

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition shall apply, with any additions or amendments as published by the Committee, to all tournaments as published on the Swiss Golf Calendar and replace all Local Rules previously published by the hosting club, including those printed on the score cards and in birdie books.

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

Unless otherwise stated, the penalty for playing a ball from a wrong place in breach of a Local Rule: general penalty (loss of hole in match play; two penalty strokes in stroke play) under R14.7a.

LOCAL RULES

1. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

- a) Where a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.
- b) When a player's ball is found in or it is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in any penalty area where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area at a point that coincides with the boundary of the course (refer to clause 1a), opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1.
- c) 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 relief area.

2. Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) and Integral Objects (Rule 16)

a) *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 the committee to be abnormal.
- French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- Any erosion in bunkers caused by running water.

b) *Immovable Obstructions*

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

c) *Integral Objects*

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

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

3. Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)

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

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: 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 penalties, subject to the final decision by the Committee as to whether a breach has occurred:

- 2 missed checkpoints – one-stroke penalty
- 3 missed checkpoints – additional two-stroke penalty
- 4 missed checkpoints – disqualification

Play of a hole is deemed completed when all players in the group have completed play of the hole (see Rule 6.5).

4. 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

Note: when play is stopped for imminent danger, all practice areas will immediately be closed.

5. 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. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorised to ride on motorised transportation.

Penalty for Breach of 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.

6. 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.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: Players in breach of this condition may receive the following penalties, subject to the final decision by the Committee as to 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. The Committee may decide to disqualify a player from the entire tournament instead of a single round only (i.e. Interclub).

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

TERMS OF COMPETITION

7. Returning of Score Card

- a) A player's scorecard is officially returned to the Committee when the player has completely left the recording office/area.
- b) 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.

8. 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.

9. Caddie (Rule 10.3)

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

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which they are helped by a caddie. If the breach occurs or continues between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

10. Motorized Trolleys

The use of motorized trolleys is prohibited.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: 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.

11. Use of Technical Equipment

For all Swiss Golf U12 and U14 Tournaments 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 of Local Rule:

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

During the round, 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 or to call a referee only.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule:

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