



2023 LOCAL RULES & TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

Play is governed by the Golf Canada Rules of Golf (effective January 2023), and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition, subject to changes, additions or deletions for particular championships and qualifying rounds. The player's attention is drawn to the Terms of the Competition on the Golf Manitoba website. Complete text of Local Rules may be found in the Golf Canada Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (effective January 2023).

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

Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes

1. **Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)** – Defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white dots, lines, stakes and posts of fences defining out of bounds. A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining the boundary of the course.

Closed gates that are 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: Model Local Rule F-26 is in effect.

2. Specifications of Clubs and the Ball

- a. 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**.
- b. List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a ball in breach of this Local Rule: **Disqualification**.
- c. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged – Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – **See Rule 4.1b**.

Note: An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available at golfcanada.ca

3. **Caddies** – Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have another player in the competition, who has played or will play in the same round, as their caddie during a round. Model Local Rule H – 1.2.

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.

4. **Pace of Play (Rule 5.6b(3))** – A Golf Manitoba Pace of Play Policy will be in effect at all competitions and will be communicated prior to the start of the competition. The full policies are available at <https://www.golymb.ca/golf-manitoba-tournament-policies/> in the Golf Manitoba Tournament Office, and the policy in effect will be available at the starting tee.

Note: Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay of Play) is still applicable.

5. **Stopping and Resuming Play (Rule 5.7)** – Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:
 - a. **Immediate suspension (Dangerous Situation):** One prolonged note of the air horn.
 - b. **Normal Suspension (Non-Dangerous situation):** Three short notes of the air horn.
 - c. **Resume Play:** Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Tournament Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing. Players who fail to do so will be subject to penalties under the Code of Conduct.

6. **Practice (Rule 5.2 and 5.5)**

- a. **Before or between rounds in Stroke Play** – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course (except on or near the first teeing area or any practice area) on the day of a competition or between rounds.
 - Penalty for first breach: **General Penalty** (applied to the player's first hole).
 - Penalty for second breach: **Disqualification**.
- b. **Between holes in Stroke Play** – Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and 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.
 Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: **General Penalty**

7. **Transportation** – Motorized transportation is permitted in all events EXCEPT Junior events. A Junior must not ride on any form of motorized transportation unless authorized or later approved by the Tournament Rules Committee. A player proceeding under a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized to use motorized transportation for that purpose.

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and modified as follows: During a round, players or caddies must not ride on any form of motorized transportation beyond the point on the course where their ball lies, to gauge yardage or to seek the position of the hole.

The player gets the warning/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.

- First Offence = Warning
- Second Offence = One Stroke Penalty
- Third Offence = General Penalty
- Subsequent Offence = Disqualification

8. **Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)** – Ground Under Repair – Rule 16.1 includes:

- a. Areas defined by white lines.
- b. French drains filled with stones.
- c. Seams of Cut Turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. Interference exists if a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing.
 - Ball in General Area: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.
 - Ball on Putting Green: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But, interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance.

All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. This means that if a player has interference from any seam after dropping the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is still within one club-length of the reference point.

- a. Immovable Obstructions – White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced road or path or other identified obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- b. Sprinkler Heads Close to Putting Greens: Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect as follows:

Ball in General Area: The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is on the line of play, AND is:

Within two club-lengths of the putting green, AND
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.

9. Wood Chips and Mulch – Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments.

10. Integral Objects – The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:

- a. The portion of cables, wires, wrappings and other similar objects closely attached to trees;
- b. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas or which are adjacent to the edge of bunkers;
- c. Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. However, interference by a bunker liner does not exist if the bunker liner only interferes with a player's stance.

11. Permanent Elevated Power Lines or Cables – Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect and modified as follows: If it known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line in bounds (includes towers, support wires or pole supporting the power line) the player must replay the stroke without penalty by playing the original ball or another ball from the spot where the stroke was made (see Rule 14.6).



12. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions** – Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. Temporary Immovable Obstructions include, but are not limited to, starting, scoring and pace of play tents.
13. **Penalty Areas (Rule 17)** – When a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity. When a red penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.
14. **Code of Conduct (Rule 1.2)** – Golf Manitoba has adopted a Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player conduct on the golf course during play at all competitions. The full policy is available at <https://www.golfmb.ca/golf-manitoba-tournament-policies/> in the Golf Manitoba Tournament Office and at the starting tee.

The Golf Manitoba Tournament Rules Committee may assess any or all of the following penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation:

- Warning
- One penalty stroke
- General Penalty
- Disqualification

Note: Under [Rule 1.2a](#), the Golf Manitoba Tournament Committee may **disqualify** a player for serious misconduct for acting contrary to the spirit of the game.

15. Scorecard Responsibilities

- a. **Scorecard Returned** – A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee when the player has completely exited the defined scoring area, unless the player, prior to leaving, verbally informs the Committee of their intention to leave the scoring area and receives the Committee's permission to do so.
- b. **Missing Player or Marker Certification** – Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect and 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.

16. When Result of Competition is Final – The competition is final when all scores have been validated in the scoring system and approved by the Committee or when the trophy has been presented to the winner.

2023 OFFICIALS COMMITTEE – GOLF MANITOBA