

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF LOTOS PGA POLSKA TOUR

### **1. Rules**

The tournaments will be played according to the Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Ltd., the PGA-Poland Hard Card 2016 and Local Rules approved by the Tournament Committee and published for each tournament. Each player in serious breach of the Etiquette (club throwing, swearing) may be disqualified after a single warning. Decision to enforce this penalty will be made by the Rules Official based on his evaluation of the situation (Rule 33-7). In case the Etiquette is breached by the caddie, the penalty is applied to the player who hires him. There is absolute ban on alcohol consumption on the course during tournament rounds under the penalty of disqualification. In case of disqualification for the above breach, the player will be banned from playing in two subsequent PGA-Poland tournaments which he enters and is eligible to play. In case of a repeat offence, the player will be banned from participation in PGA-Poland tournaments for a period of 2 years.

### **2. Eligibility**

The following players are eligible to play in tournaments organised by, or under the auspices of PGA-Poland:

- PGA-Poland members with a regulated membership fee for the given season,
- PGA-Poland Applicants who passed their qualifying rounds,
- Players who received the approval of the Tournaments Director and fulfil the following criteria:
  - Are members of other PGA's,
  - Have documented results from other professional Tours or tournaments.

Players who are suspended or excluded from PGA-Poland membership WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY IN PGA-POLAND TOURNAMENTS WITHOUT ANY EXCEPTIONS.

### **3. Time of starting**

Each player must start at the time established by the Committee. If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within 5 minutes after his starting time, in absence of circumstances that warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 33-7, the penalty in Stroke Play for failure to start on time will be two strokes on the first hole instead of disqualification.

### **4. Undue delay; Slow play (Rule 6-7)**

The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish. Each group must keep its position in relation to the preceding group.

### **5. Definition of "out of position"**

The first group will be considered "out of position" at any time during the round when it is in breach of the pace of play time guidelines. Each following group will be considered "out of position" if it breaches the pace of play time guidelines and the time difference between this group and the preceding group is greater than the starting times difference.

#### **5.1 Procedure when group is "out of position"**

A group which is "out of position" will be warned by the Rules Official. Players in this group will be timed. The time for each shot should not be longer than: first player in the group – 50 seconds for approach shot, chip or putt, and 40 seconds for the tee shot and the shot of the second, third and fourth player in the group. Outside the putting green, the time for the shot begins when the player had enough time to reach his ball, it is his

time to play and he can make the shot without outside interference. Time spent on measuring the distance is included in the time to play the shot. On the putting green, the time for the shot begins from the moment, when the player had enough time to lift, clean and replace his ball, repair pitch marks and old hole plugs, remove loose impediments from his putting line. Time spent on reading the green is included in the time to play the shot. If any of the players exceeds this time he will be considered as delaying play. The Rules Official will time any player in an "out of position" group. If any of the players exceeds the above times to play their shot, he will have a "bad time". A bad time is carried over until the end of round and is not cancelled even if the group is back in position or back in the pace of play. In some situations a single player, or two players will be timed instead of the entire group. The players will not be informed that they are timed.

**First breach: one penalty shot,**

**Second breach: two penalty shots,**

**Third breach: disqualification.**

## **6. Discontinuance of play; Resumption of play**

The signal for suspension of play will be a sound from the siren.

**One long signal – immediate suspension of play,**

**Three consecutive signals – suspension of play,**

**Two short signals – resumption of play.**

### **6.1 Discontinuance and suspension of play due to inclement weather (Rule 6-8)**

If play is suspended by the Committee, when the players are between holes they cannot resume play until the Committee announces resumption of play. If the players have commenced play on the hole, they may discontinue play immediately or may continue play on the hole. If the players decide to continue play on the hole, they may discontinue it at any time before finishing the hole. In any circumstance play must be discontinued after finishing the hole.

### **6.2 Immediate suspension of play due to potentially dangerous situation (Note to Rule 6-8b)**

If play is suspended by the Committee due to potentially dangerous situation, the player must discontinue play immediately following the suspension of play. If the player fails to discontinue play immediately, he will be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in rule 33-7.

### **6.3 Resumption of play**

The players are obligated to resume play when the Committee declares resumption of play.

## **7. Practice between holes (Rule 7-2, Note 2, page 55)**

(Condition is not valid in Pro-Am tournaments). Between play of holes the player cannot make any practice shots on or near the putting green of the hole last played, and cannot roll the ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

**Penalty for breach of Rule: 2 strokes**

## **8. Course unplayable (Rule 33-2d, page 113)**

If the Tournament Committee decides that, for any reason, the course is unplayable, or that there are conditions making play impossible, it can order a temporary suspension of play, or declare play null and void and cancel all scores for the round in question. If the course remains unplayable and it will not be possible to finish a stipulated round within the time set for the tournament, this suspension of play will not be extended and the tournament results will be decided on the basis of returned scores from the finished tournament rounds. If it will

not be possible to play even one stipulated round (18 holes), the tournament will be cancelled.

#### **9. Performance enhancing drugs**

Performance enhancing drugs are forbidden.

Every player who, during tournament uses alcohol or performance enhancing drugs, will not be allowed to play in PGA-Poland tournaments for a period of 12 months. The decision will be made by the PGA-Poland Disciplinary Committee.

#### **10. Use of electronic equipment**

Use of electronic equipment (walkie-talkies, mobile phones, pagers) to communicate is forbidden. Use of distance measuring devices is allowed under the condition, that it does not delay play and that they cannot measure gradient, temperature, wind strength & direction. Devices with additional options are forbidden even if these options are not used during play. A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

#### **11. Golf Carts (melex type)**

- Use of golf carts during stipulated round is not allowed
- Tournament Committee may allow the use of golf carts in exceptional conditions only by amateurs.
- Golf carts during Pro-Ams and practice rounds are allowed.

