

PGA POLAND TOUR Hard Card 2018

The Local Rules below together with the General Conditions of PGA-Poland Tournaments are valid for all PGA-Poland Tour 2018 tournaments and supersede all Local Rules published on score cards of the golf clubs, in which the PGA-Poland Tour 2018 tournaments are being held. The following Rules were prepared in line with the currently approved R&A Ltd. & USGA „Rules of Golf 2016-2019”. The text quotes related rule & page numbers from the English R&A version of the Rules book.

A. LOCAL RULES

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27, page 116)

- Area outside boundary fences, walls and white stakes as well as any part of the course so marked by the Committee.
- If the out of bounds (o.o.b.) is marked by white stakes or fence (excluding diagonal supports) the boundary of the course is indicated by the inside edges of the stakes or fence posts measured on ground level. The ball is o.o.b. if it lies with its full circumference outside the course boundary.
- The objects and structures marking the o.o.b., such as walls, fences, stakes and barriers are not obstructions and have to be considered as fixed.

2. Water hazard, lateral water hazard (Rule 26, page 113)

Note: where dropping zones are marked, the ball may be played according to Rule 26, or can be dropped with one shot penalty in the designated Drop Zone closest to the point where the ball last crossed the hazard line. The ball must be dropped within the designated Zone and if it comes to rest closer to the hole or outside the Drop Zone it does not have to be redropped unless it has rolled more than two club lengths from the point it first touched the playing surface.

3. Ground under repair (Rule 25-1, page 109)

- Part of the course marked by blue or white lines,
- Seams of cut turf (page 145),
- French drains,
- Cable trenches covered with turf,
- Part of course marked by the Rules Official as Ground Under Repair (GUR),
- Material piled for removal and all holes dug by the greenkeeper even if not marked as GUR,
- Erosion damage within bunkers caused by rainfall and related water runoff,
- Painted distance markers on shortly mown surface – player may take relief per this rule if it interferes with the ball lie or area of intended swing.

4. Embedded ball (page 142) – free drop through the green.

- Player may not seek relief due to this Local Rule if the ball is embedded in sand on area which is not closely mown,
- Player may not seek relief due to this Local Rule if the obstruction by anything other than the condition in this Local Rule makes the shot clearly impossible.

5. Stones in bunkers (page 145)

Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions and can be removed.

6. Immovable obstructions (Rule 24-2, page 106)

- All roads with artificial surface, all other roads are integral part of the course,
- Areas laid out with cut bark,
- Parts of course near immovable obstructions, marked with white lines, are part of these immovable obstructions and are not GUR,
- Steps and wall supports in bunkers,
- Areas with plants surrounded by fences.

7. Repaired turf on putting green

On the putting green the repaired turf, irrespective of size, has the same status as old hole plugs and can be repaired according to Rule 16-1c.

8. Integral parts of the course

- Netting, guy wires and other protective constructions **fixed** to tree trunks,
- Supporting walls in water hazards.

9. Elevated power lines and cables

- If a ball strikes an elevated power line or cable, the stroke has to be cancelled and replayed without penalty according to Rule 20-5. If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.
- Exception: A stroke resulting in ball striking an elevated junction section of cable rising from the ground must not be replayed.
- Note: Guy wires supporting a temporary immovable obstruction are part of the TIO.

10. Temporary immovable obstructions – TIO (page 147-150)

- Through the green, if the ball rests on or under TIO or so close that the TIO interferes with the player's stance or the area of intended swing, the player may obtain relief according to the Rules. If Drop Zones have been marked, he can drop within the closest Drop Zone.

11. Distance measuring devices (Rule 14-3, page 81, 153, 181)

In the PGA-Poland Tour 2018 tournaments the players may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that may affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed etc) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

First breach: Match Play – loss of hole; Stroke Play – two strokes.

Second breach: Disqualification

If breach occurs between holes, the penalty is applied on the next hole.

12. Accidental movement of the ball on the putting green RULE 18-2, 18-3 AND 20-1

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment. The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental. Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced."

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

Match Play – loss of hole; Stroke Play – two strokes.

B. TOURNAMENT CONDITIONS

1. Balls (Note to Rule 5-1 page 57)

List of conforming balls – page 155. One Ball Condition – page 156. This condition is invalid for Pro-Am tournaments.

2. Conforming Driver heads ("Rules of Golf" page 154-155)

The list of conforming Driver heads – the Driver heads must be recognisable by their model and loft and be listed on the conforming club heads list approved by the R&A except for these produced before 1999. Penalty for playing a shot with non-conforming club not approved by the R&A is disqualification.

3. Grooves (“Rules of Golf” page 174-176)

Grooves and punch marks on golf clubs must conform to the Rules of Golf. Penalty for playing a shot with a club not approved by the R&A is disqualification.

