

# Rules of Play and Local Rules

## Local Rules for 2024

### LOCAL RULE FOR “THE RULE OF 85” FOR SILVER TEE ELIGIBILITY

**Proposed Rule:** MOMC Players are eligible to play from the silver tees if your age plus your silver course handicap is greater than or equal to 85.

$$\text{Player Age} + \text{Silver course handicap} \geq 85$$

- If you qualify for the 85 or greater rule, you have the "option" to move up to the silver tees.
- Player eligibility will be verified by the MOMC handicap committee, tournament committee, and/or the pro shop staff prior to each event.
- For anyone who does move up to the silver tees, their handicap is adjusted according to the guidelines found in the USGA Handicap Manual.

### MOMC EVENT HANDICAP STROKE LIMIT

*Unless stipulated by the specific event, there shall be a maximum of two handicap strokes per hole in all MOMC events: capping the course handicap to 36 from a given set of tees. A player's adjusted course handicap may be greater than 36 only if the additional handicap strokes are added from multi-tee adjustments.*

To modernize the rules of golf, the USGA is making 33 major changes effective January 1, 2019. To speed up play in our MOMC events, the following local rules will be in effect for the 2018 MOMC season:

### PROPOSED NEW PROCEDURE FOR DROPPING A BALL

**Proposed Rule:** Players would continue to drop a ball when taking relief, but the dropping procedure would be changed in several ways as detailed in Rule 14.3.

How a ball may be dropped is simplified, with no limitations on how the ball must be held or how high it must be dropped from; the only requirement would be that the ball be let go from any height above the ground or any growing thing or other natural or artificial object so that it falls through the air, rather than being set down or placed on these things.

### PROPOSED CHANGE: TOUCHING THE LINE OF PLAY ON A PUTTING GREEN

**Proposed Rule:** The prohibition of touching the line of play on the putting green would be eliminated:

There would no longer be a penalty for merely touching the line of play on the putting green (the term “line of play” would apply everywhere on the course including the putting green, and the term “line of putt” would no longer be used). But the player would still be subject to the prohibition on improving his or her line of play on the putting green (see new Rule 8.1a, as limited by 8.1b).

### BALL PLAYED FROM GREEN HITS UNATTENDED FLAGSTICK IN HOLE

**Proposed Rule:** Under new Rule 13.2b(3):

There would no longer be a penalty if a ball played from the putting green hits an unattended flagstick in the hole. Players would not be required to putt with the unattended flagstick in the hole; rather, they would continue to have the choice to remove the flagstick before playing or to have it attended.