



2026 Estonian Match Play Open Local Rules

1. Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)

- (1) All distance marking stakes, surfaced paths and roads, all sprinklers, flat metal penalty area markers, drainage grates, wooden retaining wall on hole 18 near and around the green, benches, wooden paths (including in waste areas), and bridges are immovable obstructions (Rule 16.1).
- (2) Ground under repair is marked by blue stakes and/or painted line. When both stakes and line are used, marking line applies (Rule 16.1).
- (3) Model Local Rule F-11 Ant hills on the course are at the player's choice either loose impediments that may be removed under Rule 15.1 or ground under repair from which free relief is allowed under rule 16.1.
- (4) Model Local Rule F-15 Mushrooms that are attached on the putting green are ground under repair from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1d.

2. Penalty areas (Rule 17)

- (1) Penalty area is marked with red markers and/or painted line. When both markers and line are used, marking line applies. Additionally, any unmarked pond, ditch, drainage, sea, or bed of any other open water body is treated as red penalty area. The natural break defines the margin.

3. Movable obstructions (Rule 15.2)

- (1) Next tee signs, penalty area stakes.

4. No Play Zones

- (1) Model Local Rule E-8.1 The area on holes 13 and 14 marked with black stakes and rope is an environmentally sensitive No Play Zone and entering that area or playing from there is not allowed. **If a No Play Zone is within penalty area, a player must take a penalty relief under Rule 17.2.**

5. Bunkers and sand (waste) areas

- (1) Sand areas with rakes therein are bunkers. All other sand areas are parts of general area.

6. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)

- (1) Model Local Rule F-23 Temporary Immovable Obstructions is in effect. TIO is a structure that is temporarily added on or next to the course, usually for a particular competition, and is fixed or not readily movable. TIOs include any supporting guy wires connected to them. The outermost edge of the TIO is used in determining whether a ball is under the TIO or whether the TIO is on the player's line of sight between the ball and the hole.

Breach of local rules is a general penalty (2 strokes penalty in Stroke Play or loss of a hole in Match Play).

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