



CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION & LOCAL RULES – 2015

The following Local Rules and Conditions of Competition have been formulated after consultation with the Rules of Golf Committee of R&A Rules Limited. In the event of a dispute arising as to the meaning of any Rule of Golf, PGA of Australia Local Rule or Condition of Competition, the Rule will be interpreted according to the English Edition of the Rules of Golf or PGA of Australia Local Rules and Conditions of Competition card.

The following listed Local Rules and Conditions of Competition apply to all PGA approved tournaments. For the full text of the Local Rules and Conditions of Competition, please refer to Appendix 1 of the current edition (2012-2015) of the Rules of Golf as published by R&A Rules Limited on the pages indicated.

SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules, together with any additions or amendments as published by the PGA at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of the PGA:

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27)

Beyond any wall, fence or white stakes defining the boundary of the course.

Note:

- (a) Where out of bounds is defined by white stakes or fence posts (excluding angled supports) the line joining the nearest inside points at ground level of such stakes or posts defines the boundary. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies on or over such line.
- (b) Where any continuing or adjoining white line is in existence it defines the boundary. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies on or over such line.
- (c) A ball which crosses a road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is out of bounds even though it may lie on another part of the course.

2. Water Hazards (Including Lateral Water Hazards) (Rule 26)

Note: Dropping Zones for Water Hazards

Where there are dropping zones for water hazards, a ball may be played under Rule 26 or a ball may be dropped in the dropping zone nearest to where the original ball last crossed the margin of the hazard under penalty of one stroke.

When dropping a ball in a dropping zone, the dropped ball **must not** be re-dropped if it comes to rest within two club-lengths of the spot where it first struck a part of the course even though it may finish outside the boundaries of the dropping zone or nearer the hole.

3. Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)

- (a) All areas bounded by continuous or dotted white lines, including spectator crossing points where bounded by white lines.
- (b) Grass covered cable trenches.
- (c) Seams of Cut Turf – Page 129

4. Embedded Ball – Relief extended to "through the green" – Page 127

Additional Exception: A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if the ball is embedded in the face of a bunker that consists of stacked turf.

5. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24-2)

- (a) White lined areas adjoining any areas defined as immovable obstructions are to be regarded as part of the Obstruction and not GUR.
- (b) Decorative landscape areas (Flowerbeds/shrubberies and the like) surrounded by an obstruction are part of the obstruction.
- (c) Mats that are secured and plastic cable ramps covering cables are immovable obstructions.
- (d) Non permanent bridges erected for players or spectators are immovable obstructions.

6. Turf Plugs on Putting Green

On any putting green, turf plugs of any size have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16-1c

7. Integral Parts of the Course

- (a) Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- (b) Retaining artificial walls and pilings when located within water hazards.

8. Permanent Elevated Cables

If a ball strikes an elevated power line, telephone line or cable, the stroke must be cancelled and replayed without penalty (see Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

Exception: Ball striking elevated junction section of cable rising from the ground is not replayed.

9. Temporary Immovable Obstructions - Pages 131-136

Note: Through the green, when a player's ball lies in, on or under a temporary immovable obstruction or so close to that obstruction that it interferes with his stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, he may proceed under any of the options available under the Rule, or if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, he **may** drop the ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULES

Match Play - Loss of Hole

Stroke Play – Two strokes

SECTION B – CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. (a) List of Conforming Driver Heads - Pages 137-138

Any driver the player carries **must** have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by R&A.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification

(b) Groove and Punch Mark Specification (Decision 4-1/1)

The player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from 1 January 2010.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of Condition: Disqualification.

(c) Specification of the ball (Note to Rule 5-1)

(i) **List of Conforming Golf Balls** – page 138

(ii) **One Ball Condition** – Pages 138-139 (Exception: This condition does not apply to Professional or Amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or approved One-Day Event, or Amateurs partnering professional players in a major Pro-Am tournament.)

2. Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7) - Page 140

In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group is liable to be timed if it is in excess of the time allowed and in the case of second or subsequent groups, out of position. From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a 'first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt', or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or 'second or third to play shot', he shall be deemed to have had a 'bad time'.

The time allowed will be determined by the PGA Tournament Director and will be published on the official notice board. The first group and any group after a starter's gap will be considered to be "Out of Position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed. Any following group will be considered "Out of Position" if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes completed.

A player whose group is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently returns back in position or within time.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

One bad time - Verbal warning from Official

Two bad times – One stroke penalty in both stroke and match play, \$500 fine

Three bad times – Two stroke penalty in stroke play, loss of hole in match play, \$1000 fine

Four bad times – Disqualification

Notes: (1) Players will **NOT** necessarily be advised they are being timed.

(2) Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Official that it is the Player's turn to play.

(3) In addition, please note Policy for Pace of Play and Timings in the PGA Member Regulations Handbook.

(4) In exceptional circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group.

3. Suspension of Play due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b) - Pages 140-141

4. Practice Between Holes (Note 2 to Rule 7) - Page 141

(This condition does not apply to pre-tournament Pro-Ams or Match-play tournaments.)

N.B This prohibition includes rolling a ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

5. Transportation - Page 142 (Exception; When permitted to ride by The Rules Committee)

6. How to Decide Ties

In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole by hole play off to determine the winner.

7. Result of the Competition – Competition Closed

When the final results sheet is posted on the official notice board, the official website, or the trophy has been presented to the winner (whichever may occur first) the result of the competition shall be deemed to have been officially announced.

THE FOLLOWING APPLY IN PGA OF AUSTRALIA TOURNAMENTS ONLY

Temporary Immovable Obstructions- Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to; Clocks, advertising boards fixed to other temporary immovable obstructions or advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are situated around teeing grounds.

Movable Obstructions – Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to; free-standing advertising boards situated away from teeing grounds, drinks dispensers, all cameras and their tripods, TV microphones, free standing radio masts and crossing point indicators.

10. Stones in Bunkers - Page 130.

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions.

11. Staked Trees

Through the Green, staked trees are deemed to be immovable obstructions (Rule 24-2).

Note: No relief without penalty is available from staked trees that are located within a water hazard.

12. Abnormal Ground Conditions – Rule 25-1 Note

(a) Relief will be denied for interference to stance from a hole, cast or runway made by a burrowing animal, a reptile or a bird.

(b) Relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing from any painted yardage spot situated in any closely mown area through the green.

Note: This does not include painted distances on long driving holes.

Recording Areas, Score card returned

The recording area may include but is not limited to; temporary buildings, tents or permanent rooms. Others may be defined on the official notice board. A scorecard will be deemed returned when a player has completely left the recording area unless the player verbally informs the Scoring Official that he needs to leave the recording area and will immediately return.