



2020 Alberta Golf Tour Rules Sheet

1. Golf Canada rules govern all play except where modified by local rules. **Please familiarize yourself with Local Rules on the back of the course's scorecard and on this Rules Sheet.**
2. **We will be playing a local forest/fescue rule.** You may treat all heavily treed/grassed areas as a red lateral penalty area. You may search for your ball up to a **maximum of THREE minutes (if you are IN POSITION)**. You then have 3 options:
 - 1) re-hit the shot from the same spot, or
 - 2) drop as far back as you want keeping the ball (or point of entry to the penalty area) directly between you and the flag, or
 - 3) 2 club lengths from point of entry (on lost or found ball) in any direction no closer to the hole.You will take a **1 stroke penalty** for any of these options.
3. Being "in position" means: you are immediately (1 shot) behind the group ahead of you. Reminder, the group behind you has no bearing on whether YOUR group is in position or not.
4. **Distance Measuring Devices:** A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only, NOT slope, wind, etc. General Penalty (2 strokes) for first breach. DQ for second breach.
5. **Abnormal Course Conditions**
 - a. Ground Under Repair includes areas defined by white lines; French drains filled with stones are ground under repair. Flower beds are ground under repair no play zones.
 - b. Relief from Seams of Cut Turf – 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 16.1b.
 - c. Immovable Obstructions – White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced road or path, or other identified obstructions they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
6. **Caddies** – Use of caddies will not be permitted for the 2020 season.
7. **Bunkers and Rakes** - There shall be no rakes on the golf course. Players may take free relief from disturbed areas in the bunkers in the form of a preferred lie (place the ball), but such relief must be taken elsewhere within the bunker, within 1 club length from nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole. Players are strongly encouraged to try their best to smooth the disturbed area with a foot or a club when exiting the bunker.
8. **Flagstick** - Touching the flagstick is not permitted for the 2020 season, with the exception of a situation where wind or other outside forces have caused it to block any part of the hole. Please use a club to reseat the pin, or a towel if that does not work. With the permission of the group, a player may tap down on the cup insert with their putter ONLY to ensure it is placed properly. This must be done within reason, without touching anything with a hand/glove and without unnecessary delay. Anyone not adhering to this rule will receive the General Penalty (2 strokes) for first breach. DQ for second breach.
9. **Scorecards and Scoring** – You will be assigned someone to keep score for, as well as keep your own score as usual. At the end of the round you will verbally verify your score as usual and once confirmed, you will then hold up the scorecard for scoring to take a picture of. Verbally read scores outloud to the scorer and then place the scorecard in the provided bin. At this point your scorecard is considered returned.

10. Enter your TOURNAMENT score into Golf Canada as soon as possible immediately following your round.
11. **If you are unsure of a rule, play two balls through the hole in question and check with the Rules Committee immediately after your round. (Rule 20.1C3).**
12. In the event of a tie for 1st place in any division, normally a playoff would ensue. However, due to restrictions and flights not teeing off together, for the 2020 season, retrogression WILL BE USED for 1st place only. All other ties 2nd place and on will split points and pots.
13. Yes, you may have an alcoholic beverage. No, you may not get belligerent. BE RESPONSIBLE, or this wonderful aspect of our tournaments may get revoked, or an individual may be asked to leave the Tour.
14. **GOOD LUCK & HAVE FUN!**

Alberta Golf Tour Pace of Play Policy

The Alberta Golf Tour policy leaves the responsibility for maintaining the pace of play where it belongs, with the player. Efficient pace of play is a huge factor of a successful and positive Alberta Golf Tour experience for all participants in accordance with the GOLF CANADA Rules of Golf.

PLAY READY GOLF WHEN IT IS SAFE AND REASONABLE TO DO SO.

Lead Group(s): The first group(s) must finish their first nine holes within the maximum allotted time established by the committee (on your scorecard). If the lead group finishes over the maximum allotted time after nine holes, each player in the group will be put on the clock for hole 10. The first group(s) off each tee must also finish 18 holes within the maximum allotted time established by the committee. Failure to finish under this maximum allotted time for 18-holes will result in a 1-stroke penalty, which will be assessed to the score on the final hole of play. If they finish over 14 minutes over maximum allotted time, a 2-stroke penalty will be applied.

Exception: If the lead group(s) are held up by public play that was sent out before them or that began on the opposite tee, they will be exempt from the pace of play penalty(s) if they finish over their maximum time but within 14 minutes of the group ahead of them.

Following Groups: A verbal warning will be assessed to any group failing to complete their 9th hole within 14 minutes of the group in front of them AND over their maximum allotted time. A 1-stroke penalty will be assessed to any group failing to complete their 18th hole over 14 minutes behind the group in front of them AND over their maximum allotted time, and a 2-stroke penalty will be assessed at the 22 minute mark.

Players are advised of the following:

- Rules officials are not required to notify a player and/or group that they are behind. This is the responsibility of the group and each individual player in that group
- Each group is responsible for monitoring its own pace and for being in position
- As a courtesy to each player, the pace of play policy will be reiterated on the starting hole
- As a courtesy to each player, the maximum allotted time will be on your official scorecard
- If a player is penalized three (3) times during the season that player will be suspended from tournament play for a minimum of six (6) months