



## 2022 LOCAL RULES & TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

Play is governed by the Golf Canada Rules of Golf (effective January 2019), and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition, subject to changes, additions or deletions for particular championships and qualifying rounds. The player's attention is drawn to the Terms of the Competition printed on the forms accompanying applications for entry. Complete text of Local Rules may be found in the Golf Canada Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (effective January 2019).

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

### **Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes**

1. **Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)** – Defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white dots, lines, stakes and posts of fences defining out of bounds. A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining the boundary of the course.
2. **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 a club in breach of this Local Rule: **Disqualification.**
  - b. 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.**
  - c. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged – Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect. When replacing a club, the player must immediately take the broken or significantly damaged club out of play, using the procedure in Rule 4.1c(1).  
Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – **See Rule 4.1b.**
  - d. Prohibiting Use of Clubs Longer than 46 Inches – Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect at all National Amateur Championships (including qualifying rounds). In making a stroke, the player must not use a club, except for a putter, which exceeds 46 inches in length.  
Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule: **Disqualification**

**Note:** An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available via [golfcanada.ca/rules](http://golfcanada.ca/rules).

3. **Ball Played from Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-On-the-Line Relief** – Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect. This applies in the application of Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b, 19.3b.
4. **Modified Rules for Players with Disabilities** – Specified clause(s) of the Modified Rules for Players with Disabilities are in effect for a player when approved in advance.
5. **Caddies** – Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have another player in the competition, who has played or will play in the same round, as his or her caddie during a round.

The player gets the **General Penalty** for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

6. **Pace of Play (Rule 5.6b(3))** – A Golf Canada Pace of Play Policy will be in effect at all amateur competitions and will be communicated prior to the start of the competition. The full policies are available online at [golfcanada.ca/rules](http://golfcanada.ca/rules), in the Golf Canada Tournament Office, and the policy in effect will be available at the starting tee.

**Note:** Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay of Play) is still applicable.

7. **Stopping and Resuming Play (Rule 5.7)** – Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:
- Immediate suspension (Dangerous Situation):** One prolonged note of the air horn.
  - Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation):** Three short notes of the air horn.
  - 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 Tournament Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing. Players who fail to do so will be subject to penalties under the Code of Conduct.

8. **Practice (Rule 5.2 and 5.5)**

- Before or between rounds in Stroke Play** – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course on the day of a competition or between rounds.

Penalty for first breach: **General Penalty** (applied to the player's first hole).

Penalty for second breach: **Disqualification**.

- Between holes in Stroke Play** – Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and 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.

9. **Transportation** – Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified as follows: During a round, players or caddies must not ride on any form of motorized transportation unless authorized or later approved by the Tournament Rules Committee. A player proceeding under a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized to use motorized transportation for that purpose.

The player gets the **General Penalty** for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

10. **Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)** –

Ground Under Repair – Rule 16.1 includes:

- Areas defined by white lines;
- French drains filled with stones;
- Seams of Cut Turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing:
  - Ball in the General Area: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.
  - Ball on Putting Green: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

**However**, interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance. All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. That means that if a player has interference from any seam after dropping the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c (2) even when the ball is still within one club-length of the reference point.

- Immovable Obstructions – White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced road or path or other identified obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

11. **Limiting When Stroke Made From Putting Green Must Be Replayed Under Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b**

– Model Local Rule D-7 is in effect. Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b applies, except that when a ball played from the putting green accidentally hits:

- the player,
- the club used by the player to make the stroke or

- an animal defined as a loose impediment (that is, worms, insects and similar animals that can be removed easily)

the stroke counts and the ball must be played as it lies.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: **General Penalty** Under Rule 14.7a.

**12. Wood Chips and Mulch** – Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments.

**13. Integral Objects** – The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:

- a. The portion of cables, wires, wrappings and other similar objects closely attached to trees;
- b. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas or which are adjacent to the edge of bunkers;
- c. Bunker liners in their intended position. Interference by a liner with a player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under this Rule;
- d. Closed gates attached to objects defining out of bounds.

**14. 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 that a player's ball hit a permanent elevated power line or cable 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.

**15. Temporary Immovable Obstructions** – Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. Temporary Immovable Obstructions include, but are not limited to, starting, scoring and pace of play tents.

**16. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)** – When a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a red penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.

**17. Anti-Doping** – Players are required to comply with and are bound by the Golf Canada Anti-Doping Policy as detailed on the entry form, webpage on [golfcanada.ca](http://golfcanada.ca), or any communication in advance of the competition or at the golf course.

**18. Code of Conduct (Rule 1.2)** – Golf Canada has adopted a Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player conduct on the golf course during play at all amateur competitions. The full policy is available online at [golfcanada.ca/rules](http://golfcanada.ca/rules), in the Golf Canada Tournament Office and at the starting tee.

The Golf Canada Tournament Rules Committee may assess any or all of the following penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation:

- Warning
- One penalty stroke
- General Penalty
- Disqualification

**Note:** Under Rule 1.2a, the Golf Canada Tournament Committee may **disqualify** a player for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game.

**19. Scorecard Returned** – A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has completely exited the defined scoring area, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Committee of their intention to leave the scoring area and receives the Committee's permission to do so.

**20. 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 or when the trophy has been presented to the winner.