

Local Rules and Conditions of Competition 2017



For the full text of Conditions and Local Rules, please refer to the current edition of the Rules of Golf (valid from 1.1.2016) as published by R&A Rules Limited on the page indicated.

SECTION A – LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules and Conditions of Competition have been formulated applied to SLOVAK CHAMPIONSHIP OPEN 2017.

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27)

Beyond any wall, hedge, fence, white stakes or line defining the boundary of the course.

Notes:

Where out of bounds is defined by white stakes or fence posts (excluding angled supports) the line joining the nearest inside points at ground level of such stakes or posts defines the boundary. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies on or over such line.

Where any continuing or adjoining white line is in existence, it defines the boundary. A ball is out of bounds when all of it lies on or over such line.

A ball which crosses a road defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that road is out of bounds even though it may lie on another part of the course.

2. Water Hazards (Including Lateral Water Hazards) (Rule 26)

Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes and/or lines; lateral water hazards are defined by red stakes and/or lines. When a water hazard or lateral water hazard is bounded by out of bounds, the margin of the hazard extends to and coincides with the boundary.

Note: Dropping Zones for Water Hazards

Where dropping zones for water hazards exist a player may proceed according to the Rule 26 or may, under penalty of one stroke, drop a ball in the dropping zone nearest to where the original ball last crossed the margin of the hazard.

For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part A, 6, pg. 152-153.

3. Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)

All areas bounded by a white line or indicated by blue stakes including spectator crossing points. When both markings are

used the stakes define the area and the lines define its margin.

All areas marked by a GUR sign.

Turf cuts covering cables or ditches for them.

Seams of Cut Turf (For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part A, 3e, pg. 145)

French drains (stone or gravel filled drainage ditches).

Erosional damage in bunkers caused by running water (wash-outs).

Any area of ground that is considered by a rules official abnormal.

A player may seek relief from interference with lie of the ball or area of intended swing from any painted yardage spot on the closely mown area through the green.

4. Embended Ball - Relief extended to „through the green“

5. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24-2)

White lined areas adjoining any immovable obstruction are considered part of the obstruction.

Decorative landscaped areas (Flowerbeds/shrubberies and the like) surrounded by an obstruction are part of that obstruction.

Mats that are secured and plastic cable ramps covering cables are immovable obstructions.

6. Stones in Bunkers - Stones in bunkers are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part A, 3f, pg. 145-146.

7. Turf Plugs on Putting Green

On any putting green, turf plugs of any size have the same status as old hole plugs and may be repaired under Rule 16-1c.

8. Integral Parts of the Course

Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

Retaining artificial walls and pilings when located within water hazards.

9. Permanent Elevated Cables

If a ball strikes an elevated power line, telephone line or cable, the stroke is cancelled and the player must play a ball

as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played in accordance with Rule 20-5 (Making Next Stroke from Where Previous Stroke Made). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

Exception: Ball striking elevated junction section of cable rising from the ground is not replayed.

10. Temporary Immovable Obstruction (TIO)

Specimen Local Rule is in effect - see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part A, 4b, pg. 147-150.

Notes:

Through the green, when a player's ball lies in, on or under a TIO or so close to that obstruction that it interferes with his stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, he may proceed under any of the options available under the Rule, or if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, he may drop the ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone.

TIOs include: advertising boards fixed to immovable obstructions or other TIOs, advertising boards and hole number indicators situated close to the teeing ground, tribunals, TV towers or scoreboards.

As TIOs **ARE NOT** considered: free-standing advertising boards situated away from teeing ground if they may be moved without unreasonable effort, without unduly delaying play and without causing damage (by definition - these are movable obstructions)

11. BALL ON PUTTING GREEN MOVED ACCIDENTALLY

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 ballmarker 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.

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.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULES

Match Play - Loss of Hole

Stroke Play - Two Strokes

SECTION B - CONDITION OF COMPETITION

1. List of Conforming Driver Heads – Pages 137-138

Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the R&A.

For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part B, 1a, pg. 154-155.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

2. Groove and Punch Mark Specification (Decision 4-1/1)

The player's clubs must conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Rules of Golf that are effective from 1 January 2010.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in Breach of Condition – Disqualification.

3. Specification of the Ball (Note to Rule 5-1)

The ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the R&A. **One ball condition (page 156).** During a stipulated round, the balls a player plays must be of the same brand and model as detailed by a single entry on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls. Exception: This condition does not apply to Professional or Amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or Approved One-Day event or Amateurs partnering professional players in a major Pro-Am tournament.

4. Pace of Play (Note 2 to Rule 6-7) – Page 140

The Committee shall determine the time allowed for the round and each hole and publish it on the official notice board. In the absence of mitigating circumstances the group is liable to be timed if it is in excess of the time allowed and in case of second and subsequent groups, out of position. Out of position is defined as being more than the starting interval behind the group in front.

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach his ball, it is his turn to play and he is able to play without interference or distraction. On the putting green, timing will start when the player had a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments on his line of play.

From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 60 seconds on a 'first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt', or 50 seconds if it is a tee shot or 'second or third to play shot', he is deemed to have had a 'bad time'.

Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly. A player whose group is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently arrives back in position or within time.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONDITION IN STROKE / MATCH PLAY:

One Bad Time: Verbal warning by the Official

Two Bad Times: One Stroke Penalty

Three Bad Times: Further Two Strokes Penalty

Four Bad Times: Disqualification

Notes:

Players may not be advised that they are being timed. In some circumstances, an individual player, or only some players within a group, may be timed instead of the entire group.

5. Electronic measuring devices are prohibited!

6. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b)

When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

The signal for suspending play due to a dangerous situation will be a prolonged note of the siren.

Immediate Discontinuance of Play: One prolonged note of siren.

Discontinuance of Play: Three consecutive notes of siren, repeated.

Resumption of Play: Two short notes of siren, repeated.

Note: A player may discontinue play on his own if he believes there is a danger from lighting.

For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part B, 4, pg. 158.

7. Practice Between Holes (Note 2 to Rule 7)

This prohibition includes practice on or near the putting green of the hole last played and rolling a ball on the putting green of the hole last played.

This condition does not apply to pre-tournament Pro-Ams or Matchplay tournaments.

8. Transportation

Players must walk at all times during stipulated round (Exception; When permitted to ride by The Rules Committee)

For details see Rules of Golf, Appendix I, Part B, 8, pg. 159-160.

9. Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the „Regulations for Doping Control and Sanctions in Sport in the Slovakia“ issued by the Slovak Anti-Doping Agency (available at www.antidoping.sk)

Note: If the player is disqualified under Anti-Doping rule violation he loses all results and prize money.

10. How to Decide Ties

In the event of a tie for first place, there will be hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner.

11. Recording Area, Scorecard returned

The recording area may include but is not limited to: temporary buildings, tents or permanent rooms. Others may be defined on the official notice board. A scorecard will be deemed returned when a player has completely left the recording area.

12. Result of the Competition – Competition Closed

When the final results sheet is placed on the official notice board, the result of the competition is deemed to have been officially announced.