4. Time of starting (Rule 6-3, page 60)

Each player must start at the time established by the Committee. If the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within 5 minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or two strokes at the first hole in stroke play. Otherwise, the penalty for breach of this rule is disqualification.

5. Undue delay; Slow play (Rule 6-7)

The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish. Each group must keep its position in relation to the preceding group.

5.1 Definition of “out of position”

The first group will be considered “out of position” at any time during the round when it is in breach of the pace of play time guidelines. Each following group will be considered “out of position” if it breaches the pace of play time guidelines and the time difference between this group and the preceding group is greater than the starting times difference.

5.2 Procedure when group is “out of position”

A group which is “out of position” will be warned by the Rules Official. Players in this group will be timed. The time for each shot should not be longer than: first player in the group – 50 seconds for approach shot, chip or putt, and 40 seconds for the tee shot and the shot of the second, third and fourth player in the group. Outside the putting green, the time for the shot begins when the player had enough time to reach his ball, it is his time to play and he can make the shot without outside interference. Time spent on measuring the distance is included in the time to play the shot. On the putting green, the time for the shot begins from the moment, when the player had enough time to lift, clean and replace his ball, repair pitch marks and old hole plugs, remove loose impediments from his putting line. Time spent on reading the green is included in the time to play the shot. If any of the players exceeds this time he will be considered as delaying play. The Rules Official will time any player in an “out of position” group. If any of the players exceeds the above times to play their shot, he will have a “bad time”. A bad time is carried over until the end of round and is not cancelled even if the group is back in position or back in the pace of play. In some situations a single player, or two players will be timed instead of the entire group. The players will not be informed that they are timed.

First breach: one penalty shot,

Second breach: two penalty shots,

Third breach: disqualification.

6. Practice between holes (Rule 7-2, Note 2, page 67)

(Condition is not valid in Pro-Am tournaments). Between play of holes the player cannot make any practice shots on or near the putting green of the hole last played, and cannot roll the ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

Penalty for breach of Rule: 2 strokes

If breach occurs between holes, the penalty is applied on the next hole.

7. Course unplayable (Rule 33-2d, page 131)

If the Tournament Committee decides that, for any reason, the course is unplayable, or that there are conditions making play impossible, it can order a temporary suspension of play, or declare play null and void and cancel all scores for the round in question. If the course remains unplayable and it will not be possible to finish a stipulated round within the time set for the tournament, this suspension of play will not be extended and the tournament results will be decided on the basis of returned scores from the finished tournament rounds. If it will not be possible to play even one stipulated round (18 holes), the tournament will be cancelled.

8. Discontinuance of play; Resumption of play

The signal for suspension of play will be a sound from the siren.

One long signal – immediate suspension of play,

Three consecutive signals – suspension of play,

Two short signals – resumption of play.

8.1 Discontinuance and suspension of play due to inclement weather (Rule 6-8)

If play is suspended by the Committee, when the players are between holes they cannot resume play until the Committee announces resumption of play. If the players have commenced play on the hole, they may discontinue play immediately or may continue play on the hole. If the players decide to continue play on the hole, they may discontinue it at any time before finishing the hole. In any circumstance play must be discontinued after finishing the hole.

8.2 Immediate suspension of play due to potentially dangerous situation (Note to Rule 6-8b)

If play is suspended by the Committee due to potentially dangerous situation, the player must discontinue play immediately following the suspension of play. If the player fails to discontinue play immediately, he will be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in rule 33-7.

8.3 Resumption of play

The players are obligated to resume play when the Committee declares resumption of play.

9. Performance enhancing drugs

Performance enhancing drugs are forbidden.

Any player who, during tournament uses alcohol or performance enhancing drugs, will not be allowed to play in PGA-Poland tournaments for a period of 12 months. The decision will be made by the PGA-Poland Disciplinary Committee.

10. Use of electronic equipment

In the PGA-Poland Tour 2018 tournaments the players may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that may affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed etc) the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

First breach: Match Play – loss of hole; Stroke Play – two strokes.

Second breach: Disqualification

If breach occurs between holes, the penalty is applied on the next hole.

11. Golf Carts, transportation (melex type) (page 159-160)

- Use of golf carts during stipulated round is not allowed
- Tournament Committee may allow the use of golf carts in exceptional conditions only by amateurs.
- Golf carts during Pro-Ams and practice rounds are allowed.

12. Electric trolleys

Electric trolleys are allowed.

13. Conclusion of tournament

Tournament results become official when the list of winners is published on the official notice board.

14. Ties

- In case of a tie for the first place, the winner will be determined in a sudden death play-off.
- In case of inclement weather (danger of lightning, course unplayable) the Committee will decide on other manner of determining the winner.