



2026 State Open of Virginia
Independence Golf Club | Midlothian, Va
July 17-19, 2026

Notice to Players

(This information supplements the Championship entry, Standard Local Rules and Terms of Competition)

Tee Markers: All play will be from the VSGA/MAPGA blue tee markers.

Format: 54-holes of stroke play. The field will be cut to the low 60 players and ties following round two. A tie for first place will be decided by a sudden-death playoff that will commence immediately after the completion of play.

Cart/Transportation Policy: Players may have a caddie and caddies may ride in carts only if there is a seat available. Spectators (outside agencies) may ride in carts if there is a seat available. The Committee may modify this policy at any time during the competition. Only two carts will be provided for each group.

Faint Painted lines: All red and white faint painted lines (penalty area, ground under repair, etc.) on the course have no status for this competition. Players must use the newly painted lines for all relief situations.

Out of Bounds: Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes, and fence posts. When both fence posts and white stakes are present together, the white stakes define out of bounds.

Obstructions:

- Immovable obstructions adjacent to each other, including but not limited to sprinkler heads near putting greens, etc., are considered to be a single obstruction. Consult a rules official with questions.
- Temporary Immovable Obstructions: Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. Temporary immovable obstructions include air-circulation fans near putting greens, all starting and scoring tents, sponsor signs and camera stands that cannot be easily removed. Relief may be taken on either side of the TIO.
- Hole #13: the railroad ties/bulkhead right of the putting green is an immovable obstruction. Free relief is available under Rule 16.1b.
- Placed stones adjacent to cart paths are part of the cart path.

Fresh Sod – Holes #17 & #18: Freshly laid sod to the right of holes #17 and #18 is either ground under repair or, if adjacent to an immovable obstruction (e.g. cart paths), a continuation of that obstruction. Consult a referee with questions.

Dropping Zone - Hole #18: If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in the penalty area, the player may proceed under Rule 17.1d; or, as an additional option, drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the painted dropping zone provided.

Pace of Play: See the championship website for the pace of play policy.

Competition Committee: All VSGA and MAPGA staff and officials on-site.

