



2022 LOCAL RULES and TERMS OF COMPETITION HARD CARD

January 2022

The following local rules and terms of competition have been formulated after consultation with the European Tour and the Rules of Golf Committee of R&A Rules Limited and apply to all French Tour events.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for 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.

- a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- b) A ball that comes to rest beyond any road defining out of bounds, **is out of bounds**, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course.

2. Penalty Areas. Rule 17.

a) Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas.

The weekly local rules sheet will specify (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model local rule B-2.1 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed.

b) Opposite Side Relief Where Ball Last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where the Edge and the Boundary of the Course Coincide.

When a player's ball last crosses the edge of a penalty area where the edge of the penalty area and a boundary of the course coincide, that edge is deemed red and opposite site relief is available under model local rule B-2.1.

c) Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas.

Where a dropping zone is marked for a penalty area, it is an additional option under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area under rule 14.3. meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

3. Back-on-the-line relief, Playing from outside the Relief Area.

Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect when taking Back-On-the-Line Relief under any Rule. Note the Back-on-the-line options in Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b and 19.3b. A ball may be played from outside the relief area, if the ball is within one club length of where it first touched the ground when dropped in the relief area.

4. Abnormal Course Conditions. Rule 16.1.b

A. Ground Under Repair

- (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- (2) Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- (3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- (4) For holes left by movable obstructions in parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less, free relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing, but there is no relief for interference to the stance.

Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole.

Rule 16.1. is modified in this way:

"Interference does not exist if the animal hole interferes with the player's stance."

Yardage Spots or Lines.

Painted lines or dots in a part of general area cut to fairway height or less are to be treated as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.

But, interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only the player's stance.

Restriction on Relief from Stance for Irrigation Pipes.

Rule 16.1. is modified in this way:

"Interference does not exist if an irrigation pipe(s) interferes with the player's stance."

B. Immovable Obstructions

- (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into **are a single abnormal course condition.**
- (2) Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that **are surrounded** by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
- (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables (anything which is secured or fastened is not considered "readily movable" if it must be unfastened to be moved).
- (4) Roads and paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
- (5) Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators unless otherwise defined.
- (6) **The part of wires or temporary cables located outside penalty areas when they are fixing positions for those floating sponsor boards located within the penalty area and cannot be moved.**
- (7) Staked trees are immovable obstructions.

C. Removal of Temporary Water

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect and is modified as follows: When temporary water accumulates on the putting green, relief is available under Rule 16.1d or:

- i Squeegee the line of play on the putting green
- ii Squeegee the putting green between groups
- iii Squeegee the putting green when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course, but only authorised by the Committee.

5. Embedded Ball. Rule 16.3.

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way:

"Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in a stacked turf face above a bunker".

6. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens.

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect but is modified as follows:

For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when (i) both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less (ii) the obstructions must be within two club lengths of the putting green (iii) be on the players line of play and (iv) the ball must be within two club lengths of the obstruction.

7. Green Reading Material Restrictions

Model Local Rule G-11 is in effect. A Committee Approved Book must be used. Restrictions on a player's handwritten notes for green reading materials apply. This is also in effect in a Pro-Am played as the official competition.

8. Limiting When Stroke Made from Putting Green Must be Replayed

Model Local Rule D-7 is in effect and modifies Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b

9. Integral Objects.

- a) Bunker liners in their intended position.
- b) Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- c) Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located in penalty areas.
- d) Floating sponsor displays/signs when in penalty areas (no line-of-sight relief allowed). Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables. NOTE: When cables are located outside the penalty area, the cables are immovable obstructions.
- e) Any closed gate attached to a boundary object.

10. Permanent Overhead Power Line.

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only for a ball which strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole/pylon. (Stroke is cancelled and must be replayed).

11. Temporary Immovable Obstructions. (TIO)

Model Local Rule F-22 re Temporary Power Lines and Cables and F-23 re TIO are in effect.

- a) Dropping Zone Policy. In the general area, when a player's ball lies in or on a TIO or so close to the TIO that it interferes with the stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, the player may:
 - proceed under any of the option allowed under the TIO local rule or Rule 16.1 or,
 - if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, the player may drop the original ball or another ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone. This is true even if it is nearer the hole.
 - The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.
- b) Either Side Relief. The weekly local rules sheet will specify which TIO have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to **line-of-sight relief only.** NOTE: This does not apply when the player chooses to operate under Rule 16.1 for relief.

Either side relief is available as an extra option for line-of-sight interference from:

- Flightscope TV Poles when they are standing alone.
- All TV Towers and Leaderboards.

