



## 2019 PGA TOUR Local Rules and Terms of the Competition

The Rules of Golf approved by the United States Golf Association and R&A Rules Limited govern play, except as modified below by the PGA TOUR. The following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition apply as referenced below and may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 1, 2019. See the applicable competition's "Notice to Players" for additional definitions, Local Rules or amendments.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is:  
Match Play - Loss of Hole; Stroke Play - Two Strokes.

1. **Out of Bounds - Rule 18.2.**  
A ball that 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.**
    - a. **Dropping Zones:**  
If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a penalty area and a drop zone is specified on the applicable "Notice to Players" for that penalty area, the player may as an extra option, drop a ball under penalty of one stroke, in the white lined area labeled "Drop Zone" located as indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". The ball must be dropped in and come to rest within the drop zone. Model Local Rule E-1.1.
    - b. **Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Areas:**  
Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Players". Model Local Rule B-2.1.  
Note: When the edge of a red penalty area coincides with the boundary of the course, Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the first paragraph of Model Local Rule B-2.1.
  3. **Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) - Rule 16.1.**
    - a. **Ground Under Repair:**
      - i. Areas completely encircled with white lines (including areas marked as gallery crosswalks).
      - ii. French drains (drainage ditch filled with stones).
      - iii. Seams of cut turf - Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
      - iv. A hole made by a movable obstruction (microphones, stakes, signs, tripods, tables, chairs or the like) may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. But interference does not exist if the hole only interferes with the player's stance.
    - b. **Immovable Obstructions:**
      - i. White-lined areas tying into an obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
      - ii. When landscaped or garden areas (flower beds, shrubbery or the like) are completely encircled by an obstruction, the obstruction and the landscaped area are treated as one abnormal course condition.
      - iii. Mats fastened in position and bumpers covering cables.
      - iv. Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips or mulch; the individual pieces of wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
      - v. Where the outside edge (non-golf course side) of a road or path defines out of bounds, the road or path is an obstruction.
      - vi. Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators, unless otherwise defined on the applicable "Notice to Players".
    - c. **Removal of Temporary Water - Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect.**  
If a ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the Committee may:
      - i. Require the player to proceed under Rule 16.1.
      - ii. Squeegee the line of play.
      - iii. Squeegee the putting green until the players are near the putting green.
      - iv. In extreme cases any combination of i, ii, & iii and as otherwise directed by the Committee.
  4. **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens - Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect and 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.** An exposed liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
    - b. The portion of cables, wires or wrappings where closely attached to trees or objects defining out of bounds.
    - c. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.
    - d. Sponsor displays located within penalty areas. Lines or cables anchoring them are temporary cables.
    - e. Gates attached to boundary objects.
  6. **Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables - Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and is modified as follows:** If it is known or virtually certain
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that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made in accordance with Rule 14.6.

7. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs)** - Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.
  - a. Either side relief is available for Line of Sight Interference ONLY for TIOs specified on the applicable "Notice to Players". A player entitled to relief for a ball that touches, lies in, on, or under a TIO; or behind the TIO so that the TIO is on the player's line of sight to the hole; or the ball lies within one club-length of a spot equidistant from the hole where such line of sight interference would exist, may as an extra relief option, drop a ball without penalty on either side of the TIO in accordance with e (2) of the Model Local Rule F-23.  
Note: This does NOT apply to Rule 16.1 relief in clause f of this Model Local Rule.
  - b. Temporary Power Lines and Cables - Model Local Rule F-22 is in effect. (Grass-covered cable trenches are ground under repair, even if not marked).
8. **Specifications of Clubs and the Ball.**
  - a. List of Conforming Driver Heads - Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of this Local Rule - Disqualification.
  - b. Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (except for amateurs in a Pro-Am that does not count in the official competition) - Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect but is modified as the exception to G-2 does NOT apply. Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of Local Rule - Disqualification.
  - c. List of Conforming Golf Balls - Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule - Disqualification.
  - d. One Ball Rule - Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect (except for amateurs in a Pro-Am that does not count in the official competition). Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule - General Penalty for each hole the player is in breach.
9. **Pace of Play** - Rule 5.6b (3).  
The 2019 PGA TOUR Pace of Play Policy is in effect. See the PGA TOUR Pace of Play Policy for applicable penalties and fines.
10. **Stopping Play; Resuming Play** - Rule 5.7.  
Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:
  - a. Immediate Suspension (Dangerous situation): One prolonged note of the air horn.
  - b. Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation): Three short notes of

the air horn.

c. Resume Play: Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who disregard such closing are subject to disciplinary action.

