

7. PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER AND SUSPENSIONS OF PLAY (cont.)

a. 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 player may take free relief under Rule 16-1d, or have their *line of play* squeegeed. 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 only be carried out by individuals designated by the *Committee*. (MLR J-2)

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

8. COMMITTEE PACE OF PLAY POLICY

See Rule 5.6b(3). The Local Rule setting a Pace of Play Policy, including penalties for not following this Policy, is published in the Tournament Rules and Regulations at nepga.com.

9. RETURNING SCORECARD

a. Scoring Area: For the purpose of applying Rule 3.3b(2), a player's *scorecard* is treated as returned 15 minutes after the *scorecard* is accepted into the electronic scoring system.

Exception: A player's *scorecard* is returned if any of the following four events occur, even if it occurs before the 15-minute time limit has expired or the player is still in the scoring area:

- (i) Starting times have been released after a cut has been made.
- (ii) The player begins their next round.
- (iii) Any player has made a stroke to begin a playoff.
- (iv) The competition has closed.

b. Modification of Penalty Under Rule 3.3b(2) for Missing Player or Marker Certification: If a player returns a *scorecard* without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the *marker* or both, the player gets the **general penalty** (two penalty strokes). The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round. (MLR L-1)

c. Application of the Exception to Rule 3.3b(3) Following the Cut: The cut for any Championship is official when the following *round's* groupings have been published by the *Committee*. After this time, 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of penalty strokes from a *round* before the cut results in a higher score than the cut score, the player will be withdrawn from the field and will be considered to have missed the cut.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.

10. WHEN THE RESULT OF THE COMPETITION IS FINAL

a. Stroke Play: Unless otherwise stated, the competition is final when all scores have been validated in the scoring system by the scoring official 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*.

b. Match Play: Unless otherwise stated, the result of the match is final when the result has been reported to a member of the *Committee*.



Local Rules & Terms of the Competition (Hard Card)

As of January 29, 2025



Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2023, 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.** The full text of Model Local Rules (MLR) can be found in Section 8 of *Committee Procedures*.

1. COURSE BOUNDARIES AND OUT OF BOUNDS

- a. *Out of bounds* is defined by the line between the *course-side* points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts.
- b. A ball coming to rest on or beyond a road defined as *out of bounds* is *out of bounds*, even if it comes to rest on another part of the *course*. (MLR A-5)

2. RED PENALTY AREAS

- a. When the edge of a red *penalty area* coincides with a boundary of the course, MLR B-2.2 is in effect and modifies the second paragraph of MLR B-2.1.

3. SPECIAL RELIEF PROCEDURES

- a. **An animal**, other than those defined as a *loose impediment*, may be removed. If the ball *moves* there is no penalty, and the ball must be *replaced*. (MLR E-13)
- b. **Drones:** If it is *known or virtually certain* that a player's ball hit a drone in flight and in bounds, the player must replay the *stroke* by playing the original ball or another ball from the spot where that *stroke* was made (See Rule 14.6). If the player replays the *stroke* but does so from a *wrong place*, they get the **general penalty** under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the *stroke*, they get the **general penalty** and the *stroke* counts, but the player has not played from a *wrong place*.
- c. **Aeration Holes & Verti-cut Seams:** If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole or verti-cut seam:
 - (i) **Ball in General Area:** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole or verti-cut seam, the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.
 - (ii) **Ball on Putting Green:** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d. **But** interference does not exist if the aeration hole or verti-cut seam only interferes with the player's *stance* or area of intended swing or, on the *putting green*, on the player's *line of play*. (MLR E-4)
- d. **Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables:** If it is *known or virtually certain* that a player's ball hit a permanent elevated power line that is **in bounds**, the player must replay the *stroke* by playing the original ball or another ball from the spot where that *stroke* was made (see Rule 14.6). If the player replays the *stroke* but does so from the *wrong place*, they get the **general penalty** under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the *stroke*, they get the **general penalty** and the *stroke* counts, but the player has not played from the *wrong place*. (MLR E-11)

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) **Areas of ground under repair tying into immovable obstructions** are treated as a single *abnormal course condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1. (MLR F-3.1)

(iii) **Newly trenched areas**, including grass-covered cables.

(iii) **French drains**, which are trenches filled with rocks or stones.

(iv) 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*. 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. (MLR F-7)

(v) **A hole made by a movable obstruction** (microphone, stakes, signs, tripods, tables, chairs, etc.) 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*.

(vii) **Painted lines or dots** in a part of the *general area* cut to fairway height or less. **But** interference does not exist if the painted lines or dots interfere only with the player's *stance*. (MLR F-21.1)

b. Immovable Obstructions:

(i) **Asphalt and artificially surfaced roads or paths.** Areas of ground under repair tying into such roads or paths are treated as a single *abnormal course condition* when taking relief under Rule 16.1. (MLR F-3.1)

(ii) **Railroad ties, curbing** or other similar artificial edges adjoining roads or paths are part of the same *obstruction*.

(iii) **Roads or paths surfaced with wood chips, mulch, shells, or gravel;** the individual pieces of wood chips, mulch, shells, or gravel are *loose impediments*.

(iv) **Secured mats and plastic cable ramps** covering cables.

c. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens:

For a ball in the *general area*, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b when both the ball and the *immovable obstruction* lie in an area cut to fairway height or less. The *obstruction* must be located:

(i) On or within two *club-lengths* of the *putting green*

(ii) On the player's *line of play*, and

(iii) The ball must be within two *club-lengths* of the *obstruction*

Exception – There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a *line of play* that is clearly unreasonable.

d. Integral Objects (Free relief not allowed):

(i) **Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings** when located in *penalty areas*.

(ii) **The portion of wires, cables, wrappings, poles, signs and lightning rods** closely attached to trees or closely attached to objects defining *out of bounds*. Any portion of a temporary object not closely attached may be treated as a temporary *immovable obstruction* by the *Committee*.

4. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS AND INTEGRAL OBJECTS (cont.)

d. Integral Objects (Free relief not allowed) (cont.)

(iii) **Bunker liners** in their intended position. **Note:** An exposed liner may be treated by the *Committee* as *ground under repair*. But interference does not exist if a liner only interferes with the player's *stance*.

e. Temporary Immovable Obstructions:

Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect, and includes any temporary *immovable obstruction* installed for the competition. "Either Side" relief is available, unless otherwise stated on the Notice to Players for a specific competition. (MLR F23e(2))

5. 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" (MLR G-1).

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. **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. (MLR G-2).

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 posted on the Official Notice Board and starting tees, 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. (MLR G-3)

6. DEFINING WHEN AND WHERE PLAYERS MAY PRACTICE IN STROKE PLAY

a. **Before or Between Rounds:** Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition *course* before or between *rounds*.

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

Penalty for second breach: Disqualification. (MLR I-1.2)

7. PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER AND SUSPENSIONS OF PLAY

a. Methods for Stopping and Resuming Play:

A suspension for a **dangerous situation** will be signaled by **one prolonged note** of a horn. **All other suspensions** will be signaled by **three consecutive notes** of a horn. In either case, **resumption of play** will be signaled by **two short notes** of a horn. See Rule 5.7 (MLR J-1).

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