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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.

Aeration holes (All Courses)

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

(a) Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole, the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.

(b) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.

Seams of Cut Turf (All Courses)

If a player's ball lies in or touches a seam of cut turf or a seam interferes with the player's area of intended swing:

(a) Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

(b) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the seam only interferes with the player's stance.

All seams within the area of cut turf are treated as the same seam in taking relief. This means that if a player has interference from any seam after dropping the ball, the player must proceed as required under Rule 14.3c(2) even when the ball is still within one club-length of the reference point.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.

Ground Under Repair

- a) **Bunkers** – Any bunkers bounded by rope, or white lined, are ground under repair and part of the general area. Free relief is available under Rule 16.1b.
- b) **Sand slits (Eden & Strathtyrum Courses)** - Extensive drainage work has been carried out on a number of holes. In the General Area, any drainage slit is to be treated as ground under repair and Rule 16.1 applies.



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Integral Parts of the Course

There are areas where turf, bushes or the like have been removed to create a bare sand area. These areas are not bunkers and, consequently, Rule 12.2 does not apply. The ball is to be played as it lies.

Preferred Lies

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.

Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: Specify size of relief area, such as one club-length, one scorecard length or 6 inches from the reference point, but with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
- Must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.

Mats (all courses, when applicable)

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the ball MUST be lifted, optionally cleaned, then placed on and played from an Astroturf mat. Only mats provided by St Andrews Links may be used.

The mat must be placed within 6 inches but not nearer the hole to where the ball originally lay. The ball should be placed anywhere along the central line of the mat but not on any edge in an attempt to "tee up" the ball. Also, a tee peg may be used to secure the mat but the ball must NOT be played from the tee peg.

If a ball when placed rolls from the mat, it must be replaced without penalty. If it still fails to remain on the mat, the mat 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 mat and before making a stroke, including when addressing the ball or taking a practice swing.

The only exceptions to the above are as follows:

1. 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.
2. A player should NOT use the Astroturf mat for teeing off on any hole.
3. A ball coming to rest on the artificially surfaced road crossing the 1st and 18th fairways and the road and path behind the 17th green from the two black and yellow posts onwards, of the Old Course, must NOT be played from a mat.