



LOCAL RULES and TERMS OF COMPETITION

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition together with any additions or amendments published by the Real Federación Española de Golf (RFEF) will be applied to all events run by the RFEF.

For the full text of any Model Local Rule (MLR) referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective 1st January 2023.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty (loss of hole in match play or two penalty strokes in stroke play).

1. OUT OF BOUNDS. Rule 18.2.

- a. A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- b. A ball that comes to rest beyond any road defining out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course. (MLR A-5 is in effect).
- c. Closed gates attached to boundary walls and fences are part of the boundary object. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rules 15.2 or 16.1. But an open gate is not treated as part of the boundary object and may be closed or moved to a different position.

2. PENALTY AREAS. Rule 17.

- a. Opposite side same distance relief for red penalty areas.
In the additional Local Rules on each course will be specified which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. MLR B-2.1 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed.
- b. Dropping zones (DZ) for penalty areas.
Where a DZ is marked for a penalty area, it is an additional option under penalty of one stroke. The DZ is a relief area under Rule 14.3. meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.
- c. Opposite side relief where ball last crossed edge of penalty area where the edge and the boundary of the course coincide.
When a player's ball last crosses the edge of a penalty area where the edge of the penalty area and a boundary of the course coincide, that edge is deemed red and opposite side relief is available under MLR B-2.2.

THE FOLLOWING WILL ONLY APPLY IN PROFESSIONAL PLAYER COMPETITIONS

ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS Rule 16.1. TEMPORARY WATER.

MLR J-2 is in effect. It is modified as follows: When temporary water accumulates on the putting green, relief is available under Rule 16.1d or:

- (i) Squeegee the line of play on the putting green
- (ii) Squeegee the putting green between groups
- (iii) Squeegee the putting green when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course, but only when authorized by the Committee.

GREEN READING MATERIAL RESTRICTIONS.

MLR G-11 is in effect. Only Committee approved materials may be used. Approved materials include:

- (i) Committee approved yardage books from 2022 onwards
Note: this does not apply to amateurs playing solely in Pro-Am competitions.
- (ii) Committee approved pin position sheets.
- (iii) Map of the competition course no larger than an A4 sized piece of paper.

INTEGRAL OBJECTS.

- a. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located on the edge of bunkers. These are part of the general area.
- b. Floating sponsor display boards in penalty areas. (no line-of-sight relief allowed). Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables Note: When cables are located outside the penalty area the cables are immovable obstructions.

PRACTICE. Rule 5.

Practice on or near previous putting green prohibited MLR I-2 is in effect. Rule 5.5b is modified as follows: 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.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES.

MLR G-5 is in effect. Rule 4.3a (1) is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not obtain distance information using an electronic distance measuring device. This is also in effect in a Pro-am played as the official competition. Penalty for breach of Rule 4.3: See penalty statement in Rule 4.3.

CLUBS AND BALLS.

- a. The One Ball Rule. MLR G-4 is in effect. Exception: This local rule does not apply to professional or amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or approved one-day event or to amateurs who partner professional players in a major Pro-Am tournament. Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this local rule: General Penalty for each hole during which the player is in breach.
- b. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged: MLR G-9 is in effect.
- c. 46-inch Club Length Limitation: MLR G-10 is in effect. This is also in effect in a Pro-Am played as the official competition. Exception: This rule will not apply to amateurs playing solely in Pro-Am competitions.

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3. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS Rule 16.1. and EMBEDDED BALL Rule 16.3.

a. Ground Under Repair.

- (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- (2) Seams of cut turf (MLR F-7 is in effect).
- (3) Grass covered cable trenches.
- (4) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- (5) Restriction on relief from stance in animal hole (MLR F-6 is in effect). Rule 16.1 is modified in this way: "Interference does not exist if the animal hole interferes with only the player's stance".
- (6) Yardage Spots or Lines (MLR F-21.1 is in effect). Painted lines or dots in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less are to be treated as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1. Interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only the player's stance.

b. Immovable Obstructions.

- (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are 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) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
- (4) Staked trees are immovable obstructions.
- (5) Restriction on relief from stance for irrigation pipes. Rule 16.1 is modified in this way: "Interference does not exist if an irrigation pipe(s) interferes with the player's stance".

c. Embedded Ball. Rule 16.3.

La Regla 16.3 se modifica de la siguiente manera: "No está permitido el alivio sin penalización para una bola empotrada en la pared de un bunker formada por tepes de césped apilados" (RLM F-2.2 en vigor).

4. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREENS.

MLR F-5 is in effect. For a ball in the general area, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b if (i) an immovable obstruction is on the line of play and is on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball, and (ii) both the ball and the obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

5. INTEGRAL OBJECTS.

- a. Bunker liners in their intended position.
- b. Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- c. Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located within penalty areas.

6. PERMANENT OVERHEAD POWER LINE.

MLR E-11 is in effect, but only if it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole/ pylon. The player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6).

7. TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS. (TIO)

Temporary Power Lines and Cables (MLR F-22 in effect) – TIOs (RLM F-23 in effect).

8. CLUBS AND BALLS.

- a. List of Conforming Driver Heads (MLR G-1 is in effect). Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.
- b. Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (MLR G-2 is in effect). Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.
- c. Conforming Balls List (MLR G-3 is in effect). Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

9. PACE OF PLAY POLICY and CODE OF CONDUCT. Rule 5.6 and 1.2b.

In accordance with the RFEA Pace of Play policy and Code of Conduct card in force, if implemented by the event Committee.

10. STOPPING PLAY; RESUMING PLAY. Rule 5.7.

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

- Immediate Stop/dangerous situation - one prolonged note of the siren.
- Normal non-dangerous stop - three consecutive short notes of the siren.
- Resume play - two consecutive short notes of the siren.
- When play is stopped in a dangerous situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

11. PRACTICE. Rule 5.

- a. Before or between rounds in stroke play (MLR I-1.1 is in effect). Rule 5.2b is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.
- b. Before or between rounds in match play (MLR I-1.2 is in effect). Rule 5.2a is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.

Exception: All practice areas recognizable as such within the boundaries of the course may be used by players for practice on any day of the event.

12. TRANSPORTATION POLICY.

MLR G-6 is in effect. During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the rules committee. Note: A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized.

13. ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITIONS. Rule 24.

Each team may name one advice giver whom players in the team may ask for advice and receive advice from during the round. The team must identify each advice giver to the Committee before any player on the team begins his round.

14. SCORING IN STROKE PLAY.

MLR L-1 applies. Rule 3.3b(2) is modified in this way: 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. The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.

15. RECORDING AREA AND SCORECARD RETURNED.

The location of the recording area will be detailed each week on the local rules sheet. The scorecard is returned when the player leaves the recording area with both feet. Score recorders are part of "The Committee".

16. RESULTS OF COMPETITION - COMPETITION CLOSED.

The location of the recording area will be detailed each week on the local rules sheet. The scorecard is returned when the player leaves the recording area with both feet. Score recorders are part of "The Committee".