11. **Practice** - Rule 5.
  - a. Before or between rounds in stroke play - Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course, but may practice on the designated practice areas. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.
  - b. Between holes in stroke play - Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and Rule 5.5b is modified as follows:  
Between the play of two holes, a player must not:
    - i. Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
    - ii. Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.  
Note: This Local Rule is not in effect for a Pro-Am that does not count in the official competition.
12. **Distance-Measuring Devices** - Model Local Rule G-5 is in effect and Rule 4.3a (1) is modified as follows: During a round, a player must not obtain distance information by using an electronic distance-measuring device.  
Note: This Local Rule is not in effect for a Pro-Am that does not count in the official competition or an open qualifying round. It is in effect for a Pro-Am played during an official competition.
13. **Transportation** - Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified as follows: During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation, except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.

#### TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

14. **Deciding Ties.**  
In the event of a tie for first place, unless otherwise specified, a hole-by-hole stroke-play play-off will determine the winner immediately following the last round.
15. **Scorecard Returned.**  
A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet. Prior to returning the scorecard, a player that needs to leave the scoring area

must inform the Scoring Official of his intention to leave and immediately return.

**16. When Result of Competition is Final.**

The competition is final when all scores have been validated in the scoring system and approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

**THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF  
THE COMPETITION APPLY IN  
PGA TOUR COSPONSORED TOURNAMENTS.**

**Abnormal Course Conditions.**

**a. Immovable Obstructions:**

- i. Railroad ties, curbing or the like adjoining artificially-surfaced roads or paths are part of the road or path.
- ii. Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.

b. Embedded Ball: Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect. Rule 16.3 is modified as follows: Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in a stacked turf face above a bunker.

**Temporary Obstructions (include but not limited to):**

**a. Movable Obstructions:**

- i. Gallery ropes, gallery stakes, hole indicator signs, spectator crossing signs, mobile concession carts, cameras not fastened in position, tripods not fastened in position, microphones, portable generators, non-display vehicles, tables, chairs and trash containers.
- ii. Single units (sections) of bicycle (barricade) or picket fencing that are not fastened in position.

**b. Immovable Obstructions:**

The portion of a Temporary Obstruction closely attached to an Immovable Obstruction is part of the Immovable Obstruction. The portion not closely attached is either a Movable Obstruction or a TIO.

**c. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs):**

- i. Tents, grandstands, hospitality structures, scoreboards, towers, platforms, tripods fastened in position, cameras fastened in position, antennas fastened in position, lavatories, display vehicles, tee backdrop signs or structures. Landscaping areas associated with any of the above items are part of the TIO, however, within such landscaping, individual potted plants are movable obstructions and individual pieces of mulch, pine straw or the like are loose impediments.

- ii. Multiple units (sections) of bicycle (barricade) or picket fencing, that do not define Out of Bounds, whether fastened in place or not.
- iii. The portion of a Temporary Obstruction closely attached to a TIO is part of the TIO. The portion not closely attached is an obstruction.
- iv. White lined areas tied into a TIO are part of the TIO.
- v. TIOs immediately adjacent to each other or connected with white lines are treated as one TIO.

**Integral Objects.**

Where artificial retaining walls and/or pilings define the edge of bunkers, the artificial retaining walls or pilings are integral objects and are in the general area.

**TERMS OF THE COMPETITION**

**Scorecard - Pro-Am Competition.**

The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 23.2. The scorecard must be certified by the professional player and one of the amateur partners. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

**PGA TOUR COMMITTEE**

**Vice Presidents of Rules and Competition**

Mark Russell / Slugger White

**Tournament Officials**

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