

NOTICE TO PLAYERS

Play is governed by the 2019 Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and R&A, its clarifications and interpretations, 2020 Texas Golf Association Local Rules and Terms of the Competition ('Hard Card') and where applicable, the following Local Rules. All Local Rules listed on Abilene Country Club scorecards, notice boards or posted on the course are **not** in effect for this qualifier. Unless otherwise noted below, penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

1. **Format:** The qualifying is scheduled for 18 holes of individual stroke play. Players are competing for **5 qualifying spots and 3 alternate positions**.
2. **Tees:** Play will be contested from the Abilene Country Club's 'Blue' tee markers.
3. **Automotive Transportation:** Players may walk or ride in sectional qualifying at their discretion. Carts are limited to two (2) riders at a time and two (2) carts per group. **While there is more than one player in a cart, facemasks MUST be worn.** Players are allowed to place their clubs on the cart and walk without having to wear a facemask. **Caddies are required to walk at all times.** Violations or intentional disregard will be considered a breach of the TGA Code of Conduct. For more information, see the updated [TGA Covid-19 Championship Guidelines](#).
4. **Playoffs:** Ties for the last qualifying spot and alternate positions will be broken by a sudden death hole-by-hole playoff. There will be no playoff for medalist. The playoff will begin immediately after all scores have been approved and posted online by TGA. **All announcements pertaining to the playoff will be made at the scoring area by #18 Green.**
5. **Scoring:** Scores must be attested and verified verbally immediately after completing the qualifying round to the designated TGA scoring area, which is located behind #18 Putting Green. The scorecard is considered returned when the player verbally approved what is online/tv.
6. **Out of Bounds:** In addition to the items listed on the 2020 Texas Golf Association Hard Card, Out of Bounds is defined by:
 - a) White stakes, even when property fences are present
 - b) Paved Roadways

Note: A ball that crosses a public roadway defined as a boundary and comes to rest beyond that boundary is deemed to be out of bounds even if it lies on another part of the golf course.
7. **Drop Zone - #16:** If a ball is known or virtually certain to have come to rest within the Yellow Penalty Area, a player may proceed under any of the options as prescribed under Rule 17.1d. As an additional option, a player may drop a ball under penalty of one stroke in the dropping zone provided.
 - a) *Drop Zone - #16: Approximately 105 yards on the forward tee*
8. **Waste Area:** The sandy, area between #6 fairway and #9 fairway is deemed to be a waste area and are part of the General Area. Sand and loose soil are NOT loose impediments.
9. **Flagsticks:** Flagsticks may not be touched or removed. Violations or intentional disregard will be considered a breach of the TGA Code of Conduct. For more information, see the [TGA Covid-19 Championship Guidelines](#).
10. **Bunkers:** Bunkers will be in play, and players should make their best effort to smooth the sand after playing from it. Players may take optional relief in a bunker under Model Local Rule – E3 Preferred Lies. Players may mark, lift clean and place a ball within one club-length of the original spot, but **MUST** remain in the bunker.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.
11. **Abnormal Course Conditions:**
 - a) The turf nurseries located behind #6 green and to the right of #12 green are deemed to be **Ground Under Repair** from which relief is MANDATORY.
 - b) **Flower Beds/Landscaped Areas** that are completely encircled by an obstruction or white line deemed to be part of the same obstruction.
12. **Doubt as to Procedure:** If a competitor is in doubt as to a procedure under the rules and a referee is not proximately available, to avoid delay he may play a second ball under Rule 20.1c(3). He **must** report the facts to the Committee before returning his scorecard, otherwise he is subject to **disqualification**.
13. **Evacuation Procedure:** In case of a dangerous situation or suspension of play, players will evacuate the golf course and return to the main clubhouse for further instructions.
14. **Pace of Play:** The established Pace of Play for Abilene Country Club is 4:42 hours for 18 holes.