



OTTAWA VALLEY GOLF ASSOCIATION

Rules for Adult Intersectionals (February 2025)

To continue to make OVGA tournaments an enjoyable experience for everyone, the OVGA requires that all the participants in its tournaments adhere to specific standards. Please reference the OVGA “Player Code of Conduct” for additional information.

Delay of Game by a player or his/her caddy is not permitted.

Any disputes regarding the draw or the eligibility of players must be submitted via email to the Director of Intersectionals (intersectionals@ovga.org) for review. Requests for review must identify the player(s) in question and should be received within seven (7) days of the completion of the competition.

Specific Rules for Competition

1. **Format:** Play is Match Play format. Rules of Golf for Match Play apply. Local Rules may supersede if stated.
2. **One Ball:** Each of the four players plays an individual match against the other three players at the same time, and each player plays one ball that is used in all their matches.
Exception:

If a player plays out of turn in any match, the opponent who should have played first may cancel the stroke. If the player played out of turn in more than one match, each opponent may choose whether to cancel the stroke in their match with the player.

If a player plays the first shot of a hole from outside the teeing area, one or more opponents may cancel the stroke.

If a player’s stroke is cancelled in one or two matches, the player must play a separate ball in those matches and continue to play with the original ball in the remaining match(es).

If an opponent gets one penalty stroke for lifting a player’s ball or ball-marker or causing a ball or ball-marker to move under Rule 9.5b or 9.7b, that penalty applies only in the

match with that player. The opponent gets no penalty in their matches with the other players.

3. **Preferred Lies:** Normally, a player's ball at rest on the course must be played as it lies (Rule 9.1).

However, if adverse conditions such as heavy winds, prolonged rain or extreme heat have caused widespread damage to the course, the Committee may adopt Model Local Rule E-3 for "preferred lies" as follows:

When any player's ball touches part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from the following relief area:

- Reference point: Spot of the original ball.
- Size of the relief area measured from the reference point: one club-length from the reference point but with these limits:
- Limits on location of the area:
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point and
 - Must be in the general area.

4. **Lift, Clean and Replace:** When conditions such as wet ground throughout parts of the course may cause mud to stick to the ball, rather than using the "preferred lies" Local Rule in 3 above, the Committee may allow the player to mark, lift, clean and replace the ball in the general area by adopting Model Local Rule E-2 as follows:

When the player's ball lies in the general area cut to fairway height or less, the ball may be lifted, cleaned and replaced without penalty. The player must mark the spot of the ball before lifting it (see Rule 14.1), and the ball must be replaced on its original spot (see Rule 14.2).

5. **Disputes:** When a Rule of Golf issue arises, the player whose ball is involved must decide what to do and play on. Playing a second ball is not permitted in Match Play (except as outlined in 2 above). In all other cases, the penalty for playing a second ball is the General Penalty (Loss of Hole). The opponents who disagree with the player's decision may notify the player that they will request a ruling.

There will not be a Rules Official IMMEDIATELY available. Any ruling request, if it is to be considered by the Committee, MUST be made by the opponent to the player whose ball is involved before either player plays from the next teeing ground or, in the case of the final hole, before the result of the match has been made final. Upon completion of the match, all ruling requests MUST be made to the Committee, who will contact the Rules Committee for a Decision.

6. **Practice:** No practice on the competition course on the day of the competition before the round.

Model Local Rule I1.1 is invoked as follows.

Rule 5.2a is modified in this way:

On the day of the competition, a player must not practice on the competition course before the round.

If a player makes a stroke in breach of this Local Rule, they get the general penalty (Loss of Hole) applied to their first hole. If they make an additional stroke in breach of this Local Rule, they are disqualified.

7. **Caddies:** Caddies may advise their own player ONLY. A player shall not ask for advice from or give advice to anyone else in the competition. (Rule 10.2a). If a caddie's action breaches a Rule or would breach a Rule if the action was taken by the player, the player gets the penalty under that Rule. (Rule 10.3c).
8. **Team Captains:** Team Captains may not give advice to any of their team's players. Team Captains may share information only. No other advice givers are permitted in this competition. (Rule 24.4a)
9. **Pace of Play:** Pace of play is expected to be kept by all players. Keep up with the group in front. In consideration of the Host Club and other players in the competition, a player shall play without undue delay. Please remember Match Play rules are in effect, putts may be given, and holes may be conceded if appropriate and are encouraged for Pace of Play.

Host clubs may designate a Pace of Play volunteer to monitor pace. If a group is deemed to be two (2) holes or more behind, the group will receive a first warning. If the pace is still slow, the group may be asked to skip a hole to catch up, and no score will be recorded for the missed hole(s).
10. **Scoring:** Match Play score is based on holes won, lost or tied. Each Host Club player will keep the Official Score Card to be handed in at the end of the match. Each player MUST sign the Official Score Card at the end of the match and before leaving the course. If there is a dispute at the end of the competition and a card is without signature, the Official Score Card will stand as presented.
11. **Ties:** Ties will be decided at the end of the competition using the following procedure:
 - a) The matches played between the two tied teams are considered, with the team having the greater number of points in these matches being the winner.

- b) If the teams are still tied after (a), the individual matches between the tied teams, starting with the lowest handicap players (i.e., the last to tee off), are considered on a sudden-win basis until the tie is broken.

12. Termination of Play: Due to inclement weather or darkness

- Every effort will be made to ensure that all matches are completed due to the impossibility of rescheduling the competition.
- Any matches that have not completed the stipulated round will be decided by the standing in the match at the last hole completed.
- Should teams be tied at the termination of play, the placing will be decided by the formula set out under Ties.