

FINNISH GOLF UNION LOCAL RULES and TERMS OF COMPETITION 2019

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition, together with any additions or amendments published by the championship committee at the golf course, will apply to all tournaments run by FGU.

For the full text of any Local Rule referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective January 2019.

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

1 Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

1a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.

1b) A ball that is played from one side of a road which is defined as out of bounds and comes to rest on the other side of that road is out of bounds. This is true 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)

2a) When a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.

2b) When a player's ball is found in or it is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in any penalty area where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area at a point that coincides with the boundary of the course, opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1.

Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas

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

3 Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)

3a) Ground Under Repair

(1) Any area bounded by a white or blue line or blue stakes.

(2) Any area of damaged ground that is considered by a referee to be abnormal (e.g. caused by vehicle movement or heavy rain/irrigation).

(3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).

(4) Seams of cut turf; Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.

(5) Painted yardage markings on the putting green or in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less.

Interference does not exist if painted markings only interfere with the player's stance.

3b) 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 surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.

(3) Roads or paths surfaced with gravel or woodchip. Individual pieces of surface are loose impediments.

3c) Embedded Ball

Rule 16.3 is modified in this way: No free relief is allowed for a ball embedded in the stacked turf face or soil faces above a bunker.

3d) Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole

Rule 16.1 is modified in this way:

Interference does not exist if an animal hole only interferes with the player's stance.

4 Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect. This Local Rule only applies when the ball and immovable obstruction lie in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. In addition to Rule 16.1a, interference also exists if an immovable obstruction is on the player's line of play, is within two club-lengths of the putting green and is within two club-lengths of the ball.

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

5 Integral Objects

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

5a) Bunker liners in their intended position.

5b) Wires, cables, wrappings or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

5c) Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located in penalty areas.

6 Temporary Immovable Obstructions

Championship committee will define TIOs before every tournament. Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect.

7 Clubs and Balls

7a) List of Conforming Driver Heads: Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.

7b) Groove and Punch Mark Specifications: Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.

7c) List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification.

7d) One Ball Rule (For Finnish Tour ONLY): Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect: During an entire *round*, each ball at which the player makes a *stroke* must be the same brand and model as found in a single entry on the current List of Conforming Balls

Note: An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available on www.randa.org.

8 Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)

Each hole has been given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play from the Championship Office. Please ensure you obtain a copy of the Pace of Play Policy and read it carefully before playing. The Pace of Play Policy will be strictly enforced.

9 Suspension 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 siren

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

10 Practice (Rule 5.2)

10a) In stroke play and in match play, Rule 5.2b and Rule 5.2a are modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds on the day of the competition.

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

10b) Practice between holes (For Finnish Tour ONLY): Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect:

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.

11 Transportation

During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between two holes applies to the next hole.

12 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 or her round.

13 Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by any Anti-Doping Policy that is established for the Championship or Match in which they are competing, as detailed in the relevant Terms of Competition, as advised by prior notice or at the golf course.

14 Returning of Score Card

A player's scorecard is officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the recording office/area with both feet

15 Deciding Ties

The method for deciding ties is provided on the relevant entry form or is published at the golf course by Championship Committee

16 Results of Match or Championship - Competition Closed

The competition is closed or the result of a match is final 15 minutes after the prize-giving ceremony is over or the results of the competition or the result of a match is put on the notice board.

17 Code of Conduct

In the case of unsportsmanlike behavior the Committee may decide to penalize the player.

Unsportsmanlike behavior includes but is not limited to:

- Failure to take care for the course (e.g. not raking bunkers or not replacing divots)
- Using unacceptable language
- Throwing or handling clubs in a dangerous way
- Damaging the facilities, including the course and the clubhouse
- Verbally threatening or abusing a player, an official or other person

The Committee will consider every breach individually. Possible penalties are: warning, one stroke penalty, general penalty or disqualification.