

Whitford Park Golf Club Inc - Local Rules 2021

Updated June 2021

Out of Bounds

- Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts (Where white lines are used the white stakes are only indicators).
- The boundary to the left of Hole 1 is defined by the course-side edge of the driveway.
- The boundary on Hole 4 is defined by fence surrounding the residences.

Integral Objects

- Retaining artificial walls and pilings when located around the 1st and 10th Tees or in front of and below Clubhouse are integral objects.

Abnormal Course Conditions including Immovable Obstructions

- Ground under repair is defined by any area encircled by a white or blue line.
- Vehicle ruts in the General Area
- Cracks in the ground in parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less are ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.
- All open drains, and covered drains filled with any of the following: scoria, sand, rock and pumice (includes soil settlement in a drain creating a depression) are ground under repair.
- All tree felling areas and associated tractor/machinery marks are ground under repair.
- Areas of "Spongy Turf - defined as ground that significantly changes shape when a player applies weight to it, yet no temporary water appears on the surface. For a ball not found in G.U.R, proceed under Rule 16.1e.
- Areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand are ground under repair (Relief taken must remain in the bunker)
- Fixed sprinkler heads are immovable obstructions.
- All roads and paths on the course are treated as immovable obstructions from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.
- Distance markers are immovable obstructions.

Relief without penalty may be taken.

Relief from Tree Roots in Fairway

If a player's ball is in the general area and there is interference from exposed tree roots that are in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less or in the rough within 1 club-length of the edge of the ground cut to fairway height or less, the tree roots are treated as ground under repair. The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b.

But interference does not exist if the tree roots only interfere with the player's stance.

Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

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.

No Play Zones

- The trees identified by being under 2 club lengths in height 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
- All formed gardens are no play zones that are to be treated as an abnormal course condition. Free relief must be taken from interference by the no play zone under Rule 16.1f.

If a player's ball lies in or on the area mentioned or the area interferes with the player's stance or swing, then relief MUST be taken under rule 16.1f.

Penalty areas

- Are defined by red stakes or lines (Where red lines are used the stakes are only indicators)

Relief from Aeration Holes

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

- (a) Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.
- (b) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

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.

Provisional Ball for Ball in a Penalty Area

If a player does not know whether his or her ball is in the penalty area to the right or left of the 17th Hole, 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)).

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. The player may choose either to:
 - 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.

Ball Played From Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-On-the-Line Relief

When taking Back-On-the-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule (Rule 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b or 19.3b) but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball, when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped.

This exemption from penalty applies even if the ball is played from nearer the hole than the reference point (but not if played from nearer the hole than the spot of the original ball or the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area).

This Local Rule does not change the procedure for taking Back-On-the-Line relief under a relevant Rule. This means that the reference point and relief area are not changed by this Local Rule and that Rule 14.3c(2) can be applied by a player who drops a ball in the right way and it comes to rest outside the relief area, whether this occurs on the first or second drop.

Replacement of Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged

Rule 4.1b(3) is modified in this way:

If a player's club is 'broken or significantly damaged' during the round by the player or caddie, except in cases of abuse, the player may replace the club with any club under Rule 4.1b(4).

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).

For the purposes of this Local Rule a club is 'broken or significantly damaged' when:

- The shaft breaks into pieces, splinters or is bent (but not when the shaft is only dented), or
- The club face impact area is visibly deformed (but not when the club face is only scratched), or
- The clubhead is visibly and significantly deformed, or
- The clubhead is detached or loose from the shaft, or
- The grip is loose.

Exception: A club face or clubhead is not 'broken or significantly damaged' solely because it is cracked.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – See Rule 4.1b.

Preferred Lies (when in Operation – Please check the scorecard)

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, 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 with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
 - Must be in the general area.

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.

Clean and Place (when in operation)

When a player's ball lies in 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: 15 cm from the reference point, **but** with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
 - Must be in the general area.

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. The ball may be cleaned before the ball is replaced.

Suspension of Play

ONE prolonged blast on the siren will indicate that play is to be suspended.

Players should take shelter and remain on the course. Play is to be stopped immediately – you may not complete the hole no matter where you are.

TWO short blasts on the siren will indicate that play is to resume.

THREE short blasts on the siren indicate postponement of play and play should stop immediately.

Players must return to the Clubhouse where the duration of the stoppage will be announced. One short blast will indicate that play will be resumed in 15 minutes and after 15 minutes play will be restarted by 2 short blasts.

If play is to be abandoned for the day an announcement will be made in the Clubhouse.

Penalty for breach of above Local Rules

Match Play – Loss of hole

Stroke Play – Two stroke penalty