



LOCAL RULES & TERMS OF COMPETITION HARD CARD – 2019

The following Local Rules and Terms 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 or PGA of Australia Local Rule, the Rule will be interpreted according to the English Edition of the Rules of Golf or PGA of Australia Local Rules Hard Card.

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition apply to all PGA Approved Tournaments. For the full text of the Local Rules and Terms of Competition, please refer to the Official Guide to Rules of Golf effective from January 2019 as published by R&A Rules Limited. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty:

Match Play – Loss of Hole

Stroke Play – Two strokes

PGA OF AUSTRALIA LOCAL RULES

These Local Rules, together with any additions published by the PGA of Australia at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of the PGA of Australia:

1. Out of Bounds, Rule 18.2.

- (a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- (b) A ball that is played from one side of a road which is defined as out of bounds and comes to rest on the other side of the road is out of bounds. This is true even if the ball comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.

2. Penalty Areas, Rule 17.

- (a) Opposite Side Equal Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas.
The weekly Local Rules sheet will specify which (if any) red Penalty Areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model Local Rule B-2.1 will apply only to the Penalty Areas that are listed.
- (b) Opposite Side Relief Where Ball Last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where the Edge and the Boundary of the Course Coincide.
When a player's ball last crossed the edge of a Penalty Area where the edge of the Penalty Area and a boundary of the course coincide, that edge is deemed red and opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1.
- (c) Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas.
Where a dropping zone is marked for a Penalty Area, it is an additional option under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a Relief Area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the Relief Area.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions, Rule 16-1.

- A. Ground Under Repair
 - (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
 - (2) Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F7 is in effect.
 - (3) French drains (stone filled drainage ditches).
 - (4) For holes left by movable obstructions in parts of the General Area cut to fairway height or less, free relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing, but there is no relief for interference to the stance.
- B. Immovable Obstructions
 - (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
 - (2) Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
 - (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables.
 - (4) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
 - (5) Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators unless otherwise defined on the Local Rules sheet.

C. Temporary Water.

Squeegee Policy for Temporary Water removal.

If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1d or have his line of play squeegeed.

The Committee may squeegee greens until players are nearby and if conditions deteriorate, to keep play going, they may authorise a combination of all the above measures. Any squeegeeing should be done across the line of putt, must extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole (i.e. at least one club-length) and may only be carried out by Committee authorised personnel.

4. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens.

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect but is modified as follows:

For a ball in the General Area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

5. Integral Objects.

- (a) Bunker liners in their intended position.
- (b) Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- (c) Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located within Penalty Areas.
- (d) Floating sponsor displays/signs when in Penalty Areas (no line of sight relief allowed). Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables.
- (e) Any closed gate attached to a boundary object.

6. Permanent Overhead Power Line.

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but for a ball that strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole. (Stroke is cancelled and must be replayed.)

7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions, (TIO).

Model Local Rules F-22 re Temporary Power Lines and Cables and F-23 re TIO are in effect.

(a) Dropping Zone Policy.

In the General Area, when a player's ball lies in or on a TIO or so close to the TIO that it interferes with the stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, the player may:

- proceed under any of the options allowed under the TIO Local Rule or Rule 16.1 or,
- if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, the player **may** drop the original ball or another ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone. This is true even if it is nearer the hole.
- The dropping zone is a Relief Area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.

(b) Either Side Relief.

The weekly Local Rules sheet will specify which TIO have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to line of sight relief only and is not available when the player chooses to operate under Rule 16.1.

8. Clubs and Balls.

- (a) List of Conforming Driver Heads, Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification

- (b) Groove and Punch Mark Specification, Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification

- (c) Conforming Balls List, Model Local Rule G-3 re Conforming Golf Balls is in effect.

Penalty for breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.

- (d) The One Ball Rule, Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect.

(Exception: This Local Rule does not apply to Professional or Amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or Approved One-Day Event or Amateurs who partner professional players in a major Pro-Am tournament).

Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty for each hole during which the player is in breach.

9. Pace of Play Policy, Rule 5.4b(3).

See separate document on MyPGA for detailed Monitoring and Timing Policy.

Monitoring may be introduced before Timing but it does not have to be.

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', the player is 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 "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 Pace of Play Policy: Stroke Play and Match Play:

One bad time - Verbal warning from Referee

Two bad times - One stroke penalty and \$500 fine

Three bad times - Two strokes penalty or loss of hole in Match Play and \$1000 fine

Four bad times - Disqualification and \$1500 fine

Notes:

- (1) Players will be advised that they are being timed.
- (2) Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Referee that it is the player's turn to play.
- (3) In some circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed rather than the entire group.
- (4) In addition, please note PGA of Australia Policy on Pace of Play on MyPGA.

10. Play Suspensions, Rule 5.7.

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

Immediate Stop/dangerous situation - one prolonged note on the siren

Normal non-dangerous stop - three consecutive short notes of the siren

Resume play - two consecutive short notes of the siren

When play is stopped in a dangerous situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

11. Practice, Rule 5.

- (a) Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play, Rule 5.2b.

Rule 5.2b is modified in this way:

A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.

Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.

- (b) Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited, Rule 5.5b.

For Stroke Play events only, Rule 5.5b is modified in this way:

Between the play of two holes, a player must not:

- make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed or
- test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

12. Distance Measuring Devices, Rule 4.3a.

Rule 4.3a (1) is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not obtain distance information by the use of an electronic distance measuring device.

Penalty for breach of Rule 4.3: See penalty statement in Rule 4.3.

[See PGA of Australia Policy for Distance Measuring Devices in regards to non ISPS HANDA PGA Tour of Australasia tournaments and Pre-Qualifying for ISPS HANDA PGA Tour of Australasia tournaments]

13. Transportation Policy

Model Local rule G-6 is in effect and modifies Rule 4.3a(1) in this way:

During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the Rules Committee. [A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorised].

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach.
A breach between holes applies to the next hole.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

14. Deciding Ties.

If there is a tie for first place, there will be a hole by hole play-off to determine the winner.

15. Recording Area and Score Card returned.

The location of the Recording Area will be detailed each week on the Local Rules sheet. The score card is returned when the player leaves the recording area with both feet. A player that needs to leave the scoring area must inform the Scoring Official of their intention to leave and immediately return.

16. Result of Competition – Competition Closed.

The result of the tournament is officially announced when the final results sheet is posted on the official notice board at the tournament venue, the official website, or the trophy has been presented to the winner (whichever may occur first).

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULES APPLY IN PGA OF AUSTRALIA TOURNAMENTS ONLY

Temporary Immovable Obstructions- Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to; Flightscope fixed TV poles (these will always have an either side option), all 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 scoring and data masts or tripods and all crossing point indicators.

17. Embedded Ball, Rule 16.3.

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way:

"Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in the stacked turf face above a bunker".

18. Abnormal Course Conditions, Rule 16.

(a) Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole.

Rule 16.1 is modified in this way:

"Interference does not exist if the animal hole only interferes with the player's stance".

(b) Yardage Spots or Lines.

Painted lines or dots in a part of the General Area cut to fairway height or less are to be treated as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1b.

But, interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only the player's stance.

(c) Staked trees are immovable obstructions.

Andrew Langford-Jones, Director of Tournaments, January 2019