



USSSA Rules & Regulations

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf published by USGA and R&A. Additional rules for events will be issued in a local rules sheet. Rules committees of events have the authority to change any rule for weather or any other reason.

Tee Times/Start of Play: The player must arrive 5 minutes prior to their published tee time and be ready to play. Arrival after that 5-minute period can result in a 2 stroke penalty. If the group has already tee'd off and standing at their 2nd shot, the player may join the group on the next tee with the max score for that hole. If there is no max for the hole the player is disqualified.

Max Score Per Hole: Players in a 12 year old age group or below will have a max of double par per holes. Max of 6 on par 3's, max of 8 on par 4's, max of 10 on par 5's. Players in the 13-year-old age group and above have no maximum score.

Distance Measuring Devices/Electronic Devices: Players and Caddies can use any electronic distance measuring device, cell phone app, etc. No electronic informational device is illegal.

Tobacco & Alcohol: Tobacco and alcohol use by players or caddies, including electronic cigarettes are not permitted during the event. First Offense: 1 stroke penalty Second Offense: 2 stroke penalty Additional Offense: DQ

Disqualification Policy: In the case where a player breaches a USGA/R&A rule with a penalty of Disqualification USSSA Junior golf will award a max score for the hole the infraction occurred. If it comes after the round it will be enforced for the last hole. If there is no max score the player will be DQ and removed from the event.

Drop Zones: A "dropping zone" is an area enclosed by a white line having the words Drop Zone or DZ printed inside it. It can also be defined by at least 2 tee-marker like signs with DZ printed on them. A ball that is dropped within the zone and rolls outside the line is "in play" and should not be redropped.

Sod Seams: To be treated as ground under repair in the common area (through the green).

Embedded Ball: The "Embedded Ball Rule" is in effect in the common area (through the green)

Stipulated Round: A stipulated round for 9-hole players is 5 holes. A stipulated round for an 18-hole player is 9 holes. The score for holes completed by the entire age group will count. (ie if everyone played 13 holes then all 13 holes will count towards the stipulated round.)

Result of Competition: When all the scores have been posted on the official scoreboard and approved by USSSA the result of the competition is deemed to be official.

Deciding Ties: Ties for 1st place will be decided by an on course sudden death playoff. If that is not an option, USSSA will use the following scorecard tie breaker rules. Lowest score on the last 9 holes, then last six hole, then last 3 holes, then last hole and finally hardest handicap hole based on course's scorecard. If still not broken, the winner will be determined by who has the most USSSA points, and finally who entered the tournament first.

Code of Conduct: Violation include: abusive language, club throwing, cheating, disrespect to volunteers or officials, abuse of golf course like slamming clubs into the ground, littering or any other conduct unbecoming of a player. USSSA reserves the right to DQ any player, caddie or spectator at any time for code of conduct violations. No warning is necessary. A player may also be penalized 2 strokes for any code of conduct violations.

Caddie Use of Carts: Players age 8 and above must walk the holes. Any players age 7 and under may ride in the cart at any time. All caddies can rent a cart for use during play. The bag can be on the cart. Carts are not guaranteed and will be rented on a first come first serve basis by the course.

Caddie Policy: Players 8 and under must have a caddie. Caddies need to be age 16 or above. USSSA will not inspect age identification for caddies. There is no penalty for breach of this rule but you proceed at your own risk.

Caddie Bibs/# of Caddies: A caddie bib must be worn in regional, national and world competitions. It is optional at local tour events. Any caddie bib can be worn, it does not need to be USSSA caddy bib. If you don't have one you can make one with a large t-shirt (Caddie) needs to be written on the front and back. You may also purchase one at events. The caddie bib distinguishes the one and only caddie. A caddie can be changed at anytime but at no time can a player have more than one.

Safety: Participation during tournament play can be dangerous. All participants, caddies and spectators assume the risk of participating in the sporting event. Please be aware of others near you on the course and in the practice area. It is possible that you may get struck by a club or ball hit by someone else. When riding in a golf cart, please read the follow the manufacturer's safety notices and obey them at all times. Riding in a cart or being struck with a club or ball can cause serious injury or even death.