



# NORDIC GOLF LEAGUE

## Local Rules and Terms of Competition

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition have been formulated after consultation with the Rules of Golf Committees of the Nordic Federations. In the event of a dispute arising as to the meaning of any Rule of Golf, Nordic Golf League Local Rules or Terms of Competition, the Rule will be interpreted according to the English Edition of the Rules of Golf or Nordic Golf League Local Rules and Terms of Competition card.

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition apply to all Nordic Golf League events. For the full text of the Local Rules and Terms, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2023 as published by R&A Rules Limited.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a local Rule is the General Penalty.

Matchplay: Loss of Hole

Strokeplay: Two strokes

### SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules, together with any additions or amendments as published by the committee at each golf course, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of the Nordic Golf League.

#### 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. Model Local Rule A-5 is in effect
- c. Closed gates attached to boundary walls and fences are part of the boundary object. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rules 15.2 or 16.1. But an open gate is not treated as part of the boundary object and may be closed or moved to a different position.

#### 2. Penalty areas (Rule 17)

- a. Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas: The weekly local rules sheet will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model Local Rule B-2.2 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed
- b. 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
- c. 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 side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.2.

#### 3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16.1)

##### 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. A hole made by a movable obstruction may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee but there is no relief for stance
5. 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 only the player's stance
6. Painted lines or dots 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 allowed under Rule 16.1. But interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only 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 completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition
3. 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:

- a. The putting green may be squeegeed between groups
- b. The player may have his line of play on the putting green squeegeed
- c. Only when authorised by the Committee, the player may have the putting green squeegeed when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course.

#### **D. Embedded ball**

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified as follows: Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in a stacked turf face above a bunker.

#### **4. Immovable obstructions close to putting greens**

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect:

For a ball in the general area, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b if (i) an immovable obstruction is on the line of play and is on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball, and (ii) both the ball and the obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

#### **5. 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/or pilings when located within penalty areas
- d. Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located on the edge of bunkers. These are part of the general area.

#### **6. Permanent overhead power line**

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only if it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole/pylon. The player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6).

#### **7. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)**

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

- a. 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
- b. Dropping Zone (DZ) 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 options 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 "DZ" is a relief area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.

#### **8. Caddies (Rule 10.3a)**

Model Local Rule H-1.2 is in effect and Rule 10.3a has been modified in this way: A player must not have a player who has played in the same round, as his caddie during the round.

#### **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.

#### **9. Pace of Play (Rule 5.6b (3))**

A player, for whom it is possible to make a stroke and, from when it is deemed that he should have reached his ball, has

- 60 seconds to make his stroke if he is deemed to not have had time for preparing to make his stroke
- 40 seconds to make his stroke if he is deemed to have had time for preparing to make his stroke.

A player in breach of any of the time limits is deemed to have a "bad time".

#### **Penalty for breach of the local rule during the same tournament:**

One bad time	Verbal warning and 20 EUR fine
Two bad times	One stroke penalty and 40 EUR fine
Three bad times	Two stroke penalty and 60 EUR fine
Four bad times	Disqualification

#### **Notes:**

1. A player has had time to prepare for making his stroke if it is deemed that he should have reached his ball while,
  - another player in the same group, who is to make his stroke before the player, is preparing to make his stroke, or
  - the group in front of the player's group is within reach of the player's intended stroke
2. It is not possible to make a stroke when,
  - the group in front of the player's group is within reach of the player's intended stroke, or
  - the player's group has a ruling or is waiting for a referee, or
  - the player has to wait for players on holes close by
3. Players will not be advised that they are being timed
4. Any player who has five bad times during the season will be fined 100 EUR and for every additional bad time he will be fined 100 EUR
5. All bad times will be recorded on the official Pace of Play list on the Nordic Golf League website.

#### **10. Stopping play; Resuming play (Rule 5.7)**

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

- a. Immediate top/dangerous situation - one prolonged note of the siren

- b. Normal non-dangerous stop - three consecutive short notes of the siren. Resume play - two consecutive short notes of the siren
- c. When play is stopped in a dangerous situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

#### **11. Practice (Rule 5)**

- a. Before or between rounds in stroke play – Model Local Rule I – 1.1 is in effect. Rule 5.2b is modified as follows: A player must not practice on the competition course but may practice on the designated practice areas
- b. Between the play of two holes – Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect. Rule 5.5b is modified as follows: 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.

#### **12. 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 this 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 this local rule: Disqualification
- c. List of Conforming Balls: Model local rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this local rule: Disqualification
- d. 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: the player gets one penalty stroke for each hole during which they are in breach of this Local Rule
- e. Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged: Model Local Rule G-9 for replacement of a club is in effect.
- f. 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.

#### **13. Transportation**

Model local rule G-6 is in effect:

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:**

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.

#### **14. Scoring in Stroke Play**

Model Local Rule L-1 applies. 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 (two penalty strokes). The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.

### **SECTION B – TERMS OF COMPETITION**

#### **1. Deciding Ties**

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

#### **2. Recording Area and Scorecard Returned**

The location of the recording area will be detailed each week on the local rules sheet. The scorecard is returned when the player leaves the recording area with both feet. Score recorders are part of the committee.

#### **3. Results of Competition - Competition Closed**

The Competition is closed when the final result is officially published by the committee.

#### **4. Anti-Doping**

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the Nordic Golf Leagues Anti-Doping Policy, which can be found in the Nordic Golf League Rules and Regulations.

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 both 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.

***Nordic Golf League Executive Committee, January 2023***