Local Rules and Conditions of Competition established by the Estonian Golf Association

Hard Card

The current local rules have been approved by Estonian Golf Association (EGA) and apply in all EGA competitions.

In the absence of any other mention, the penalty for breaching the local rules is general penalty (loss of hole in Match play or two strokes in Stroke play).

1. Penalty areas (Rule 17)
   a) When a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.
   b) When a player’s ball is found in or it is known or virtually certain to have come to rest in red penalty area where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area at a point that coincides with the boundary of the course, opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1

   Where a dropping zone is marked for a penalty area, it is an additional option for relief under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area. A ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area and is within two club-lengths of the ball. Exception: there is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

2. Abnormal Course Conditions (including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)
   a) Ground Under Repair
      (1) Any area bounded by a white line.
      (2) Any area of damaged ground (e.g. caused by vehicle movement) that is considered by a referee to be abnormal.
      (3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).

   b) Immovable Obstructions
      (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they lie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition
      (2) Landscaped garden areas and everything growing in them that are surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition
      (3) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
      (4) Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens. Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect. This Local Rule only applies when the ball and immovable obstruction lie in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less. In addition to Rule 16.1a, interference also exists if an immovable obstruction is on the player’s line of play, is within two club-lengths of the putting green

3. Integral Objects

The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:
   a) Wires, cables, wrappings or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
   b) Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located in penalty areas

4. Playing Ball From Outside Relief Area When Taking Back-On-the-Line Relief (Local Rule E-12)

When taking Back-On-the-Line relief, there is no additional penalty if a player plays a ball that was dropped in the relief area (Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b or 19.3b) but came to rest outside the relief area within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped.

This exemption from additional penalty applies even if the ball came to rest nearer the hole than the reference point. However,
this exemption from additional penalty doesn’t apply, if the ball came to rest nearer the hole than the spot of the original ball or the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area.

5. Temporary Immovable Obstructions

Model Local Rule F-23, with any additions or amendments in the additional Local Rules published by the Committee is in effect.

6. Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:
Immediate stop for imminent danger – 1 prolonged note of a siren
Stop for a non-dangerous situation - 3 consecutive notes of a siren
Resumption of play - 2 consecutive notes of a siren
Note: When play is stopped for imminent danger, all practice areas will be immediately closed.

7. Practice during the Round

In a stroke play competition between the play of two holes the competitor must not make a practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole last played.

8. Transportation

During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation.

The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between two holes applies to the next hole.

9. Returning of Score Card

A player’s scorecard is officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the recording office/area.

10. Caddie

Caddie’s outfit must meet the course requirements for the clothes of the player, footwear must be sports shoes without spikes. Caddie has to be preregistered with the competition committee and must wear a vest if given by the committee.

11. Personal Data protection

The participant in the contest gives their consent to the filming, TV broadcast, photographing, identification and other forms of recording during the competition. The organizer of the competition has the right to use the material to advertise the competition and organizer. For underage players, the organizer assumes the existence of parental consent.

12. Anti-Doping

The Estonian Golf Association’s competitions are organized based on the values and principles of clean sport, also on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code, the anti-doping rules of the International Golf Federation and Estonian Anti-doping rules. More detailed information: www.golf.ee/doping-eng

13. Disclaimer

The participant in the contest agrees that there are certain risks in the golfing and accept that he or she is personally responsible for all these risks.

Approved 18.05.2020