



## Thai Senior Professional Golf Association

### LOCAL RULES and TERMS OF COMPETITON

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition and any additions Local Rules: In accordance with the regulations of R&A Rules Limited.

For the full text of any Local Rule referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective January 2023 and the Clarifications updated quarterly by The R&A, available at [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org).

Unless otherwise stated, the penalty for breach of a local rule is the General Penalty. Match Play: Loss of Hole or Stroke Play: Two Strokes

**Local Rules and additional Local Rules** announced in each competition It will be effective in all events until such change is approved by the Thai Senior Professional Golf Association.

### Local Rules

#### 1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

1.1 A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall, fence, stake, and/or lines defining a boundary.

1.2 A ball that is played from one side of a public road which is defined as Out of Bounds and comes to rest on the other side of that road is Out of Bounds, even if the ball comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.

#### 2. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

2.1 Opposite side equal distance relief for Red Penalty Areas.

The weekly local rules sheet will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have an equal distance option on the opposite side. Model local rule B-2.1 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed.

### **2.2 Opposite Side Relief Where Ball last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where the Edge and the Boundary of Course Coincide.**

Model Local Rule B-2.2 is in effect. It amends the first paragraph of B-2.1. when a player's ball is found in or it is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in any red penalty area where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area at a point that coincides with the boundary of the course.

### **2.3 Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas.**

Where a dropping zone is marked for a Penalty Area, it is an additional option under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area under rule 14.3, meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

## **3. Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstruction) (Rule 16.1)**

### **3.1. Ground Under Repair**

- (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- (2) Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- (3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- (4) For holes remaining after removing movable obstructions in part of the general area, free relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing, but there is no relief interference to the stance.

### **3.2 Immovable Obstructions**

- (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
- (2) Landscaped garden areas and everything growing in them that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
- (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables.
- (4) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or the like, but individual pieces are loose impediments.
- (5) Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators unless otherwise defined on the additional local rules sheet.

### 3.3 Embedded Ball (Rule 16.3)

(1) A ball in its own pitch- mark from made as a result of the player's previous stroke and partially of the ball below the level surface of the ground.

(2) Model Local Rule F-2.2 Rule 16.3 is modified in this way: No free relief is allowed for a ball embedded in the stacked turf face above a bunker.

## 4. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

Model Local Rule F-5.1 and F-5.2 is in effect but is modified as follows:

Ball in General Area and on the Line of play, Relief is only allowed when both the ball and the immovable obstruction within two club-lengths, lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

## 5. Integral Objects

The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:

5.1 Bunker liners in their intended position.

5.2 Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

5.3 Artificial retaining walls and pilings when adjacent to located within Penalty Areas.

5.4 Floating sponsor displays/signs when in penalty areas (no line of sight relief allowed). Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables (obstruction).

## 6. Ball Deflected by Power Line

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only for a ball which strikes a power line located in bounds overhead [and the structure, for example, a power line, tower, wire or pole supporting a power line] But it does not include light poles that do not interfere with playing in the hole or off the course.

"If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit during the play of hole, The stroke does not count and 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.

## 7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)

Model Local Rules F-22 Temporary Power Lines and Cables, and F-23 TIO are in effect.

(1) Dropping Zone Policy. In the general area, when a player's ball lies in or on a TIO or so close to

the TIO that it interferes with the stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, the player may:

- proceed under any of the options allowed under the TIO Local Rule or Rule 16.1, or
- if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, the player may drop the original ball or another ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone. This is true even if it is nearer the hole. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3. A ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone and played from there.

(2) Either Side Relief. The Tournament Additional Local Rules will specify which TIOs have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to line of sight relief only and is not allowed if the player is taking relief using the procedures in Rule 16.1.

(3) When a TIO is tied into another TIO or an immovable obstruction by a white line, it is treated to be one TIO.

## 8. Clubs and Balls

### (1) 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.

### (2) Prohibiting Use of Clubs Longer than 46 Inches

Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

### (3) Groove and Punch Mark Specifications

Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

### (4) List of Conforming Golf Balls.

Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect

Penalty for breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

## 9. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged (Rule 4.1a(2))

Model Local Rule G-9 "Rule 4.1a(2) is modified in this way: If a player's club is "broken or significantly damaged" during the round by the player or caddie, (including while play is stopped under Rule 5.7a) 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),
- the club face impact area is visibly deformed (but not when the club face is only scratched),
- the clubhead is visibly and significantly deformed (but not when the clubhead is only cracked),
- 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.**

## 10. Pace of Play Policy (Rule 5.6)

### Out of Position– Definitions

The first group and any group after a starter’s gap will be “Out of Position” if, at any time during the round, the group’s cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed. Any following group will be “Out of Position” as well if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes completed.

