



Lithuanian Golf Federation

“Hard Card 2021” Local Rules and Terms of Competition 2021

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition, together with any additions or amendments published by the Lithuanian Golf Federation (LGF) at the golf course, will apply to all competitions run by the LGF.

For the full text of any Local Rule reference below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective January 2019 and the Clarifications updated quarterly by the R&A, available at www.randa.org.

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

These Local Rules replace any Local Rules published by a host club (e.g. on a club's score card).

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

A ball at rest is out of bounds when:

- Beyond any wall, fence or line of white stakes defining the boundary of the course.
- On or beyond any white line defining the boundary of the course.

Objects defining out of bounds are **not** obstructions and are deemed to be fixed, therefore relief without penalty from them is not available.

The beginning and the end of the boundary of out of bounds within the course may be marked by two white stakes approximately two feet apart each other. The line between these stakes indicates that the boundary of the out of bounds extends to infinity in that direction.

2. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

- When a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.
- 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 coinciding with the boundary of the course, opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1.
- When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it is deemed to extend to infinity.

The beginning and the end of the margin of red penalty area within the course may be marked by two red stakes approximately two feet apart each other. The line between these stakes indicates that the margin of the red penalty area extends to infinity in that direction.

Dropping Zones for Penalty Area

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.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)

(a) Ground under Repair (GUR)

- 1) Any area bounded by a white or blue line or blue stakes.
- 2) Any area of damaged ground (e.g., caused by crowd or vehicle movement) that is considered by a referee to be abnormal.
- 3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- 4) Seams of cut turf; Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- 5) Yardage painted lines or dots on the putting green or 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 available under Rule 16.1. Interference does not exist if yardage painted lines or dots only interfere with the player's stance.
- 6) Areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand are ground under repair.

(b) Immovable Obstructions

- 1) All artificially surfaced roads and paths, including the adjoining ditches made from artificial materials or not, on the course. Roads and paths, including the adjoining ditches, with uncertain boundaries can be marked by white dotted lines. All other roads, paths and tracks are integral parts of the course.
- 2) White or blue lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition.

(c) Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect. This Local Rule only applies when the ball and immovable obstruction lie in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. In addition to Rule 16.1a, interference also exists if an immovable obstruction is on the player's line of play, is within two club-lengths of the putting green (including an immovable obstruction that is on the putting green) and is 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.

4. **Ball Played from Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-On-The-Line Relief**

Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect.

5. **Clubs and Balls**

- (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 Local Rule: Disqualification.
- (b) Groove and Punch Mark Specifications: Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.
- (c) List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification.

Note: an updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available on www.randa.org

6. **Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)**

(a) Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum allowable time is the maximum time considered necessary by the Committee for a group to complete its round. This is expressed in a per-hole and aggregate time format and includes all time associated with playing the game, e.g., for rulings and walking times between holes. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play. The following procedure applies only if a group is "out of position".

(b) Definition of Out of Position

The first group to start will be considered "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played. Any following group will be considered out of position if the group is more than the starting interval behind the group in front of them and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

(c) Procedure When Group is Out of Position

- 1) Referees will monitor pace of play and decide whether a group that is "out of position" should be timed. An assessment of whether there are any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g., a lengthy ruling, lost ball, unplayable ball, etc. will be made.

If a decision is made to time the players, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing and a referee will advise each player that they are "out of position" and are being timed.

In exceptional circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group.

- 2) The maximum time allocated per stroke is 40 s. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: a tee shot on a par 3 hole; an approach shot to the green; and a chip or putt.

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach the ball, it is his or her turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction. Time taken to determine distance and select a club will count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace the ball, repair damage that interferes with the line of play and move loose impediments on the line of play. Time spent looking at the line of play from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Timings will be taken from the moment it is decided by the referee that it is the player's turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction.

Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

Penalty for first breach (1 bad time)	– Verbal warning from referee
Penalty for second breach (2 bad times)	– One-stroke penalty
Penalty for third breach (3 bad times)	– General Penalty applied in addition to the penalty for the second breach
Penalty for fourth breach (4 bad times)	– Disqualification

Until a player has been advised of a bad time, he or she cannot incur a further bad time.

(d) Procedure When Again Out of Position During Same Round

If a group is “out of position” more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalised if he has a second bad time before being advised of his earlier bad time.

(e) Random Timing Without Warning When Group Not Out of Position

In some circumstances, a group or an individual player may be timed without warning, including when a group is not out of position. In such cases of “random timing”, the timing provisions and penalties set out in clause (2) above apply, except that a player will only be given a bad time if he exceeds 60 seconds to play a shot, with an extra 10 seconds given (i.e. 70 seconds in total) for the “first to play” shots referenced in (2) above.

7. Caddie (Rule 10.3)

Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have a professional golfer or another player of the same competition as his or her caddie during the round; Model Local Rule H-1.2 is in effect.

8. Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)

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 be immediately closed.

9. Practice (Rule 5.2)

All recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course may be used by players for practice on any day of the competition.

10. 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 authorized to ride on motorized transportation. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between two holes applies to the next hole.

11. Team Captains and Advice in Team Competitions (Rule 24)

(a) Team Captain (Rule 24.3)

A team captain must be an amateur golfer in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: disqualification of Team.

(b) Advice (Rule 24.4)

Each team may name two advice givers whom players on the team may ask for advice and receive advice from during the round. The first must be the Team Captain (see 11.a) and the second may or may not be a professional golfer. The team must identify each advice giver to the Committee before giving advice.

The advice givers must not walk on the putting green when the ball of a team player is on the putting green.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: general penalty

12. Eligibility

Players must meet the eligibility provisions established in the relevant Terms of Competition for the specific Tournament.

13. Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the Anti-Doping Policy that is established by the International Golf Federation. Any competitors who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from the National Anti-Doping Agency.

14. Returning of Scorecard

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

15. Deciding Ties

The method for deciding ties is provided in the relevant Terms of Competition.

16. Results of Competition – Competition Closed

(a) Match Play. The result of a match is officially announced when it has been recorded in the Tournament Office.

(b) Stroke Play. When the Championship trophy is presented to the winner, the results of the competition are officially announced, and the competition is closed.

17. Alternative to Stroke and Distance for Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds

This Local Rule (Model Local Rule E-5) will apply to all competitions run by the LGF except LGF Cup, National or International Championships of all age groups.

When a player's ball has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under stroke and distance.

For two penalty strokes, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this relief area (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

(a) Ball Reference Point:

The point where the original ball is estimated to have:

- Come to rest on the course, or
- Last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds.

(b) Fairway Reference Point:

The point of fairway of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but** is not nearer the hole than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, "fairway" means any area of grass in the general area that is cut to fairway height or less.

If a ball is estimated to be lost on the course or last crossed the edge of the course boundary short of the fairway, the fairway reference point may be a grass path or a teeing ground for the hole being played cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points:

Anywhere between:

- A line from the hole through the ball reference point (and within two club-lengths to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the hole through the fairway reference point (and within two club-lengths to the fairway side of that line).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the general area, and
- Must not be nearer the hole than the ball reference point.

Once the player puts a ball in play under this Local Rule:

- The original ball that was lost or out of bounds is no longer in play and must not be played.
- This is true even if the ball is found on the course before the end of the three minutes search time (see Rule 6.3b).

But the player may not use this option to take relief for the original ball when:

- That ball is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in a penalty area, or
- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of stroke and distance (see Rule 18.3).

A player may use this option to take relief for a provisional ball that has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.