



Lee Valley Golf Club

Local Rules

Definition of Terms

General area - this area includes everywhere on the course except bunkers, penalty areas, teeing areas and the putting green of the hole being played. Typically known as the fairway, green fringe or rough, previously referred to as “through the green”. Refer to Rule 2.2 for the defined areas of the course.

Closely-mown area - any area in the general area, including paths through the rough, excluding penalty areas, cut to fairway height or less.

Club-length – the longest club in a player’s bag, excluding the putter.

1. Distance Measuring Devices:

The use of distance measuring devices is allowed for all play in club competitions. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round a player uses a distance measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (for example gradient, windspeed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a for which the penalty is disqualification.

2. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

- On or over the white line marking the boundary of the course.
- On or over the boundary fences, ditches and hedges surrounding the course.
- On or over the permanent burnt line on the following holes; back of the 1st tee, back of the 2nd green and on the left-hand side of the 18th hole.
- The painted kerb stones on the right-hand side of the 9th hole.
- The white painted kerbing back of the 10th tee and the 15th green.



3. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

- All ponds or ditches marked by red stakes are Penalty Areas.
- **Note: Stakes or lines defining the margins of penalty areas are in the penalty areas.**

4. Integral Parts of the Course

- All bridges
- All stakes supporting trees
- Tree stumps attached to the ground

5. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 16.1)

Sprinkler heads, hydrant covers, tee markers, distance markers, fixed course furniture, seats, manhole covers, drain grates, drain-pipes, stone drain paths, fixed signs, ball washers, litter bins, electricity pylons and poles, artificial hole covers on greens, artificial path surfaces, gravel and stone pathways, wooden steps, sleepers. Sand and loose soil are loose impediments on the putting green, but not elsewhere.

Note: A ball striking overhead power cables or supporting poles must be replayed without penalty.

6. Tee Areas

A ball lying on a tee area, other than that of the hole being played, must be dropped within one club-length from the nearest point of complete relief, which must not be nearer the hole being played and not in a penalty area.

7. Ground Under Repair (GUR)

- Areas surrounded by white lines and/or red and white stakes and marked GUR.
- New tree plantations marked by GUR signs.
- Relief may be taken from GUR under Rule 16.1.



8. Abnormal Ground Conditions - *Bunker Damaged by Running Water*

If a ball comes to rest in an abnormal course condition within a bunker, such as exposed stones, hollows or furrows, due to running water, the player may take the nearest point of complete relief within the bunker (Rule 16.1b).

If complete relief is not possible within the bunker, the player may take relief outside the bunker, under penalty of one stroke, as per (Rule 16.1c).

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE: Matchplay - Loss of Hole, Strokeplay- Two Strokes

9. HOLLOW TINING OR AERATION HOLES

A ball that comes to rest in a hollow tining / aeration hole in a closely mown area may be lifted and cleaned without penalty. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, the player must drop the ball at the nearest spot, not nearer the hole, that avoids placing it in the hollow tining / aeration hole. If after dropping, the ball comes to rest within one club length of the marked ball position that is not in a bunker or a penalty area and not nearer the hole, it is deemed to be in play. If after dropping, the ball comes to rest in a hollow tining / aeration hole in a closely mown area, it may be dropped a second time. If after dropping the ball a second time, it comes to rest in a hollow tining / aeration hole in a closely mown area, the ball may be placed as close as possible to the marked ball position and not nearer the hole.

On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in, or on, a hollow tining / aeration hole, may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids placing it in a hollow tining / aeration hole.

10. Ball or Ball Marker moves on the Putting Green (Rule 13.1d)

There is no penalty if a player, their opponent or another player in a strokeplay event, accidentally moves the player's ball or ball-marker on the putting green. The ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated).

Exception - the ball must be played as it lies when it begins to move during a player's backswing or stroke and the stroke is made.

If natural forces cause a player's ball on the putting green to move, where the next shot is played from depends on whether the ball had already been lifted and replaced on its original spot:



- a) Ball already lifted and replaced - the ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated).
- b) Ball not already lifted and replaced - the ball must be played from its new spot.

11. PREFERRED LIES (Qualifying Competitions)

A ball lying on a closely mown area, in the general area, may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, the player must place it on a spot within 6 inches and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green. A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been replaced (Rule 14.1). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was replaced, Rule 14.2e applies. If the ball, when placed, comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule is applicable.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE: Matchplay - Loss of Hole, Strokeplay - Two Strokes

12. WINTER RULES (Non-Qualifying Competitions)

- All competitions under winter rules are non-qualifying for handicapping purposes.
- A ball lying on a closely mown area, in the general area, may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, the player must place it on a spot within 6 inches and not nearer the hole of where it originally lay, that is not in a penalty area and not on a putting green. A player may place the ball only once, and it is in play when it has been replaced (Rule 14.1). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was replaced, Rule 14.2e applies. If the ball, when placed, comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule is applicable.
- A ball lying on any other area (rough), in the general area, may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, the player must drop it within six inches of where it originally lay, that is not in a bunker or a penalty area and not on a closely mown area. If after dropping, the ball comes to rest within one club-length of where it originally lay and not nearer the hole and not on a closely mown area and not in a bunker or penalty area, it is deemed to be in play. If the ball comes to rest outside one club-length or



nearer the hole of where it originally lay or on a closely mown area or in a bunker or penalty area, it must be dropped a second time. If after the second drop, the ball comes to rest outside one club-length or nearer the hole of where it originally lay or on a closely mown area or in a bunker or penalty area, it must be placed within 6 inches and not nearer the hole of where it originally lay and not on a closely mown area or in a bunker or penalty area.

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13. ARTIFICIAL TEE MATS

It is compulsory to use artificial tee mats when designated as the teeing area.

The ball teeing position must be on the tee mat.

Players are not permitted to use the grassed area of the tee box in such circumstances even if within the tee markers.

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14. TEMPORARY OBSTRUCTIONS

The ropes and props surrounding some or all greens during the winter season or other areas of the course when undergoing maintenance, are deemed to be Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs). A player may obtain relief from interference by a TIO as follows:

If the ball lies in the general area, the point on the course nearest to where the ball lies must be determined that

- a. is not nearer the hole,
- b. avoids interference as defined below* and
- c. is not in a bunker or penalty area or on a putting green.

The player must lift the ball and drop it, without penalty, within one club-length of the point so determined on a part of the course that fulfils (a), (b) and (c) above.

*Interference by a Temporary Immovable Obstruction (TIO) occurs when

- a. the ball lies in front of and so close to the TIO that the TIO interferes with the player's stance or the area of the player's intended swing, or
- b. the ball lies in, on, under or behind the TIO so that any part of the TIO intervenes directly between the player's ball and the hole and is on his line of play.



If after taking relief, the ball strikes the rope or props, it is mandatory to retake the shot, without penalty.

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15. BATTERY POWERED TROLLIES

For the protection of the course, in times of extreme wetness, competitors are not allowed the use of battery-powered trolleys on the course unless fitted with winter-wheels.