



# NORDIC GOLF LEAGUE

## Local Rules and Terms of Competition

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition have been formulated after consultation with the Rules of Golf Committees of the Nordic Federations and apply to all Nordic Golf League events. In the event of a dispute arising as to the meaning of any Rule of Golf, the Rule will be interpreted according to the English Edition of the Rules of Golf.

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2023. See the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf for Model Local Rule (MLR) references.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a local Rule is the General Penalty.

Matchplay: Loss of Hole

Strokeplay: Two strokes

### SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules, together with any additions or amendments as published by the committee at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of the Nordic Golf League.

#### 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. Gates in Boundary Fences and Walls. MLR F-26 is in effect.

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

- a. Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas: The additional local rules will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. MLR B-2.2 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed.
- b. 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 and MLR E-1.1 is in effect.
- 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.

#### 3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16.1)

##### A. Ground Under Repair

1. All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
2. French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
3. Seams of Cut Turf: MLR F-7 is in effect.
4. A hole made by a movable obstruction may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee but there is no relief for stance. MLR F-6 is in effect.
5. Animal Holes. MLR F-6 is in effect prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists.
6. Painted lines or dots in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. Model Local Rule F-6 is in effect prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists.

##### 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. Staked trees are immovable obstructions.

##### C. Embedded ball

MLR F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified as follows: Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in a stacked turf face above a bunker.

##### D. Removal of Temporary Water

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

- a. The putting green may be squeegeed between groups.
- b. The player may have his line of play on the putting green squeegeed.
- c. Only when authorised by the Committee, the player may have the putting green squeegeed when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course.

#### 4. Animal Not Defined as Loose Impediment Near Ball

MLR E-13 is in effect. An animal not defined as a loose impediment may be removed. If the ball moves there is no penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

## 5. 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 an immovable obstruction is (i) on the line of play, (ii) on or within two club-lengths of the putting green (iii) within two club-lengths of the ball, (iv) the ball is in an area cut to fairway height or less, and (v) the obstruction is located in an area cut to fairway height or less.

## 6. Integral objects

- a. Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee, but in such cases MLR F-6 is in effect prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists.
- b. Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- c. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.
- d. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located on the edge of bunkers but such objects are not part of the bunker.

## 7. Ball deflected by 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).

## 8. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)

MLR F-22 re Temporary Power Lines and Cables and MLR F-23 re TIO's are in effect.

- a. Either Side Relief: The additional local rules will specify which TIO have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to line-of-sight relief only. NOTE: This does not apply when the player chooses to operate under Rule 16.1 for relief
- b. Dropping Zone (DZ) 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 "DZ" is a relief area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.

## 9. Caddies (Rule 10.3a)

MLR H-1.2 is in effect and Rule 10.3a has been modified in this way: A player must not have a player who has played in the same round, as his caddie during the round.

### Penalty for breach of this local rule:

General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between holes applies to the next hole.

## 10. Pace of Play (Rule 5.6b (3))

MLR K-1 is in effect and is modified as follows:

If a group does not finish at least ANY three (3) of the holes on the front 9, AND at least ANY three (3) holes on the back 9.

- within the maximum allowed time decided by the committee, or
- within the starting interval of the group in front

all players in the group may by the Committee be deemed to have breached the local rule.

If a group finishes the front or the back nine on or ahead of the maximum time allowed, they can NOT be fined for those nine holes.

### Penalty for breach of the local rule:

€15 per player if the breach is made only on the front nine or the back nine.

€30 per player if the breach is made on both the front nine and the back nine.

**NOTE 1:** A group is deemed to have finished a hole when the group has registered all scores in the group for that hole in the scoring system.

**NOTE 2:** A group must not register scores for a hole in the scoring system before all players in the group have finished that hole. If a group registers scores for a hole in the scoring system before all players in the group have finished that hole, they have breached Rule 1.2.

## Individual timing

A player, for whom it is possible to make a stroke and, from when it is deemed that he should have reached his ball, has

- 60 seconds to make his stroke if he is deemed to not have had time for preparing to make his stroke
- 40 seconds to make his stroke if he is deemed to have had time for preparing to make his stroke

A player in breach of any of the time limits is deemed to have a "bad time".

**Penalty for breach of the local rule during the same tournament:**

One bad time	Verbal warning and 20 EUR fine
Two bad times	One stroke penalty and 40 EUR fine
Three bad times	Two stroke penalty and 60 EUR fine
Four bad times	Disqualification

**Notes:**

1. A player has had time to prepare for making his stroke if it is deemed that he should have reached his ball while, another player in the same group, who is to make his stroke before the player, is preparing to make his stroke, or the group in front of the player's group is within reach of the player's intended stroke.
2. It is possible to make a stroke when, the group in front of the player's group is out of reach of the player's intended stroke, or
  - the player's group does not have a ruling or is not waiting for a referee, or
  - the player does not have to wait for players on holes close by.
3. Players will not be advised that they are being timed.
4. Any player who has five bad times during the season will be fined 100 EUR and for every additional bad time he will be fined 100 EUR.

**11. Stopping play; Resuming play (Rule 5.7)**

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

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

**12. Restrictions on practice (Rule 5)**

- a. Before or between rounds in stroke play – MLR I – 1.1 is in effect. Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice, roll a ball or rub the surface of the putting green on the competition course before or between rounds, but may practice on the designated practice areas.
- b. During round – MLR 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.

**13. 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. List of Conforming Balls: MLR G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.
- d. 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: the player gets one penalty stroke for each hole during which they are in breach of this Local Rule
- e. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged: MLR G-9 for replacement of a club is in effect.
- f. 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.

**14. Prohibiting use of motorised transportation**

MLR G-6 is in effect:

During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the Committee. A player (or caddie) who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorised.

**Penalty for breach of this local rule:**

The player gets the General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this local rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

**15. Scoring in Stroke Play**

MLR L-1 is in effect and modifies the penalty for a missing signature(s) under Rule 3.3b(2).

## **SECTION B – TERMS OF COMPETITION**

### **1. Recording Area and when scorecard has been returned.**

The recording area will be defined in the Additional Local Rules. A player has returned their scorecard to the Committee when the player has physically left the recording area. Score Recorders are part of the Committee.

### **2. Deciding ties**

Unless otherwise stated, if there is a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole playoff to determine the winner.

### **3. 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.

### **4. When the result of the competition is final**

The competition is final when the official results have been validated in the scoring system by the Score Recorder and approved by the Committee.

### **5. Anti-doping**

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the Nordic Golf Leagues Anti-Doping Policy, which can be found in the Nordic Golf League Rules and Regulations.

Note: Players should be aware that, under the Anti-Doping Policy, if a player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, he may face disqualification both from the tournament at which he was tested (or otherwise committed the violation) and from any subsequent tournament in which he participated until provisionally suspended or rendered ineligible under the Policy. Disqualification in such cases includes the loss of all results, points and prize money.

*Nordic Golf League Executive Committee, Maj 2024*