

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 Hillcrest CC scorecards, notice boards or posted on the course are **not** in effect for this championship. Unless otherwise noted below, penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

1. **Format:** The sectional qualifying is scheduled for 18 holes of individual stroke play. Players are competing for **3 qualifying spots** and **2 alternate positions**.
2. **Tees:** Play will be contested from the **Hillcrest CC Gold 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 can place their clubs on the cart and walk without having to wear a facemask. Violations or intentional disregard will be considered a breach of the TGA Code of Conduct. For more information, see [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 at approximately 30 minutes after the last group has verified their scorecard. **All announcements pertaining to the playoff will be made at the scoring area.**
5. **Scoring:** Scores must be attested and verified verbally immediately after completing the qualifying round to the designated TGA scoring area, which is located adjacent to the clubhouse. The scorecard is considered returned when the player verbally approved what is online.
6. **Out of Bounds:** Out of bounds is defined by white stakes, fence posts, parking lot and roadways.
 - White stakes;
 - Wood posts of wire fence
 - White painted telephone poles (when painted to the approximate height of a wooden stake)
 - **Note:** If a ball crosses a roadway and comes to rest on another hole, that ball is out of bounds even though it is on the golf course.
7. **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](#).
8. **Abnormal Course Conditions:** Include but are not limited to the following a) prepared stone or rock areas adjacent to cart paths are considered part of the cart path, b) stone yardage markers in the general area along sides of fairways, c) stone hole markers near teeing areas, and e) decorative rocks.
9. **Bunkers:** When a player's ball lies in a bunker, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:
 - **Reference Point:** Spot of the original ball.
 - **Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:** One club-length, the reference point, **but** with these limits:
 - **Limits on Location of Relief Area:**
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
 - Must be 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.
10. **Penalty Areas:** All penalty areas are red penalty areas whether or not they are clearly marked. If an edge of a body of water is not defined, the edge of that penalty area is defined by its natural boundaries (i.e. where the ground slopes down to form the depression that can hold the water).
 - The red 4"x4" stakes in between holes 6&7 have no meaning and are to be treated as obstructions from which relief is available under Rule 16.1
11. **Railroad Ties:** All railroad ties are treated as integral objects of the golf course from which free relief is not available.
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 **disqualified**.
13. **Evacuation Procedure:** Players are to evacuate the golf course to the clubhouse for instructions.
14. **Pace of Play:** The established Pace of Play for Hillcrest Country Club is 4:33 for 18 holes.