

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition shall apply, with any additions or amendments as published by the Championship Committee, to all tournaments as published on the Swiss Golf Calendar.

The organizing clubs must apply the following conditions in addition to the regulations for each particular championship.

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

## **LOCAL RULES**

### **1 Penalty Areas (Rule 17)**

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

#### **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 dropping zone.

### **2 Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)**

#### **2a) Ground Under Repair**

- Any area marked by blue stakes and/or bounded by a white or blue line.
- Any area of damaged ground that is considered by a referee to be abnormal.
- French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- Any erosion in bunkers caused by running water.

#### **2b) Immovable Obstructions**

Blue and/or white lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition.

### **3 Back-on-the-line Relief**

When taking Back-On-the-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area required by the relevant Rule, but came to rest outside the relief area, so long as the ball, when played, is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped, even if the ball is played from nearer the hole than the reference point.

### **4 Integral Objects**

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

- Bunker liners in their intended position.
- Wrappings where they are closely attached to trees.
- Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located in penalty areas.

## **5 Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)**

A player must play without undue delay and must follow the Pace-of-Play guidelines established by the Championship Committee. Each group is allotted a specific amount of time to complete a group of holes and the round.

### **Definition of "Out of Position":**

The **first group** to start is considered out of position if it exceeded the allotted time to complete a checkpoint hole.

Any **following group** is out of position if it:

- a) is, after completion of a checkpoint hole, more than their starting interval behind the group in front **and**
- b) has exceeded the time allowed to complete this checkpoint hole.

In stroke play, a group that is out of position is liable to receive a verbal warning from a rules official appointed to the tournament.

If the group has received a verbal warning and is out of position at any subsequent checkpoint, all the players in the group may – either individually or collectively – receive the following schedule of penalties, subject to the final decision of the rules official(s) as to whether a breach has occurred:

- 2 missed checkpoints – liable to a one-stroke penalty
- 3 missed checkpoints – liable to an additional two-stroke penalty
- 4 missed checkpoints – liable to disqualification.

Play of a hole is deemed completed when all players in the group have completed play of the hole.

## **6 Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)**

Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, 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 a siren

## **7 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. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which a breach occurs. A breach between two holes applies to the next hole.

## **8 Code of Conduct**

All players and their caddies are expected to behave in the spirit of the game. Players are responsible for their caddies' actions. The following actions constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct, including use of abusive language, cheating, throwing clubs, showing disrespect against volunteers, officials or other players, or abuse of golf course property.
- Conduct such as acting in anger or creating other distractions.
- Failure to treat the host golf course with respect by ignoring the responsibility of caring for the course, filling divots and repairing ball marks, etc.

- Physical abuse, threat of physical abuse, verbal abuse or slander towards other players, parents, coaches, host golf course staff or members, Swiss Golf staff or volunteers.

Players in breach of this condition are liable to the following schedule of penalties, pending final decision by the Committee whether a breach has occurred:

- 1st breach: Warning
- 2nd breach: General Penalty
- Subsequent breach: Disqualification

The Committee may apply the General Penalty or disqualify a player at any time if they consider the misconduct to be a serious breach of the Code of Conduct without prior warning.

In addition, the Swiss Golf Disciplinary Committee may decide further sanctions.

## **TERMS OF COMPETITION**

### **9 Returning of Score Card**

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

### **10 Results of Match or Tournament - Competition Closed**

#### **a) Match Play**

The result of a match is officially announced when it has been recorded in the Championship Office.

#### **b) Stroke Play**

The competition is closed when the results of the competition are officially announced and/or the trophy is presented to the winner.

## **Addition to the Terms of Competition for all SWISS GOLF JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **11 Caddie (Rule 10.3)**

Unless otherwise provided in the terms of a particular Championship, caddies are not allowed.

Penalty for breach: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which he or she is helped by a caddie.

If the breach happens or continues between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

### **12 Motorized Trolleys**

The use of motorized trolleys is prohibited.

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

### **13 Use of Technical Equipment**

Rule 4.3a(1) is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not obtain information on distances measured by the use of an electronic distance-measuring device.

Penalty for breach:

- 1st breach: General Penalty
- 2nd breach: Disqualification

On the course, players and caddies must not use any device for exchanging messages or making telephone calls. The use of a mobile phone is restricted to emergency cases only.

Penalty for breach:

- 1st breach: Warning
- 2nd breach: General Penalty
- Subsequent breach: Disqualification

### **14 Rules for spectators (Coaches, Pros, Parents, Captains, J+S Supervisors,...)**

Spectators on the course shall remain at a reasonable distance from the players and must not influence play or players. Mobile phones must be switched off on the course at all times.

Spectators not respecting these conditions may be asked to leave the course.

Swiss Golf Rules Committee  
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