- In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group is liable to be timed if it is Out of Position. From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a ‘first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt’, or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or ‘second or third to play shot’, It is deemed to have had a ‘bad time’.
- The time allowed will be determined by the Committee, and will be published on the official notice board. Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Referee that it is the player’s turn to play.
- The referee will time the group. If a group of players is found to have exceeded the time in the event of an unreasonable event, and the next second group or group is "out of position", the player will be removed.

A player whose group is timed will have the bad time counting carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently back in position or within time.

- Monitoring may happen before Timing but it does not have to.

### **Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy: Stroke Play and Match Play:**

1st bad time - Verbal warning from Referee.

2nd bad times - 1 stroke penalty

3rd bad times - 2 strokes penalty or loss of hole in Match Play

4th bad times - Disqualification

#### **Notes:**

(1) Players will be advised that they are being timed.

(2) In some circumstances, an individual player or two players within a group of three, may be timed rather than the entire group.

(3) Random Timing: In some circumstances, a group or an individual player may be timed, including when a group is not out of position. She or they will have a bad time if exceeds 60 seconds to play a shot.

## **11. Suspensions and Resumption of Play (Rule 5.7)**

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

- Immediate stop for imminent danger - one prolonged note of a siren
- Stop for a non-dangerous situation - three consecutive notes of a siren
- Resumption of play-two consecutive notes of a siren

**Note:** When play is stopped for imminent danger, all practice areas will be immediately closed.

## **12. Practice (Rule 5.2 and 5.5)**

12.1 Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play. (Rule 5.2b)

Rule 5.2b is modified in this way:

Before or between rounds a player must not practice on the competition course.

Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.

12.2 Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited. (Rule 5.5b)

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.

**Exception:** All recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course may be used by players for practice on any day of the competition.

### 13. Transportation Policy

Rule 4.3a(1) is modified in this way:

During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised by the rules committee. (A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized).

### 14. Restricting Use of Green-Reading Materials

Model Local Rule G-11

Rule 4.3a is modified in this way:

During a round, the player may use only the yardage book(s) approved by the Committee.

This restriction also applies to any other maps of the course, including hole-location sheets.

Additional restrictions apply to handwritten notes and any other materials used by the player that could help read the line of play on the putting green: and.....

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule and the penalty statement under Rule 4.3 applies.

- Penalty for first breach from single act or related acts: **General Penalty.**
- Penalty for second breach unrelated to first breach: **Disqualification.**

### 15. Prohibiting Use of Materials to Help Read the Line of Play for Stroke from Putting Green

Model Local Rule G-12

“Rule 4.3a is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not use any written, printed, electronic or digital materials to help with reading their line of play for any stroke to be made from the putting green. Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule:

- Penalty for first breach: **General Penalty**
- Penalty for second breach: **Disqualification.”**

### 16. Deciding of Ties

Method deciding as announced by the committee and Reference to the method for setting the terms of the competition requirements in article 5A(6).

### 17. Scoring Area and Scorecard Returned

Location for return scorecards will be announced in additional local rules documents. A player's scorecard is officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the recording office/area with both feet.

## 18. Anti-Doping

Requiring players to act and be under control according to use the anti-doping policy International Golf Federation (IGF) stimulants, available at [www.igfgolf.org](http://www.igfgolf.org)

## 19. Serious Misconduct

Rules 1.2a 1.2b และ Clarification 1.2a/1 is intended to cover player misconduct that is so far removed from the expected norm in golf that the most severe sanction of removing a player from the competition is justified. This includes dishonesty, deliberately interfering with another player's rights, or endangering the safety of others.

The Committee must determine if the misconduct is serious considering all the circumstances. Even if the Committee determines that the misconduct is serious, it may take the view that it is more appropriate to warn the player that a repeat of the misconduct or similar misconduct will result in disqualification, instead of disqualifying him or her in the first instance.

**Note:** See Committee Procedures, 5I Code of Conduct Policy (explaining the standards of player conduct that may be adopted).

## Terms of the Competition

### 20. Eligibility

Players must meet the eligibility provisions established in the relevant Terms of Competition.

### 21. Results of Competition - Competition Closed

The result of the tournament is officially announced when the final results sheet is placed on the official notice board at the tournament venue.

-----Update 2023-----