

## USE OF DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

### *1. Distance Measuring Devices:*

*A Competitor may use a device that measures or gauges distance. The device cannot be used to measure conditions that might affect a player's play such as gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.*

The USGA and R & A issued the following, abridged, information in a Joint Statement: "Permitting the use of a measuring device to provide the same information that can be obtained through use of a yardage book or on-course markings is not considered to diminish the skill level required to play the game..."

*A Clarification of the Rules...*

*2. When the local rule is in effect, distance-measuring devices must be limited to measuring distance only. **The use of a distance-measuring device would constitute a breach of the Rules if:***

***You are using the device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (e.g., wind speed, gradient, temperature, etc), or;***

***The device has some other non-conforming feature, including, but not limited to, recommendations that might assist the player in making a stroke or in his play, such as club selection, type of shot to be played (e.g., punch shot, pitch and run, etc.), or green reading (i.e., a recommended line of putt), or other advice-related matters. However, it is permissible to use such a device, during a stipulated round, to access distance information from previous rounds that has been processed prior to the commencement of the current round (e.g., a chart of all club yardages), or;***

***The device has the capability to assist in calculating the effective distance between two points (i.e., distance after considering gradient, wind speed and/or direction, temperature or other environmental factors).***

***There is no breach of the Rules if all of the above features are switched off or disengaged during the stipulated round.***

***Electronic devices such as cell phones and iPods may NOT be used.***

Penalty for 1<sup>st</sup> Breach: General Penalty (Rule 4.3a(1))

Penalty for 2<sup>nd</sup> Breach: Disqualification (Rule 4.3a(1))