



Local Rules

USGA Rules: Each of the SBS Golf Local Tournaments will be contested in accordance with USGA rules, plus the additional “local rules” described below. Additional information may be provided on the local club scorecard pertaining to certain holes, public roads, or other boundary clarifications.

Spirit of the tournament: Players are asked to honor the spirit of the tournament and the Step by Step Golf values described [HERE](#). Be nice and have fun!. Respect the golf course staff, the tournament staff, and your fellow competitors. The “spirit of the tournament” includes a no alcohol policy.

Rules Application & Forgiveness: When a rules question arises, or a question pertaining about how to proceed, please try to come to an agreement within your group. While we support you being lenient and forgiving when there is no competitive advantage gained, also remember you have an obligation to protect the field by helping your playing partners play within the rules and taking proper penalty strokes. Finding the healthy balance will help increase the enjoyment for all. If your group cannot agree on how to proceed:

- Call the Tournament Director to ask for clarification
- Play two balls and ask for clarification at the scoring table

Preferred Lies: Players may lift, clean, and place in his/her own fairway, closely mown areas around the green, and bunkers. The ball must be replaced within one club length in the same condition. Not included in lift, clean, and place: rough, penalty areas, other fairways.

One Touch/Both Touch: Specifically In a team format when one player per side is allowed to touch the ball, such as a scramble, both players per side are allowed to touch the ball. In a scramble, for example, both players per side can then lift, clean, and place on every shot, including balls played from a penalty area or bunker.

Triple Bogey Max: If you reach triple bogey, pick up and move on!

All About Lateral: Balls coming to rest out of bounds, or inside of a yellow penalty area should be played as a red (lateral) penalty area. Lost balls in the general area should be played as a red (lateral) penalty area.

Covid rules:

- The ball must come to rest inside the cup to be count as holed. Balls that fall in and bounce out (due to a contraption inside the ball) are not to be counted as holed.
- Removal of pins: Follow the local club policy. If no policy exists, players may choose.

Miscellaneous:

- Players under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.
- Ties will be broken by use of a scorecard playoff, starting with the back nine, then the front nine, then a hole by hole comparison starting with 18.
- Mulligans and gimmes are not allowed. Even with the relaxed rules described above, we still will only play one ball and you must hole out to record an official score for the hole.
- If your Local Tour offers more than one “team event”, you must have a different partner in each event.
- College golfers must play in the Fellowship Division (not eligible for points or prizes).
- Stroke play events will include an optional “Skins Game” for \$10. Venmo is used to receive payment and to issue payment to the winners. 100% of the money will be paid out.