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Additional Local Rules

These additional local rules apply along with the local rules on the scorecard of the course you are playing.

They will be effective until removed from this Additional Local Rules notice or until any applicable time period has expired.

Local Rule for Temporary Immovable Obstructions

This Local Rule provides for relief from temporary immovable obstructions (TIOs), which are non-permanent artificial objects that have been erected for The Open Championship and are fixed or not readily movable (for example, grandstands, television towers, scoreboards, tents and lavatories).

RELIEF

a. Physical Interference

If a player's ball lies through the green and is in or on the TIO, or so close to the TIO that the TIO interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the player may proceed in accordance with Rule 24-2b(i) without penalty.

b. Line of Sight

Through the green, if a player does not have physical interference from a TIO (as described in a. above), but a TIO intervenes directly between the player's ball and the hole, or the ball lies within one club-length of a spot where such intervention would exist, the player may take relief as follows:

The player must determine the nearest spot not nearer to the hole where, if the ball were so positioned, there would be a club-length gap between the direct line to the hole and the edge of the TIO. Such spot must not be in a hazard or on a putting green. The player must drop his ball within one club-length of the spot so determined, measured away from the TIO and not nearer to the hole than that spot.

Note 1: Relief is not available under this Local Rule if a ball is in a hazard.

Note 2: If a player who proceeds under part a. of the Local Rule still has intervention on his line of sight by the TIO, he may take further relief under part b.

Note 3: If the ball to be dropped under this Local Rule is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted without penalty.

Note 4: If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball is lost in a TIO, he may proceed under Rule 24-3b(i).

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes.



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Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

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.

Aeration holes (All Courses)

Through the green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped, as near as possible to the spot where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike part of the course through the green. On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids such a situation.

Seams of Cut Turf (All Courses)

Through the green, seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) are deemed to be ground under repair. However, interference by a seam with the player's stance is deemed not to be, of itself, interference under Rule 25-1. If the ball lies in or touches the seam or the seam interferes with the area of intended swing, relief is available under Rule 25-1. All seams within the cut turf area are considered the same seam.

Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)

- a) **Bunkers** - while bunkers are being rebuilt and until such time as the turf has taken root they will be roped off (or white lined) and marked with a GUR sign. Any bunkers bounded by rope (or white lined) are ground under repair, from which play is **prohibited**, and are deemed to be "through the green". If a player's ball lies within the roped area, or if the area interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the player **must** take relief under Rule 25-1b(i)
- b) **Sand slits (Eden & Strathtyrum Courses)** - extensive drainage work has been carried out on the Eden & Strathtyrum Courses and golfers will notice distinct slits filled with sand on both the fairways and in the rough on some holes. Although not marked with a sign or white paint, these slits are to be treated as Ground Under Repair and the golfer may play the ball as it lies or take relief under Rule 25-1.

Integral Parts of the Course

Where the removal of gorse has left large areas of bare ground and sand, these areas are to be treated as integral parts of the course and the ball is to be played as it lies.

Preferred Lies

The Local Rule for taking a preferred lie is as follows:

“A ball lying on a closely-mown area through the green may be lifted, without penalty, and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within six inches of, 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 placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it is placed, Rule 20-3d 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 apply. If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.



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Note: "Closely-mown area" means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

Mats (All Courses, when applicable)

A ball that comes to rest on the fairway must be lifted, placed on and played from an Astroturf mat. The Astroturf mat must be placed as near as possible to where the ball originally lay. The ball may be cleaned under this Local Rule. If a ball when placed rolls from the Astroturf it may be replaced without penalty. If it still fails to remain on the Astroturf, the Astroturf must be moved to the nearest spot not nearer the hole where the ball, when placed on it, will remain at rest. There is no penalty should the ball move or be moved after being placed on the Astroturf and before making a stroke, including when addressing the ball or taking a practice swing. The only exception to the above is as follows: "A ball that comes to rest on a green surround or approach may be played without using a mat providing the player uses a putting stroke which should not take a divot from the ground." A ball coming to rest on the tar road crossing the 1st and 18th fairways of the Old Course is not considered to be on the fairway and should not be played from a mat.

St Andrews Links.

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