



## Local Rules

### Published on the Scorecard

1. For the purpose of Rule 1.3 a, the Terms of the Competition shall include the Competition Conditions on the entry form for the relevant competition, the last published General Competition Conditions of Kent Golf Union (KGU), KGU's Code of Conduct and Pace of Play Policy each which are deemed to be incorporated into these Local Rules.

2. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

- a. The course-side edge of any wall, fence, hedge or line of white stakes defines the boundary of the course;
- b. On or beyond and white line defining the boundary of the course including, in either case, the edge of any internal out of bounds.

3. Penalty Areas (Rule 17) All penalty areas are Red Penalty Areas which relief may be taken under Rule 17. The edges of the penalty areas are defined as follows:

- a) Where stakes and lines are used, the edge of the penalty area is the course side edge of the line and the stakes are solely for visibility to players;
- b) Where stakes alone are used, the edge of the penalty area is defined by the lined between the course side edge of the stakes at ground level and the stakes themselves are in the penalty area;
- c) Where there are no stakes or lines, the edge of the penalty area is, on both sides, the natural margin of the ditch concerned.

4. Ground Under Repair (Rule 16.1) - PLAYERS MUST TAKE RELIEF

- a) Any area encircled by a white or blue line or otherwise marked as GUR and
- b) Any area of damaged ground in the general area that is considered by a referee to be abnormal course conditions is a No Play Zone and relief must be taken in accordance with Rule 16.1f.

5. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 16.1) include:

- a) All artificially surfaced roads, paths and winter tees on the course, including those covered with wood chips and areas where the artificial surfacing material has been transferred. All other paths and tracks are integral parts of the course.
- b) White lined areas adjoining any immovable obstruction are part of the obstruction and not ground under repair.
- c) Stone-filled drainage ditches or channels.

- d) Sleepers or wooden boards within bunkers. e. Landscaped gardens and everything growing in them that are surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal ground condition.

5.1 Relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16.1.

5.2 The player also has the option to take relief when such immovable obstructions are close to the putting green and on the line of play as follows:

- Ball in the General Area
  - The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is on the line of play, and within two club-lengths of the putting green, and within two club-lengths of the ball.
  - Exception - No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable - There is no relief under Local Rule 5.2 if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

## 6. Integral Objects

- a. Bunker liners in their intended position and artificial retaining walls and pilling located in penalty areas are each integral objects from which free relief is not allowed

## 7. Young Trees

- a. Identified by being staked (whether attached or not) or plastic protected are No Play Zones
- b. If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course other than in a penalty area and it lies on or touches such a tree or such a tree interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player must take relief under Rule 16.1f.
- c. If the ball lies in a penalty area, and interference to the player's stance or area of intended swing exists from such a tree, the player must take relief either with a penalty under Rule 17.1e or with free relief under Rule 17.1e(2)

## 8. Overhead Cable etc

- a. If a ball strikes an elevated power line, cable or their supports, the stroke is canceled and the player must play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original was played in accordance with Rule 14.6.

9. Relief may be taken from the internal boundary fences around Thames Water Compounds under Rule 16.1.

## 10. Suspension of Play

- a. Players must comply with KGU's Suspension of Play Policy

## **Additional Local Rules:**

- Relief is available if the ball lies up against or is close (impedes swing) from the vents, the valve house (building on top of the reservoir) and the turret (object on the 1st/9th fairway). A player is allowed one club length from the nearest point of complete relief, no nearer to the hole.
- Relief is available if the ball lies up against or is close (impedes swing) to the fences next to the compounds (the one by the 8th and 1st greens and the one that is next to the

2nd and 5th greens). A player is allowed one club length from the nearest point of complete relief, no nearer to the hole. This may require the player to move the ball some way from the original lie of the ball to ensure that the drop is no nearer to the hole e.g. if the ball was against the fence next to the bunker on the 1st green, a player may need to walk towards the corner of the fence to ensure the drop did not end up closer to the hole.

- No relief is available if the ball lies up against or is close to the external perimeter of the course. This is most likely to occur by the walls at the back / side of the 2nd and 3rd greens and the fence at the back of the 4th green.
- Pick and place is allowed on the fairways on top of the reservoir, within 6 inches of where the ball lies and no nearer the hole, but NOT on the banks of the reservoir or any of the rough areas.

THE PENALTY FOR BREACH OF A LOCAL RULE SHALL, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, BE THE GENERAL PENALTY (namely loss of hole in matchplay and two strokes in stroke-play)

### **Local Rule for Line-Of-Sight Relief**

In addition to relief under Rule 16.1 for physical interference (lie of ball, stance and area of intended swing) from the vents, the valve house (building on top of the reservoir) and turret (object on the 1st/9th fairway), relief for line-of-sight interference is also available as described below.

Line of sight interference from the vents, the valve house (building on top of the reservoir) and turret (object on the 1st/9th fairway) exists when the obstruction is on the player's line of sight to the hole (that is, the obstruction is located on the straight line between the ball and the hole or is within one club-length measured on an equidistant arc from the hole, of a spot where the obstruction would be on the player's direct line of sight to the hole. This one club-length wide area is commonly referred to as the "corridor".

If the player's ball is in the general area and there is line of sight interference by an obstruction as described above, the player may take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- Reference Point: The nearest point of complete relief where line of sight interference no longer exists.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: The entire area within one club-length from the reference point, but with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
  - Must be in the general area,
  - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
  - There must be complete relief from both physical and line of sight interference by the obstruction.

If the player's ball is in a bunker or a penalty area and there is line of sight interference the player may take free relief as provided above, except that the nearest point of complete relief where interference no longer exists, and the relief area must be in that bunker or penalty area.

If there is no such point in that bunker or penalty area where interference no longer exists, the player may still take this relief as provided above by using the point of maximum available relief in the bunker or penalty area as the reference point.