hazard within **two club-lengths of** and not nearer the hole than (i) the point where the original **ball last crossed the margin** of the hazard or (ii) a point on the **opposite margin** of the lateral water hazard **equidistant from the hole** (**Rule 26-1**).
25. If your ball may be lost outside a water hazard or may be out of bounds, you may play a **provisional** ball. Inform your opponent or fellow-competitor of your intentions, or it will be your “ball in play” (**Rule 27-2**).
26. You have **5 minutes**, from the beginning of search, to **find the ball**. (**Rule 27**)
27. You may declare your **ball unplayable** at any place on the course except in a water hazard. You are the sole judge. Three options, each with a one-stroke penalty. (1) Play a ball as nearly as possible from where the original ball was last played; (2) Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole; or (3) Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit as to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped. If in the bunker, the ball must stay in the bunker if (2) or (3) is used (**Rule 28**).

WOMEN'S SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

*Pace of Play Guidelines

* **Notes 1 & 2 under 6-7 are in effect.**

<u>STROKE PLAY</u>	<u>PENALTY</u>	<u>MATCH PLAY</u>
1st Offense - one stroke		1st Offense - loss of hole
2nd Offense - two strokes		Repeated Offense -
Disqualification		
Repeated Offense - Disqualification		

MONITORING

- If a group is determined to be out of position at any time, the group will be advised that it is out of position and **each player** in the group will be monitored and timed.
- If **any player** in a group that is being monitored takes more than 40 seconds to play a stroke, **the player** will automatically incur the applicable penalty for breach of these guidelines.

TIMING

- Timing shall begin when the player has had a reasonable opportunity to reach the ball, there is no interference from another person or ball, and it is the player's turn to play.
- When the group has regained its position, timing will be discontinued.

*Rule 6-7 of the Rules of Golf requires that a player "shall play without undue delay"

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

POSITION STATEMENT

The Women's Southern California Golf Association reconsidered its position on the use of distance-measuring devices in WSCGA-sponsored events in accordance with **USGA** guidelines.

The **USGA** decisions on the Rules of Golf effective January 1, 2006 allows a Committee to permit the use of distance-measuring devices by Local Rule. This applies to devices that measure distance only, not other conditions that might affect a player's play (e.g., wind or gradient)

The WSCGA Committee has created a Local Rule which allows the use of distance-measuring devices at all WSCGA tournament and team play competitions. This Local Rule applies even if a club has not adopted their own Local Rule regarding distance-measuring devices.

Effective **immediately**, conditions of play for WSCGA-organized events will invoke the following **USGA** recommended wording for the Local Rule allowing distance-measuring devices:

"Distance-Measuring Devices: For this competition, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. However, if during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used."

CELL PHONE POLICY

POSITION STATEMENT

The use of a cell phone or other electronic device is not of itself a breach of the Rules of Golf. However, if the device is used and a breach of etiquette occurs, the penalty is disqualification (Rule 1-4) of the side.

Repeated use of a cell phone on the golf course may constitute a serious breach of etiquette, resulting in a penalty of disqualification (Rule 33-7) of the side.

Using a cell phone to ask for or give advice during a stipulated round is in breach of Rule 8-1 (Decision 14-3/16). Penalty is disqualification of the side.

As many WSCGA clubs prohibit use of cell phones on their grounds, the WSCGA strongly recommends that cell phones not be used in WSCGA tournaments or team play. A club's stricter policy takes precedence.