



Plan for implementing the new groove rules at USGA Championships

The new rules regarding grooves will be adopted as a condition of competition for the 2010 U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open and U.S. Senior Open, as well as sectional (final stage) qualifying events for these three championships. **The condition will not be in effect at local (first stage) qualifying events for the 2010 U.S. Open or at any of the USGA's national championships and team competitions that are contested by amateurs only.** There is no local (first stage) qualifying stage for the U.S. Women's Open or U.S. Senior Open.

The USGA will adopt the condition of competition for U.S. Open local qualifying beginning in 2011 and for the national championships and team competitions it conducts for amateur players no later than 2014, as originally announced.

What guidance does the USGA offer to state and regional golf associations or clubs regarding adoption of the condition of competition for local or regional competitions?

Although the condition of competition will be included in the Rules of Golf as of January 1, 2010 for committees to adopt, the USGA plans to implement the condition over a period of several years, beginning in 2010 with the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open, and U.S. Senior Open and their sectional (final stage) qualifying events. **As originally announced, the USGA intends to adopt the condition for the championships and team events it conducts for amateur players no later than 2014.** The USGA recommends that state and regional associations and clubs implement the condition in accordance with this general time frame.