12. Clubs and Balls.

a) 46-inch Club Length Limitation: Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect. This is also in effect in a Pro-Am played as the official competition. Exception: This rule will not apply to amateurs playing solely in Pro-Am competitions.

b) Club Replacement: Model Local Rule G-9 for replacement of a club that is **broken or significantly damaged** is in effect.

c) List of Confirming 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.

d) Groove and Punch Mark Specifications: Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

e) Conforming Balls List: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this local rule: Disqualification.

f) The One Ball Rule: Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect. (Exception: This local rule does not apply to professional or amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or approved one-day event or to amateurs who partner professional players in a major Pro-Am tournament).

Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this local rule: General Penalty for each hole during which the player is in breach.

13. Suspensions. Rule 5.7.

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

- Immediate Stop/dangerous situation – one prolonged note of the siren.
- Normal non-dangerous stop – three consecutive short notes of the siren;
- Resume play – two consecutive short notes of the siren.
- When play is stopped in a dangerous situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

14. Practice. Rule 5

a) Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play. Rule 5.2b.

Rule 5.2b. is modified in this way:

A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2.: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.

b) Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited. Rule 5.5b.

For stroke play events only, Rule 5.5.b 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.

15. Distance Measuring Devices. Rule 4.3a.

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

During a round, a player must not obtain distance information using an electronic distance measuring device during any ranking tournament. This is also in effect in a Pro-am played as the official competition.

Penalty for breach of Rule 4.3.: See penalty statement in Rule 4.3.

Note: First breach – General Penalty

Second Breach (unrelated to first breach) - Disqualification

16. Transportation Policy.

Model local rule G-6 is in effect and modifies Rule 4.3a(1) in this way:

During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the rules committee.

NOTE: A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorised.

Penalty for breach of this local rule: General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between holes applies to the next hole.

17. Pace of Play Policy. Rule 5.6b(3)

The 2022 French Tour Pace of Play Policy as defined within Regulation E-13 in the Members' Regulation handbook is in force. Fines for multiple "Timing Sessions", "Bad Times" or "Excessive Shot Times" in an Official Season are detailed within this Regulation. **Additionally**, the following Penalties apply:

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Stroke Play:

1st bad time in the Tournament – Verbal warning from a Referee

2nd bad time in the Tournament – 1 stroke penalty

3rd bad time in the Tournament – 2 strokes

4th bad time in the Tournament – Disqualification.

For tournaments in match play, the penalties for breach of pace of play will be defined on the local rules sheet.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

18. Deciding Ties.

Unless otherwise stated, if there is a tie for the first place, there will be a hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner.

19. Recording Area and Scorecard Returned.

The location of the recording area will be detailed each week on the local rule sheet. The scorecard (paper or digital one) is returned when the player leaves the recording area with both feet.

Score recorders are part of "The Committee".

20. Results of Competition – Competition Closed.

The result of the tournament is officially announced when the results are posted by the Rules Committee.

21. Anti-Doping.

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the French Tour's Anti-Doping Policy (included in the Member's Handbook).

Note: Players should be aware that under the Anti-Doping Policy, if a player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, he may face disqualification from the tournament at which he was tested (or otherwise committed the violation) and from any subsequent tournament in which he participated until provisionally suspended or rendered ineligible under the Policy. Disqualification in such cases includes the loss of all results, points and prize money.

22. Metal Fencing.

a) If a player has interference from metal fencing, Rule 16.1. will apply. In this specific case, the player must determine the nearest point of complete relief without crossing over, through or under the fencing. A player who takes relief under this clause is not entitled to proceed under clause (b) of this local rule:

b) As an additional option, relief is allowed when all of the following are true:

- the ball lies in the general area,

- it lies on the outside of the fencing but within four club-lengths of it and,

- the fencing intervenes directly between the player's ball and the hole or the ball lies within one club-length of a spot at the same distance from the hole where such intervention would exist.

The player may take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this relief area (see Rule 14.3).

- Reference Point: The nearest point of complete relief in the general area which is inside the metal fencing.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: one club-length but with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
 - must be in the general area
 - must not be nearer the hole than the reference point and
 - there must be complete relief from all interference by the metal fencing.

Exceptions:

- (1) No relief under this local rule is available from metal fencing that is closely attached to a TIO. Such fencing is deemed to be part of the TIO.
- (2) Single units of metal fencing are movable obstructions: Rule 15.2. applies.
- (3) A player may not obtain relief under this local rule if:
 - Interference by anything other than the metal fencing makes the stroke clearly unreasonable or,
 - Interference by metal fencing would occur only through the use of a clearly unreasonable stroke or an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

Temporary Immovable Obstructions - Definitions

*Examples include but are not limited to: all clocks, advertising boards fixed to other temporary immovable obstructions or advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are **situated around teeing areas**.*

Movable Obstructions - Definitions

*Examples include but are not limited to: free-standing advertising boards **situated away from teeing areas**, drinks dispensers that are on wheels or easily lifted, all cameras and their tripods, TV microphones, free standing scoring and data masts or tripod and all crossing point indicators.*