

LOCAL RULES

Out of Bounds

Any area beyond the boundaries of the course is Out of Bounds and is marked by white posts. Rule 27

Internal out of bounds apply on holes 6, 7, 9, 15, 16 and 18 on the main course.

Penalty Areas

Penalty Areas are marked with red or yellow markers. Rule 17.

Protection of young trees.

If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course, other than a penalty area, and lies on or touches a staked or caged tree, or the tree interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1f.

Exception:

This local rule will not apply for club competitions and rounds played for handicap purposes.

Immovable Obstructions

Watering points, inspection covers, seating, hard standings and surfaced cart paths are considered Immovable Obstructions and relief may be taken under Rule 16.1

Temporary Immovable Obstructions

a) Watering reel or hose. Any player whose stroke strikes the watering reel or hose, may replay the shot from the same position without penalty, substituting another ball to do so if necessary.

Alternatively, the player may accept any deflection of the ball as a result of the original stroke as 'the rub of the green' and play his/her next shot from wherever the ball comes to rest.

A player's ball touching or lying close to the watering reel or hose in such a way as to cause interference to the player's stance, intended swing or line of play may be lifted cleaned and dropped without penalty, within one club length of the nearest point that avoids the interference but not nearer the hole under Rule 16.1a.

Posts, ropes and metal frames protecting approach to green

a) Any player whose shot strikes a rope, post or metal frame protecting the approach of any green, may replay the stroke from the original spot where the ball was played without penalty, substituting another ball to do so, if necessary, under Rule 16.1a

Alternatively, the golfer may accept any deflection of the ball as a result of the original stroke as 'the rub of the green' and play his/her next shot from where the ball comes to rest.

b) A player whose ball touches or lies close to posts, ropes or metal frames in that they interfere with the player's stance, intended swing or line of play but whose previous stroke **did not strike a post, rope or frame**, may temporarily move the post, rope or frame without penalty, to play the next stroke under Rule 15.2a.

Abnormal Course Conditions

a) Vehicle tracks

When a player's ball lies on hard ground caused by vehicles, on vehicle tracks through the green or the condition interferes with the player's stance or swing, relief without penalty may be taken under Rule 16.1b

b) Aeration holes/drainage lines

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole or lies in a drainage line where the turf has been cut and filled with sand/shingle filler;

a) In the general area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole or drainage line the player may re-drop without penalty under the rule.

b) On the Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d. Interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or on the player's line of play.

Alternative to Stroke & Distance for ball lost or Out of Bounds

When a player's ball has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, a player may take relief under penalty of two strokes, from the point at -

a) The Ball Reference Point. within two club lengths of where the original ball is estimated to have come to rest or crossed the out of bounds boundary or within two club lengths of a line from the hole through the reference point.

b) The Fairway Reference point. within two club lengths of the edge of the fairway nearest the ball reference point but not nearer the hole.

Exceptions:

a) This local rule **will not apply** for club competitions and rounds played for handicap purposes.

b) When the ball is known or virtually certain to have landed in a penalty area.

c) The player has played a provisional ball at penalty of stroke and distance (Rule 18.3) but may take relief for a provisional ball lost or out of bounds.

Distance measuring devices.

The use of distance measuring devices in competitions is allowed, **except** when they are designed to give additional information such as ground gradients, temperature or wind conditions, that might aid the user during play. Rule 4.3

Penalty for breach of Local Rule

Match Play – loss of hole; Stroke Play – two strokes.

WINTER PLAY

During the colder and wetter months from late Autumn to Spring, when the conditions on the course become more difficult, the following Local Rules and procedures will be applied to promote a reasonable pace of play and protect the fairways, tees and greens.

Preferred Lies

During the Preferred Lies period, under Local Rule players may mark, clean and replace their ball in the following manner.

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief by placing the original ball or another ball and playing it from this relief area. Once placed the ball is in play.

Reference point: original position of ball.

Relief area: 6"/15cm from reference point but not nearer the hole under Rule 14.2b (2) and 14.2e

Note: The ball must be marked before lifting (Rule 14.1). Penalty for failing to mark ball or for moving the ball in any other way – 1 Stroke.

Embedded ball

When a player's ball is embedded in the general area, free relief may be taken under Rule 16.3a

Reference point: immediately behind the embedded ball.

Relief Area: ball to be dropped within one club length from reference point but not nearer the hole.

Teeing mats and temporary greens

On occasion the use of teeing mats or temporary greens may be necessary on the course. However, provided there are no more than two temporary greens and the overall course length is not reduced by more than 100 yards, rounds for handicap purposes may still be played.

Fog & reduced visibility

Billingbear Park Golf Course is not responsible for the safety of golfers who choose to play in foggy or reduced visibility conditions. A golfer who plays when such conditions exist does so at their own risk and is solely responsible for injury or damage caused by them to another golfer or their equipment.

It is the responsibility of each golfer to ensure the course ahead is clear before playing the shot and where necessary, to walk forward and check the players ahead are out of range.

Abnormal whole-course conditions

To protect the course during very wet conditions, golfers may be required to tee-up everywhere when making a stroke except for greens and penalty areas.

When this requirement is in force, all competitions will be declared Non-qualifying, General Play scores for handicap purposes or scorecards for the purpose of gaining a handicap are not permitted.

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