

NEW ENGLAND PGA 2019 HARD CARD

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2019, and where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Committee Procedures refers to the Committee Procedures section in the current *Official Guide to the Rules of Golf*. The *Committee* refers to the New England PGA Rules Committee. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the *general penalty*.

1. **Out of Bounds and Course Boundaries:** *Out of bounds* is defined by the line between the *course-side* points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts, off club property, and in any other manner as described in the applicable event's "Notice to Players."
Note: A ball coming to rest on or beyond a public road is out of bounds, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.
2. **Dropping Zones:** When the use of a dropping zone is permitted on the applicable "Notice to Players" for a particular competition round, the provisions in Model Local Rule E-1 apply. The ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.
3. **Penalty Areas:** Red penalty areas with an opposite side relief option will be indicated on the applicable "Notice to Competitors." 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.
4. **Abnormal Course Conditions and Integral Objects**
 - a. **Ground Under Repair:**
 - i) Any area **encircled by a white line**, including gallery crosswalks (except dropping zones or *out of bounds*).
 - ii) **Newly trenched areas**, including grass-covered cables.
 - iii) **French drains**, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.
 - iv) **Aeration holes** in General Area or on Putting Green, **but** interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play – Model Local Rule E-4.
 - v) A **hole made by a movable obstruction** (stakes, signs, 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.
 - vi) 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 in the *general area*, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. **But** interference does not exist if the seam **only** interferes with the player's *stance*.
Note: All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. This 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 within one club-length of the reference point.

b. **Immovable Obstructions:**

- i) **All roads and paths on the course**, even if not artificially surfaced, are treated as *immovable obstructions* from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.
- ii) **White lined areas of ground under repair tying into immovable obstructions** are treated as a single *abnormal course condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- iii) **Roads or paths surfaced with shells, wood chips or mulch** are immovable obstructions. The individual pieces of shells, wood chips or mulch are loose impediments.
- iv) **Landscaped or garden areas (flower beds, shrubbery or the like) completely encircled by an immovable obstruction** are part of the obstruction.
- v) **Railroad ties, curbing** or other similar artificial edges adjoining cart paths are part of the same *obstruction*.
- vi) **Where the non-course side edge of a road or path defines out of bounds**, the road or path is an obstruction.
- vii) **Stakes, ropes, wires, or other objects** supporting trees or tree limbs, provided they are not closely attached, are immovable obstructions. The tree or tree limb is not part of the obstruction.
- viii) **Secured mats and plastic cable ramps** covering cables.

c. **Integral Objects**

- i) **Bunker Liners:** The Committee may treat an exposed liner as ground under repair under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if the liner only interferes with the player's stance.
- ii) **Artificial retaining walls** and/or pilings when located in *penalty areas*.
- iii) **Wires, cables, wrappings, signs and lightning rods** closely attached to trees or objects defining *out of bounds*.

- d. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions:** Model Local Rule F-23 in Committee Procedures is in effect and includes any Temporary Immovable Obstruction installed for the competition.

5. **Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables**

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a permanent elevated 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.

6. **Restrictions on Use of Specific Equipment**

- a. **List of Conforming Driver Heads:** Any driver the player uses to make a *stroke* must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, which is on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the USGA.

Penalty for Making a *Stroke* with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying, but not making a *stroke* with a driver that is not on the List of Conforming Driver Heads (See Model Local Rule G-1 in Committee Procedures).

- b. **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications:** In making a *stroke*, the player must use clubs that conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the *Equipment Rules* that took effect on 1 January 2010. Ping Eye 2 irons manufactured before 31 March 1990 with a groove spacing to groove width ratio of 2.3 to 1 are allowed for play under the Rules of Golf, even when this Local Rule is in effect (See Model Local Rule G-2 in Committee Procedures).

Penalty for making a *Stroke* with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying, but not making a *stroke* with a club which does not conform to these groove and punch mark specifications.

- c. **List of Conforming Golf Balls:** Any ball used in making a *stroke* must be on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the USGA. This list is regularly updated and can be found at www.usga.org. **Penalty for Making a *Stroke* at a Ball Not on Current List in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

7. Restrictions on Practice

- a. **Before or Between Rounds in Stroke Play:**

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 this Local Rule:

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

Penalty for second breach: Disqualification.

8. Procedures for Bad Weather and Suspensions of Play

- a. **Methods for Stopping and Resuming Play:**

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signaled by one prolonged note of a siren or horn. All other suspensions will be signaled by three consecutive notes of a siren or horn. In either case, resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of a siren or horn. See Rule 5.7b.

Note: All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the *Committee* has declared them open.

- b. **Removal of Temporary Water on the Putting Green:**

If a player's ball lies on the *putting green* and there is interference by *temporary water* on the *putting green* the committee may:

- Require the player to take free relief under Rule 16-1d or
- Squeegee the line of play

Such squeegeeing should be done across the *line of play* and extend a reasonable distance beyond the *hole* (that is at least one roller length) and must only be carried out by individuals designated by the *Committee*.

Note: The *Committee* may squeegee the *putting green* at any time.

9. **Committee Pace of Play Policy:** See Rule 5.6b(3). See posted NEPGA pace of play guidelines for pace of play policy and penalties.

10. Scoring Area, Returning of Scorecard:

- a. **Scoring Area** may include but is not limited to tents or rooms. A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has exited the defined scoring area with both feet, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Scoring Official, and it is acknowledged, of their intention to leave the scoring area and immediately return.
- b. **Returning Scorecard:** For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's *scorecard* is treated as returned when the player has first left the scoring area with both feet.
- c. **Application of the Exception to Rule 3.3b(3) Following the Cut:** The cut for any New England PGA Championship is official when the following round's pairings have been approved and published by the NEPGA Rules Committee. Once the field has been reduced, and the pairings have been approved and published, no additions to the field will be made. If a player's breach of Rule 3.3b(3) is discovered after the cut is official and the addition of penalty strokes, from a round prior to the cut, results in the player's score being higher than the cut score, the player will be withdrawn from the field and will be considered to have missed the cut. Any such player is ineligible for any "made the cut" prize money, points, or other benefits.
- d. **Pro-Am Competition – Scorecard:** The professional player is the marker and scoring is according to Rule 23.2. The scorecard must be signed by the professional player and attested by one of the amateur partners. Penalties apply only to the professional player.

11. Measuring Condition of Putting Greens: Before or between *rounds* on any day of the competition or play-off, a player or *caddie* must not use any device that measures the condition (slope, texture, firmness, or moisture level) of any *putting green* on the *course*. The use of such a device is only permitted on practice days.

12. When the Result of the Competition is Final: The result of the competition is final when all scores have been 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.