



103rd PGA Championship
The Ocean Course
Kiawah Island, South Carolina
May 20 – 23, 2021
Notice to Players



Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2019, the PGA of America Local Rules and Terms of the Competition Card (Hard Card), the Local Rule for this Championship setting a Pace of Play Policy (available at the starting tees), and where applicable, by the following Local Rules, which apply to this golf course.

- 1) **Bunkers:** There are **NO bunkers** on the *course*. All sandy areas, whether natural, specially prepared and/or enclosed by grass and are **not** in a **penalty area** are treated as part of the **general area**. These areas are not considered to be cut to fairway height or less and relief for an *embedded* ball under Rule 16.3b is not allowed in these areas.

Rules Reminders:

- Prior to a *stroke* the player may make practice swings in these areas and may ground the club lightly right in front of or right behind the ball.
- In **searching** for a ball in these areas (Rule 7.1) the player may move sand and there is no penalty if the ball is accidentally *moved* by anyone while trying to find or identify it (Rule 7.4). In such a case, or if the ball is lifted for identification or other reason, the original *lie* must be re-created when the ball is replaced, but the player may leave a small part of the ball visible when doing so.
- Sand and loose soil** are **not loose impediments** and the only *areas of the course* where they may be removed, without penalty, is on the *putting green* and in the *teeing area*.

NOTE: All sandy areas inside the gallery rope line will be raked each morning prior to play. Rakes are provided so that these areas may be smoothed as a courtesy to other players and for care of the *course*. During play, footprints, indentations, vehicular damage or uneven surfaces will develop. However, **whether inside or outside the gallery rope line**, relief without penalty is **NOT** allowed for interference by any of these alterations to the surface of the ground, whether or not smoothed.

- 2) **Automotive Transportation:** Automotive transportation will be provided for players and caddies during the round from #9 green to #10 tee and from #18 green to #1 tee. This modifies item #5d on the PGA of America Hard Card. Players and caddies must walk at all other times during their *round*.

3) **Abnormal Course Conditions:**

- Ground Under Repair:** In addition to item #4a on the PGA of America Hard Card, holes or casts made by sand crabs are *ground under repair*. **But** interference does not exist if the hole or cast only interferes with the player's *stance*.
- Obstructions:** In addition to item #4b on the PGA of America Hard Card, the following are *obstructions*:
 - Green "bike" fencing such as that located behind #1 tee and beyond #18 green are treated as a *movable obstruction*.
 - Mini tee back signs (less than 2' in height) are treated as a *movable obstruction*.
 - Bridges throughout the course are treated as *immovable obstructions*. **But**, the player bridges right of #9 green and beyond #18 green are **TIOs**.
 - Wooden steps and birdhouses are *immovable obstructions*.
 - Railroad ties, when not in a penalty area, are *immovable obstructions*.
- Integral Objects:** In addition to item #4d on the PGA of America Hard Card, all sand or gravel pathways throughout the *course* are *integral objects*. Individual pieces of gravel on such pathways are *loose impediments*.
- Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs):**
 - Temporary Immovable Obstructions include:**
 - Tee back signs over 2' in height
 - Tee forward signs
 - "Either Side" Relief Option:** The player is permitted to take relief on the other side of **any** TIO for **line of sight interference ONLY**. This is in addition to the relief options allowed under Clauses b and c of Model Local Rule F-23 (Local Rule for TIOs).
Note: If a player chooses to take relief from physical interference using the procedures in Rule 16.1, the option to take relief on either side is **NOT** allowed.
 - Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs) Treat as One:** This includes all TIOs connected by blue lines and/or meshing.

- 4) **Yellow Penalty Area to be Played as Red Penalty Area Hole #10, #11, #16, #18:** During the play of hole #10, #11, #16, #18 the yellow *penalty area* in front of #17 green is to be played as a red *penalty area*.

- 5) **Dropping Zone for Yellow Penalty Area #17:** When a player's ball is in the *penalty area* on hole 17, including when it is *known or virtually certain* to be in a *penalty area* even though not found, the player may take relief using one of the options under Rule 17.1d or, as an additional option, the player may *drop* a ball in the dropping zone under penalty of one stroke.

Location of Dropping Zone – right forward tee (approximately 110 yards to front of green)

- 6) **Distance-Measuring Devices:** The use of distance-measuring devices is allowed during a player's round in accordance with Rule 4.3a(1).

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Play-Off: In the event of a tie for the Championship, there will be a three-hole aggregate score play-off on holes #10, #17 and #18. If there is still a tie, the play-off will continue on a hole-by-hole basis, commencing on hole #18 and if necessary, on to holes #10 and #17, repeating until a winner is determined.

Player Only Restrooms: Are located short game practice area, short of #2 fairway, behind #6 green, #12 tee and #16 tee.