



## 2019 Local Rules

Effective from January 1, 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 and, together with any additions as published by the Mena Tour at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of the Mena Tour.

For the full text of the Local Rules, please refer to the Committee Procedures effective from January 1, 2019 as published by R&A Rules Limited.

### SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

#### 1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall, fence or line of white stakes defining a boundary. 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. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

##### **Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas**

The Additional 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.

##### **Opposite Side Relief Where Ball last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where Edge and Boundary of Course Coincide.**

Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect. It amends the first paragraph of B-2.1. when a player's ball is found in or it is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in any red penalty area where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area at a point that coincides with the boundary of the course.

##### **Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas.**

Where a dropping zone is marked for a Penalty Area, it is an additional option. Model Local Rule E-1.1 is in effect and applies 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)

##### **Ground Under Repair**

All areas indicated by Ground Under Repair notice.

All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where bounded by white lines.

Seams of cut turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.

Holes left by movable obstructions in parts of the general area.

Relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing from any painted yardage spot situated in any closely mown area in the general area.

French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches)



### **Immovable Obstructions**

White lined areas adjoining any areas defined as immovable obstructions are to be treated as a single abnormal course condition.

Landscaped garden areas and everything growing in them that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are part of the obstruction.

Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces are loose impediments.

Staked Trees (NOTE: no free relief available for trees with wrapping only)

### **4. Embedded Ball (Rule 16.3)**

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way: “No free relief is allowed for a ball embedded in the stacked turf face above a bunker”

### **5. 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.

### **6. Integral Objects**

Wires, cables or wrapping where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

Retaining artificial walls and pilings when located within Penalty Areas.

Bunker liners in their intended position.

Artificially stacked materials in the bunker face.

### **7. Permanent Overhead Power Lines**

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

### **8. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)**

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

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 and a ball must come to rest in and be played from the relief area.

### **Either Side Relief.**

The Additional 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.

### **Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Definitions**

Examples include but are not limited to, advertising boards, hole number distance indicators and clocks situated around teeing grounds, on-course leader boards and advertising boards fixed to other permanent objects.



### **Movable Obstructions - Definitions**

Examples include but are not limited to, free standing advertising boards situated away from teeing grounds, cameras, microphones and drinks dispensers.

### **9. Clubs and Balls**

#### **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.

#### **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications.**

Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect. Exception: Amateurs participating in Pro-Am events. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification.

#### **Conforming Balls List.**

Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for breach of local rule: Disqualification.

#### **The One Ball Rule.**

Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect. Exceptions: Amateurs participating in Pro-Am events and Pro-Am events where the Professional is not marking an individual score.

### **10. Pace of Play (Rule 5.6b(3))**

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', they are deemed to have had a 'bad time'. The time allowed will be determined by the Tournament Director and will be published on the official notice board. Out of position is defined as being more than the starting interval behind the group in front. A player whose group is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently arrives back in position or within time.

#### **PENALTY FOR BREACH OF PACE OF PLAY POLICY**

- 1 Bad time - Verbal warning from Referee
- 2 Bad Times - Penalty of One Stroke – Stroke Play. Loss of Hole – Match Play
- 3 Bad Times - Further Penalty of Two Strokes – Stroke Play. Loss of Hole – Match Play
- 4 Bad Times – Disqualification

**Notes:** Players will be advised that they are being timed. Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Official that it is the player's turn to play. In some circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group

### **11. Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)**

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

Immediate Stop/dangerous situation - 1 prolonged note of the siren.

Normal non-dangerous stop - 3 consecutive short notes of the siren.

Resume play - 2 consecutive short notes of the siren.

### **12. Practice Between Holes (Rule 5)**

#### **Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play.**

Rule 5.2b. Model Local Rule I-1.2 is in effect. Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: "Before or between rounds a player must not practice on the competition course". Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.



Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited. Rule 5.5b. Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect 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”.

Exception: This does not apply to Pro Am or Match Play tournaments

### **13. Transportation**

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. Rule 4.3a is modified in this way: “During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised by the rules committee”. (A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorised).

Exception: Amateurs may ride in buggies in Pro-Am events.

**PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULES**

Match Play – Loss of Hole Stroke Play – Two Strokes

## **SECTION B - TERMS OF COMPETITION & REGULATIONS**

### **1. Returning of Scorecard**

A player’s scorecard is deemed as officially returned to the Committee when he has left the recording office/area completely, as defined in the Additional Local Rules for that event.

### **2. Results of the Competition – Competition Closed**

When the final result sheet is first placed on the official notice board, the result of the competition is deemed to have been officially announced.

### **3. Tournament Regulations**

All Mena Tour Tournaments are run under the auspices of the Mena Tour Tournament Regulations.