

2021 LET Access Series

Local Rules and Terms of Competition Hard Card

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition have been formulated after consultation with the Rules of Golf Committee of R&A Rules Limited. In the event of a dispute arising as to the meaning of any Rule of Golf or LET Access Series local rule, the Rule will be interpreted according to the English edition of the Rules of Golf or LET Access Series Local Rules Hard Card.

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

SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

The following listed Local Rules, together with any additions or amendments as published by the LET Access Series at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all Tournaments under the auspices of the LET Access Series. For the full text of the Local Rules referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2019 and the Clarifications updated quarterly by the R&A, available at www.randa.org.

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.

2. PENALTY AREAS (RULE 17)

a) Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas.

The Supplementary Local Rules for each tournament will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model local rule B-2.1 applies only to the penalty areas that are listed.

b) 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 crossed the edge of the 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 model local rule B-2.1.

c) 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 that a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

3. BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF. PLAYING FROM OUTSIDE THE RELIEF AREA

Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect when taking Back-On-the-Line Relief under any Rule.

Note: The Back-on-the-line options in Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b and 19.3b. A ball may be played from outside the relief area, as long as the ball is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped in the relief area.

4. EMBEDDED BALL (RULE 16.3)

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way:

“Free relief is not allowed when a ball embedded in any stacked turf face above a bunker”.

5. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS (RULE 16.1)

a) Ground Under Repair

- i. All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- ii. Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- iii. French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- iv. 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.

b) Immovable Obstructions

- i. White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into, are treated as a single abnormal course condition.

- ii. Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction, are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
- iii. Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables (anything which is secured or fastened is not considered “readily movable” if it has to be unfastened to be moved).
- iv. Roads or paths surfaced with woodchips or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchips are loose impediments.
- v. Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators, unless otherwise defined on the Supplementary Local Rules.

c) Temporary Water

Squeegee Policy for Temporary Water removal.

If a player’s ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may take relief under rule 16.1d or have her line of play squeegeed.

The committee may squeegee greens until players are nearby and if conditions deteriorate, to keep play going, they may authorize a combination of all the above measures.

Any squeegeeing should be done across the line of play, must extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole (i.e. at least one club-length) and may only be carried out by committee authorized personnel.

d) Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole

Rule 16.1 is modified in this way:

“Interference does not exist if the animal hole interferes with only the player’s stance”.

e) Yardage Spots or Lines

Painted lines or spots (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. But interference does not exist if painted lines or spots (or dots) interfere with only the player’s stance.

f) Staked Trees

Staked trees are immovable obstructions.

6. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREENS

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect but is modified as follows:

“For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when:

- (i) both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less;*
- (ii) the obstruction must be within two club-lengths of the putting green;*
- (iii) the obstruction to be on the players line of play and;*
- (iv) the ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction”.*

7. LIMITING WHEN STROKE MADE FROM PUTTING GREEN MUST BE REPLAYED

Model Local Rule D-7 is in effect and modifies Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b

8. 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.
- d) Floating sponsor displays/signs when in penalty areas (no line of sight relief allowed). Wires and cables anchoring them are temporary cables (see point 10, Temporary Immovable Obstructions).
- e) Any closed gate attached to a boundary object.

9. PERMANENT OVERHEAD POWER LINE

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only for a ball which strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole; **stroke is cancelled and must be replayed.**

10. TEMPORARY IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS (TIO)

Examples include but are not limited to: all fixed clocks, advertising boards fixed to other temporary immovable obstructions or advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are **situated around teeing areas.**

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

- a) **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 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 the dropping zone is nearer the hole). The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3 meaning that a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.

- b) **Either Side Relief:** Either side relief for line-of-sight interference only. Either side relief is available for all TIOs, unless specified on the Supplementary Local Rules for each tournament. If the player has line of sight interference and is entitled to relief, she may take relief on the other side of the TIO in accordance with e(2) of the Model Local Rule F-23. Taking relief on the other side is not allowed if the player is taking relief from physical interference only using the procedures in Rule 16.1.

10. MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS

Examples include but are not limited to: free-standing advertising boards **situated away from teeing areas**, drinks dispensers that are on wheels or easily lifted, all cameras and their tripods, TV microphones, free standing scoring and data masts or tripods and all crossing point indicators.

11. CLUBS AND BALLS

- a) **Club Replacement:** Model Local Rule G-9 for replacement of a club that is broken or significantly damaged is in effect.
- b) **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.
- c) **Groove and Punch Mark Specification:** Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.
Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.
- d) **Conforming Balls List:** Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.
Penalty for making a stroke with a ball not on current list in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.
- e) **The One Ball Rule:** Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect. *(Exception: This local rule does not apply to professionals 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.

12. PACE OF PLAY POLICY (RULE 5.6b(3))

See separate sheet for detailed “Monitoring” and “Timing” policy.

The LETAS Pace of Play policy will apply to each individual tournament. **Two “bad times” in the same tournament will be a breach.** The fines that will accompany the below penalties are defined by the “Pace of Play regulation” in the LETAS Members’ Regulations 2021.

Monitoring may happen before Timing, but it does not have to. Periods of Monitoring are not recorded in a player’s season long record, but periods of Timing will count.

In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group (or an individual) is liable to be monitored or timed if the group (or she) is in excess of the time allowed or, in the case of second or subsequent groups, out of position. The time allowed will be determined by the Tournament Director and will be published on the official notice board.

Out of Position means: For first groups, being over the time allowed for the holes completed. Following groups, will be out of position if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front.

