Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

For 2027 SDGA Championships 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 SDGA championships and hosted qualifying rounds. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Competitors for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023. **Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.**

LOCAL RULES

Course Scorecard — Any Local Rules listed on the club scorecard or posted at the host club are unofficial and have no status in SDGA competitions.

Out of Bounds — Defined by white lines or 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.

Ground Under Repair — Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair. When immediately adjacent to an immovable obstruction, such an area is part of that obstruction.

Animal Near Ball — Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect. A player may remove an animal, other than a loose impediment, that is touching or near their ball without penalty.

Relief from Seams of Cut Turf — Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1. Interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance.

Immovable Obstructions — Include plastic bumpers on roads and paths, and mats secured to the ground with spikes when the bumpers or mats cover cables.

White-Lined Areas Tying Into Artificially Surfaced 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 Chip and Mulch — Are loose impediments

Integral Objects — 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 — If needed, Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. (See Local Rules at event for specifics)

List of Conforming Driver Heads — Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

Groove and Punch Mark Specifications — Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect, except as modified by the applicable championship entry application.

List of Conforming Golf Balls — Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

One Ball Rule (Model Local Rule G-4) is NOT IN EFFECT.

Missing Player or Marker Certification — Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect. The penalty for violation of Rule 3.3b(2) may be modified by the Committee to two strokes.

Pace of Play — See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy, when applicable.

Permanent Elevated Power Lines — Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and is modified as follows: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds, the stroke does not count and must be replayed under Rule 14.6.

Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens — Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is on the line of play, and both the ball and the obstruction are in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. The obstruction must be on or within two club-lengths of the putting green AND within two club-lengths of the ball. Complete relief must be taken which includes both physical and line of play interference.

Dress Code — Players and caddies must be neat in appearance and in proper golf attire on the course, in the clubhouse and on the club grounds. Athletic shorts, tee shirts, tank tops and denim bottoms are prohibited. Should a host golf course have a stricter dress code, its policy will take precedence. The committee shall decide whether this requirement has been met and will take the appropriate action.

Footwear (SoftSpikes only) **—** During a round, a player must not wear shoes of any design comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course). Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: See Rule 4.3.

Stopping and Resuming Play — Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect. 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 air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn 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.

When Scorecard is Returned — The definition of when a scorecard is returned is modified as follows: If a scorecard is validated in the scoring system and the player has left the scoring area, the player may return to correct an error within 15 minutes of its validation. Exceptions may apply when constraints within the competition limit a player's correction time to less than 15 minutes, such as releasing tee times following the cut, starting a playoff, or the close of the competition.

When Competition Is Final — The competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.