

Local Rules

Effective for the 2021 Golf Season

These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect for all Regular Play. For club or league competitions, see applicable Notice to Players Sheet for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

OUT OF BOUNDS — Defined by white stakes or posts, the out of bounds line is determined by nearest inside points at ground level of such stakes or posts. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies over such a line. In the case of any displaced or missing white stakes, the margin of the out-of-bounds shall be defined by the natural boundary of the course.

PENALTY AREAS — Even if not marked, the following high grass areas are considered red penalty areas and the edge of the penalty area is where the mowed grass and the high grass meet:

- The high grass area between to the left of Holes 13 and 18
- The high grass area between Hole 14 tee box and Hole 18 fairway
- The high grass area between Hole 16 tee box and Hole 17 fairway
- The high grass area between to the left of Hole 6 and 7

FLOWER/TREE BEDS — If a player's ball lies in any of the flower/tree beds listed below, the player must take full relief by dropping a ball as near as possible to where it originally lay but not nearer the hole.

- Hole 1: Flower Bed behind the Green
- Hole 3: Flower/Tree Bed behind the Green
- Hole 11: Flower Beds on both sides of retaining wall
- Hole 17: Flower/Tree Bed to the right of the path by green

STAKED TREES — If a staked tree interferes with a player's stance or the area of their intended swing, the ball may be lifted, without penalty, and dropped at nearest point of relief no closer to the hole. There is no relief for intended ball flight path.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR — Any areas encircled by a white line. Ground under repair may include any areas of unusual damage, but only when so declared by an authorized member of the club or tournament committee.

PLASTIC EDGING or GROOVES — The plastic edging or grooves around the aprons or fringes of putting greens are ground under repair. If a player's ball lies in/on the edging or the edging interferes with the area of intended swing:

- (a) Ball in General Area. The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b.
- (b) Ball on the Putting Green. The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the edging groove only interferes with the player's stance.

HOLE #10 — There is a penalty area on the right side of Hole 10 that cannot be seen from the tee box. If there is doubt whether a ball is lost OR is in the penalty area on right side of Hole 10, the player may play a provisional ball. If the original ball is found outside the penalty area, the player must continue play with it. If the original ball is found in the penalty area, the player may either play the original ball as it lies OR continue with the provisional ball OR proceed under the penalty area Rule 17 drop options. If the original ball is not found or identified within the three-minute search period, the player must continue with the provisional ball.

***HOLE #11 — If a player's ball does not cross the penalty area, the player may use the designated drop area which is the green tee box on the other side of the pond.

*** This local rule shall be available to players for Regular Play but not for club or league competitions unless it is allowed by the specific competition or league committee and clearly stated in the Notice to Players Sheet.

*** PREFERRED LIES — A ball lying on the fairway or closely-mown area (i.e. any area of the course cut to fairway height or less) of the hole being played may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot which is within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay and not in a hazard or on a putting green. If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it, moves the ball-marker prior to putting the ball back into play or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke. A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

*** This local rule shall be available to players only in extreme conditions and only when so declared by an authorized member of the club or tournament committee. For club or tournament competitions, it must be clearly stated in the Notice to Players Sheet.

*** LOST BALL or OUT OF BOUNDS Option — When a player's ball cannot be found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed under the usual stroke and distance rule 18 OR with *two penalty strokes*, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or a substituted ball in the relief area as described below (also see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

- a. Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball is estimated to have come to rest on the course, or Last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds.
- b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway (any area of grass in the general area that is cut to fairway height or less) of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point but is not nearer the hole than the ball reference point.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points:

- Anywhere between a line from the hole through the ball reference point (or within two club-lengths to the outside of that line), and a line from the hole through the fairway reference point (or within two club lengths to the outside of that line).

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- The relief area must be in the general area, and it must not be nearer the hole than the ball reference point.
- The player may not use this option when the ball is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in a penalty area (i.e. red/yellow marked area)
- The player may not use this option if the player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of stroke and distance (see Rule 18.3)."

A player may use this option to take relief for a provisional ball that has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds.

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