Breach of rule: two penalty strokes for each hole where the breach occurred; maximum penalty during one round: four strokes. If the breach occurred between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the second hole.

#### **12. Electric trolleys**

Electric trolleys are allowed.

#### **13. Dress code**

The players are obligated to respect the dress code during the tournament period throughout the tournament venue. The tournament venue is understood to be: golf course, driving range, clubhouse, parking. Tournament period is understood to begin with the practice round or the Pro-Am tournament and to end in the evening of the final day of the tournament.

It is absolutely forbidden to wear the following:

- Inappropriate foot wear (e.g. thongs),
- Jeans, shorts,
- Dress deviating from generally approved norms.

Amateurs are allowed to play in appropriate shorts.

Penalty for the breach of the dress code is disqualification from the tournament and for professional players, applicants and non-amateurs, the following financial penalties:

- 1,000.- PLN for first breach,
- 2,000.- PLN for subsequent breaches.

#### **14. Course setup**

- a. Tournament shall be played from the tees listed in the Tournament Conditions. The tees set up for the practice round will be the longest tees used for the tournament. The Committee reserves the right to change this clause of the General Conditions in special

circumstances. If such change is introduced, it shall be announced 3 days before the start of tournament.

- b. The difference in length between Men's and Ladies' professional tees cannot exceed 10% or be less than 4% of the length of the entire course measured from the Men's professional tees.

#### **15. Obligation of participation in the Pro-Am**

Participation in the Pro-Am tournament is OBLIGATORY for all professional players. Players who cannot participate in the Pro-Am tournament shall not be allowed to play in the main tournament, unless they are participating at that time in a tournament of higher ranking category (e.g. Challenge Tour).

#### **16. Advertising**

During the tournament the players and their caddies will not be allowed to display any advertising which, in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, may embarrass the Sponsor. In all possible cases of conflict the final decision on allowing the advertising lies with the Tournament Committee.

#### **17. Balls**

- a. Balls used by the players must be listed on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls, approved by the R&A Rules Ltd.
- b. Professionals must observe the One Ball Condition. During the stipulated round player must use a ball of the same make and model. Players may change make and model of the ball between rounds.

#### **18. Conforming Driver heads**

The list of conforming Driver heads – the Driver heads must be recognisable by their model and loft and be listed on the conforming club heads list approved by the R&A except for these produced before 1999. Penalty for playing a shot with non-conforming club not approved by the R&A is disqualification.

#### **19. Grooves**

Grooves and punch marks on golf clubs must conform to the Rules of Golf. Penalty for playing a shot with a club not approved by the R&A is disqualification.

#### **20. Caddies**

- a. If a player employs a caddie during a Pro-Am or tournament, and if the sponsor requires that his logo is displayed on caddie bibs, each caddie must wear the official bib throughout the tournament,
- b. No other logos may be added to the bib without the approval of the Committee,
- c. Caddie cannot be a player who has participated in the same tournament.

#### **21. Embedded ball**

A ball embedded in its own mark through the green may be marked, lifted, cleaned and dropped without penalty as near the place where it was embedded, not nearer the hole.

The player may not obtain relief according to this Local Rule if:

- The ball is embedded in sand on area which is not closely mown,
- The obstruction by anything other than the condition in this Local Rule makes the shot clearly impossible,
- The ball is embedded in a turf covered bunker face.

## **22. Scores and scorecards**

- a. The marker is obligated to enter the gross scores only on each hole.
- b. Scorecards will be collected at the Tournament Centre by a person indicated by the Committee. Player must return the card to the Tournament Centre within 10 minutes of finishing his round. Players of one group must return the cards together. The player is responsible for his correct score.
- c. If the Committee shall require the players to give scores for live scoring after certain holes on the course, the marker must give the correct score of his player. Failure to do so or giving incorrect score may result in financial fines, or in certain cases – in disqualification.

## **23. Disqualifications**

Any player who does not show on the starting hole at the required time or who does not finish his round without a valid reason will be disqualified and shall be banned from the subsequent three PGA-Poland tournaments. Explanations relating to discontinuing play or failure to show must be submitted in person in written form at the Tournament Centre before the conclusion of the tournament, or must be sent by e-mail to: [kamil.chojnicky@pgapolska.com](mailto:kamil.chojnicky@pgapolska.com) within 7 days of conclusion of the tournament. The letter shall be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee and in case the explanation is accepted, the ban on starts may be lifted. The player shall be informed of the decision 7 days before the commencement of the next tournament at the latest. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee is final.

## **24. Closing clauses**

Decisions of the Tournament Committee relating to the interpretation of the General Conditions of the PGA-Poland Tournaments, and the Tournament Conditions shall be final and cannot be appealed. All comments from participants related to the course conditions, tournament organisation or other related matters should be submitted in writing or via e-mail to: [kamil.chojnicky@pgapolska.com](mailto:kamil.chojnicky@pgapolska.com).

Registration for PGA-Poland tournament means that the player:

- a. Is familiar with the General Conditions of the PGA-Poland Tournaments and accepts them,
- b. Is familiar with the Tournament Conditions of a given tournament and accepts them.

Every player agrees to have photographs of him taken and films made and be used, free-of-charge, in photographic materials, in films and audiovisual material prepared by the Tournament Committee or a person or a Company indicated by the Tournament Committee. The agreement for the free-of-charge use of the player's image related to repeated use for promotional, marketing, advertising and publishing purposes.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to change the contents of these General Conditions.