

WWGC Local Rules

Preferred Lies:

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- Reference Point: Spot of the original ball
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: one club length from the reference point, but must not be nearer the hole than the reference point

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e. [LR 8E-3]. The cut of the grass may be changed (e.g. from rough to fairway) but cannot be changed from rough/fringe to green.

Immovable Obstructions:

Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16.1. The player also has these extra options to take relief when such immovable obstructions are close to the putting green and on the line of play:

Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is:

On the line of play, and is:

- Within two club-lengths of the putting green, and
- Within two club-lengths of the ball.

Exception – No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable. There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable. [8F-5]

Dropping Zones:

On Hole #3, at the back of the green, if you deem your ball to be unplayable because of the utility poles, netting, or cart path, you may use the Dropping Zone, no penalty. [8E-1.2] [Not an option if ball is OB; fence posts are considered the same as OB stakes.] On Hole #5, if a tee shot fails to clear the hazard, an additional option is to move forward to the drop zone on the green side of the creek, drop a ball in the drop zone, continue playing the hole and add a one stroke penalty. Hole 5 Local Rule cannot be used during President's Cup, Club Championship, or Match Play Tournaments.

Out Of Bounds: Hole #18:

There are several areas where the sidewalk from the public street extends 4 to 6 inches inside the course from under the OB fence. These areas are considered part of the OB and are NOT an Immovable Obstruction. **Hole #3:** The fence posts are the start of the OB, when the call comes rest inside fence posts , it is OB.

Power Lines, Holes 1 and 18:

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line [or tower or a wire or pole supporting a power line] during the play of holes #1 or #18, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 14.6 for what to do). [E-11]

Treeline On Hole #2:

Because of embedded rocks and pebbles under the oak trees to the left of the cart path on Hole #2, this area is declared Abnormal Ground Conditions/Ground Under Repair. The player may take free relief as described in Rule 16 and drop the ball within one club length of the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.

Staked Trees:

The young trees identified by stakes are no play zones:

- If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course other than in a penalty area and it lies on or touches such a tree or such a tree interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player must take relief under Rule 16.1f.
- If the ball lies in a penalty area, and interference to the player's stance or area of intended swing exists from such a tree, the player must take relief either with penalty under Rule 17.1e or with free relief by staying in penalty area under Rule 17.1e(2). [8E-10]

Ground Under Repair:

Ground under repair may include areas of unusual damage, including areas where spectators or other traffic have combined with wet conditions to alter the ground surface materially, but only when so declared by an authorized referee or member of the Committee. [8F-4]

Provisional Ball Over A Penalty Area (Holes 5,9,16 &17):

If a player does not know whether his or her ball is in the penalty area [Holes #5, 9, 16, 17], the player may play a provisional ball under Rule 18.3, which is modified in this way:

In playing the provisional ball, the player may use the stroke-and-distance relief option (see Rule 17.1d(1)), the back-on-the-line relief option (see Rule 17.1d(2)) or, if it is a red penalty area, the lateral relief option (see Rule 17.1d(3)). If a dropping zone (see Model Local Rule E-1) is available for this penalty area, the player may also use that relief option.

Once the player has played a provisional ball under this Rule, he or she may not use any further options under Rule 17.1 in relation to the original ball. In deciding when that provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play or if it must or may be abandoned, Rule 18.3c(2) and 18.3c(3) apply except that:

- When Original Ball Is Found in Penalty Area Within Three-Minute Search Time, proceed as follows:
 - If the ball is found outside of a penalty area, the original ball must be played and the provisional ball must be abandoned.
 - If the original ball is found within the penalty area she may
 - continue to play the original ball as it lies in the penalty area, in which case the provisional ball must not be played. All strokes with that provisional ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count, OR
 - Continue to play the provisional ball in which case the original ball must not be played.
- When Original Ball Is Not Found Within Three-Minute Search Time or Is Known or Virtually Certain to Be in Penalty Area. The provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play. [8B-3]

Alternative To Stroke And Distance:

When your ball is OB or potentially lost on the course, you may elect this option. Determine where (a) the ball last crossed the margin of the OB, or (b) where the (lost) ball came to rest. This is called the BALL REFERENCE POINT. Determine the point of fairway of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, but is not nearer the hole. This is called the FAIRWAY REFERENCE POINT. Determine the RELIEF AREA: (a) draw a line from the hole through the ball reference point (and within two club-lengths to the outside of that line), and (b) draw a line from the hole through the fairway reference point (and within two club-lengths to the fairway side of that line). But with these limits: (1) must be in the general area, and (2) must not be nearer the hole than the ball reference point. Drop the ball within the relief area. Two stroke penalty.

Relief From Animal Dung:

At the player's option, dung from geese may be treated either as a loose impediment that may be removed under Rule 15.1 or as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1. If treated as loose impediment, dung may be cleared from the surrounding area but the ball may not be touched, moved or cleaned unless it is on the green. If treated as ground under repair, the ball may be marked, lifted, cleaned and dropped within one club length no closer to the hole. (Ref: Committee Procedures 8.F-12)

Animal Holes in Bunkers:

Rule 16.1 is modified in this way: Interference does not exist if an animal hole only interferes with the player's stance in the bunkers.

USGA Rules Apply In All Other Cases

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