Excessive shot time: In addition, in the absence of mitigating circumstances, a player is liable to receive a “bad time” if she exceeds 59 seconds for any shot during play (10 extra seconds will be counted on a ‘first to play’ approach shot, Par 3 tee shot, chip or putt), even if she (or her group) is not being timed. Under such circumstances, the position of the player’s group relative to the group in front (or relative to the time allowed for the number of holes completed if in the first group), will not be taken into consideration.

From the commencement of either monitoring or timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a ‘first to play’ approach shot, Par 3 tee shot, chip or putt, or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or ‘second or third to play’ shot or putt, she has registered a ‘Bad Time’ (an additional 10% will be added for each timing session – so 40 seconds

will be 44 and 50 second will be 55 – anytime the player is Monitored or Timed). When being timed or monitored, a Player is entitled to one “Time Extension” per stipulated round. This “Time Extension” entitles a player to a further 40 seconds over the maximum time allowable for a given stroke. The extension must be very clearly communicated to the timing referee and can be requested at any point up **until the maximum time allowable for the given stroke has expired.**

Penalty for breach of Local Rule (Stroke Play):

One “Bad Time” in the tournament – Verbal Warning from an Official

Two “Bad Times” in the tournament – One Stroke Penalty

Three “Bad Times” in the tournament – Two Stroke Penalty

Four “Bad Times” in the tournament – Disqualification

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Match Play.

One “Bad Time” in the match – Verbal warning from an Official

Two “Bad Times” in the match – One stroke penalty

Three “Bad Times” in the match – Loss of hole

Four “Bad Times” in the match – Disqualification

Note:

- a) A player who is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the tournament even if her group subsequently arrives back in position or within time.
- b) A session of timing will only be recorded if it extends into a second hole however if the individual player has to be timed again during that round, a minimum of one session will be recorded.
- c) A player who, during a round, records two individual stroke timings during Monitoring that exceed the limit of 40 or 50 seconds but are within the 10% allowance, will be advised by the Timing Official that she will be Timed officially
- d) During a round, if a player who is being timed exceeds the maximum time allowed for an individual stroke by up to the otherwise permitted 10% on 3 separate occasions, she will incur a “Bad Time”.
- e) Players may be timed without being advised.
- f) Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Official that it is the player’s turn to play.
- g) If a player wishes to know her position, she should ask an Official.
- h) Any player wishing to question any timing applied to her, must do so with the Official/Tournament Director no later than 30 minutes after the completion of her round. After this time the record will stand.
- i) In addition, please note Article XII-A (Pace of Play) in the LETAS Members’ Regulation.

13. PLAY SUSPENSION (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.

14. PRACTICE (RULE 5)

- a) **Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play (Rule 5.2b):** Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: “A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds”.

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

- b) **Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited (Rule 5.5b):** For stroke play events only, 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”.

15. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES (RULE 4.3a)

The use of Distance Measuring Devices (DMD’s) is permitted during all practice, Pro-Am and tournament rounds.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES (DMD): During LETAS tournament rounds, a player may obtain distance information with a DMD using the function on the device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated

round, a player uses a DMD with the function turned on that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect her play, the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a.

Penalty for First Breach - Two Strokes. Second Breach - Disqualification.

16. TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Model local rule G-6 is in effect and modifies Rule 4.3a(1) in this way:

“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. (A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized)”.

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.

17. METAL FENCING

- a) If a player has interference from metal fencing, Rule 16.1 will apply. In this specific case, the player must determine the nearest point of complete relief without crossing over, through or under the fencing. A player who takes relief under this clause is not entitled to proceed under clause b) of this local rule.
- b) As an additional option, relief is allowed when all of the following are true:
 - The ball lies in the general area;
 - It lies on the outside of the fencing but within four club-lengths of it, and;
 - the fencing intervenes directly between the players’ ball and the hole or the ball lies within one club-length of a spot at the same distance from the hole where such intervention would exist.

The player may take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in the following relief area (see Rule 14.3).

- **Reference point:** The nearest point of complete relief in the general area which is inside the metal fencing;
- **Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:** one-club length but with the following limits:
- **Limits on Location of relief area:**
 - Must be in the general area;
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and;
 - There must be complete relief from all interference by the metal fencing.

Exceptions:

- i. No relief under this local rule is available from metal fencing that is closely attached to a TIO. Such fencing is deemed to be part of the TIO.
- ii. Single units of metal fencing are movable obstructions (Rule 15.2 applies).
- iii. A player may not obtain relief under this local rule if (a) interference by anything other than the metal fencing makes the stroke clearly unreasonable or (b) interference by the metal fencing would occur only through the use of a clearly unreasonable stroke or an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

SECTION B – TERMS OF COMPETITION

18. DECIDING TIES

Unless otherwise specified in the Terms of Competition of a particular Tournament, in the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner.

19. RECORDING AREA, SCORECARD RETURNED

The location of recording area will be detailed in the Supplementary Local Rules for each tournament. A scorecard is returned when a player has **completely left (with both feet)** the recording area. Score recorders are part of “The Committee” as defined in the Rules of Golf.

20. RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION – COMPETITION CLOSED

The results of the Tournament are officially announced when the final result sheet is sent to players after the final round.

21. ANTI-DOPING

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the LET Access Series Anti-Doping Policy (the Anti-Doping Policy). The current version of the Anti-Doping Policy may be viewed in the Members' area of the LET Access Series website.

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

22. DRIVER TESTING COMPLIANCE.

It is a condition of entry that all players must comply with the "driver testing programme" that might be organized at tournaments. Refusing to submit the driver for the test, is the equivalent of breaching the Code of Conduct, with a minimum of 100 € fine.