



Swansea Bay Golf Club Local Rules As of 1 May 2019

1. Out of Bounds

Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts.

If a ball is out of bounds, the player must play a ball, under penalty of one stroke, as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played in accordance with Rule 18-2b.

A ball lying beyond any boundary fence, line of white marker posts or grass banks surrounding the course, on or over the track running from behind the 14th tee to the clubhouse car-park and to the right of the stakes at the base of the bank on the 3rd, right of the 5th, behind and to the left of the 8th green, Left of the 9th, left of the 10th, right of the 11th, right of the 13th is out of bounds. **Rule 18-2b applies.**

2. Penalty Areas

The inlet at the LHS of the 9th fairway, and those across the 3rd and 16th fairways and in front of the 18th tee are yellow penalty areas (formerly known as 'Water hazards'), all other ditches are Red penalty areas. **Rule 17 applies.**

Provisional Ball for Ball in a Penalty Area

If a player does not know whether his or her ball is in the penalty area identify location, the player may play a provisional ball under Rule 18.3, which is modified in this way:

In playing the provisional ball, the player may use the stroke-and-distance relief option (see Rule 17.1d(1)), the back-on-the-line relief option (see Rule 17.1d(2)) or, if it is a red penalty area, the lateral relief option (see Rule 17.1d(3)).

Once the player has played a provisional ball under this Rule, he or she may not use any further options under Rule 17.1 in relation to the original ball.

In deciding when that provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play or if it must or may be abandoned, Rule 18.3c(2) and 18.3c(3) apply except that:

- When Original Ball Is Found in Penalty Area Within Three-Minute Search Time. The player may choose either to:
 - Continue to play the original ball as it lies in the penalty area, in which case the provisional ball must not be played. All strokes with that provisional ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count, or
 - Continue to play the provisional ball in which case the original ball must not be played.
- When Original Ball Is Not Found Within Three-Minute Search Time or Is Known or Virtually Certain to Be in Penalty Area. The provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play.

3. Fixed Sprinkler Heads

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

The player also has these extra options to take relief when such immovable obstructions are close to the putting green and on the line of play:

Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is:

- On the line of play, and is:
 - 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 this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

4. Winter Rules (during the period October 1st-March 31st) (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: within 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 BREACH OF LOCAL RULE, match play- loss of hole; stroke play – two strokes* if a player incurs the general penalty for a breach of this local rule, no additional penalty under the local rule is applied.

("General area (Rule 2.2)" is the whole area of the course except a. The teeing ground (Rule 6.2) and putting green of the hole being played (Rule 13); and b. All bunkers (Rule 12) and all penalty areas (Rule 17) on the course)

Stakes and Ropes protecting the front of the green and areas of Ground Under Repair

In the general play area, these are movable Obstructions (Rule 15-2).
Relief is taken under Rule 15-2a

5. Immovable Obstructions

Immovable obstructions include: paths, tee information signs, yardage markers, benches, ball washers, marker post on the 11th, bells and bins located in the general play area.

Except when the ball is in a penalty area, a player may take relief from interference by an immovable obstruction under Rule 16-1b:

6. Material Piled for Removal

All material that is clearly piled for removal shall be classed as ground under repair. Relief is taken under Rule 16-1b.

Material that is not piled for removal is defined as a loose impediment and this may be removed by the player (Rule 15.1a)

7. Aeration Holes

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 breach of local rule:

Match Play – loss of hole; Stroke play – 2 stroke penalty

8. Seams of Cut Turf on the Fairway

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.

9. Cracks in ground

Cracks in the ground in parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less are ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. But interference does not exist if the crack only interferes with the player's stance.

10. Roads and Paths

All roads and paths on the course even if not artificially-surfaced, are treated as immovable obstructions from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.

11. Bunker Renovation

If any bunker, through the green, is being renovated then the entire bunker is classed as "ground under repair". Relief is taken under Rule 16-1b

Agreed by The Committee 8th April 2019

Swansea Bay Golf Club

General Rules

The etiquette of golf must always be exercised

Official Starting Places

1st Tee and 6th Tees only (or earliest tee in play as directed)

If the clubhouse side of the course is closed, the official starting place will be the 6th tee only. New starters and those already playing the course must alternate on the tee.

(All restrictive rules still apply)

Players who tee off anywhere other than the designated starting points, or who do not play the course in score-card order HAVE NO STANDING and must allow those playing the course in score-card order to play through.

Match Priorities

Unless otherwise stated, the priority order of events is as follows:-

- A) Club Team Matches (including Juniors)
- B) Board Competitions
- C) Club Competitions (including Juniors)
- D) Sponsored Competitions
- E) 2,3, and 4 ball "friendly" matches, in that order. (unless restricted).

Practice:

A single member practising on the course must NOT play more than 2 balls, more than one member practising on the course may only play one ball, however, all practising must play the course in score-card order.

Agreed by The Committee 8th April 2019