



ENGLISH

2021 THAILAND CHAMPIONS TOUR LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF COMPETITION HARD CARD

The Rules of Golf by the R&A and the following Local Rules and Terms of Competition govern play.

The following Local Rules apply to Thailand Champions Tour events. For the full text of the Local Rules referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2019 and the Clarifications updated by the R&A.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the General Penalty:

Match Play - Loss of Hole Stroke Play - Two strokes

LOCAL RULES

These Local Rules, together with the Additional Local Rules published at each tournament, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of Thailand Champions Tour:

1. **Out of Bounds - Rule 18.2**

- (a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- (b) A ball that comes to rest beyond any road defining out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course.

2. **Penalty Areas - Rule 17**

(a) **Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas**

The Tournament Additional Local Rules will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model Local Rule B-2.1 will apply only to the penalty areas that are listed.

(b) **Opposite Side Relief Where Ball Last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where the Edge and the Boundary of the Course Coincide**

When a player's ball last crosses the edge of a penalty area where the edge of the penalty area and a boundary of the course coincide, that edge is deemed red and opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.1.

(c) **Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas**

Where a dropping zone is marked for a penalty area, it is an additional option under a penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone

is a relief area under Rule 14.3, meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

3. Back-On-The-Line Relief. Playing from Outside the Relief Area

Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect when taking Back-On-The-Line relief under any rule. Note the Back-On-The-Line options in Rules 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b and 19.3b. A ball may be played from outside the relief area, as long as the ball is within one club-length of where it first touched the ground when dropped in the relief area.

4. Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) - Rule 16.1

(a) Ground Under Repair

- (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- (2) Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- (3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- (4) For holes left by movable obstructions in parts of the general area cut to fairway height or less, free relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing, but there is no relief for interference to the stance.

(b) Immovable Obstructions

- (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are a single abnormal course condition.
- (2) Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
- (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables (anything which is secured or fastened is not considered "readily movable" if it has to be unfastened to be moved).
- (4) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
- (5) Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators unless otherwise defined on the Additional Local Rules sheet.

(c) Temporary Water

Squeegee Policy for Temporary Water removal.

If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1d or have his line of play squeegeed.

The Committee may squeegee greens until players are nearby and if conditions deteriorate, to keep play going, they may authorize a combination of all the above measures.

5. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

Model Local Rule F-5 is in effect but is modified in this way:

For a ball in the general area, relief is allowed only when (i) both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less (ii) the obstruction must be within two club-lengths of the putting green (iii) be on

the player's line of play and (iv) the ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction.

6. Limiting When Stroke Made from Putting Green Must be Replayed.

Model Local Rule D-7 is in effect and modifies Exception 2 to Rule 11.1b.

7. Integral Objects

(a) Bunker liners in their intended position.

(b) Wires, cables, wrappings or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

(c) Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located within penalty areas.

(d) Floating sponsor displays or signs when located in penalty areas. No line of sight relief is allowed. Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables.

(e) Any closed gate attached to a boundary object.

8. Permanent Overhead Power Line

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only for a ball which strikes a power line located in bounds and not the supporting pole. The stroke does not count and the player must play from where the previous stroke was made.

9. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)

Model Local Rules F-22 re Temporary Power Lines and Cables, and F-23 re TIO are in effect.

(a) **Dropping Zone.** In the general area, when a player's ball lies in or on a TIO or so close to the TIO that it interferes with the stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, the player may:

- proceed under any of the options allowed under the TIO Local Rule or Rule 16.1, or
- if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, the player may drop the original ball or another ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone. This is true even if it is nearer the hole. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3. A ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.

(b) **Either Side Relief.** The Tournament Additional Local Rules will specify which TIOs have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to **line of sight relief only** and is not allowed if the player is taking relief using the procedures in Rule 16.1.

(c) When a TIO is tied into another TIO or an immovable obstruction by a white line, it is treated to be one TIO.

10. Clubs and Balls

(a) **Club Replacement.** Model Local Rule G-9 for replacement of a club that is broken or significantly damaged is in effect.

(b) **List of Conforming Driver Heads.** Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

(c) **Groove and Punch Mark Specifications.** Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule:
Disqualification.

(d) **Conforming Balls List.** Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

(e) **One Ball Rule.** Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect. (Exception: This Local Rule does not apply to Professional or Amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or approved one-day event or to amateurs who partner professional players in a major Pro-Am Tournament).

Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty for each hole during which the player is in breach.

11. **Pace of Play Policy - Rule 5.6b(3)**

The 2021 Thailand Champions Tour Pace of Play Policy as defined within Member Handbook is in effect. Fines for multiple "Timing Sessions", "Bad Times" or "Excessive Shot Times" in an Official Season are detailed within this Term. Please note:

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Stroke Play

1st bad time in the Tournament - Verbal warning from Referee.

2nd bad time in the Tournament - 1 stroke penalty and 2,000 Baht fine.

3rd bad time in the Tournament - 2 strokes penalty and 4,000 Baht fine.

4th bad time in the Tournament - Disqualification and 8,000 Baht fine.

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Match Play

For these tournaments, the penalties will be defined on the local rules sheet.

12. **Play Suspensions - Rule 5.7**

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

Immediate Stop/ Dangerous Situation - 1 prolonged note of the siren.

Normal Non-Dangerous Stop - 3 consecutive short notes of the siren.

Resume play - 2 consecutive short notes of the siren.

When play is stopped in a Dangerous Situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

13. **Practice - Rule 5**

(a) **Practice Before or Between Rounds in Stroke Play - Rule 5.2b**

Rule 5.2b is modified in this way:

A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.

Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.

(b) **Practice on or Near Previous Putting Green Prohibited - Rule 5.5b**

For stroke play events only, Rule 5.5b is modified in this way:

Between the play of two holes, a player must not:

- Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
- Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

14. Distance Measuring Devices - Rule 4.3a

Rule 4.3a(1) is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not obtain distance information using an electronic distance measuring device during any tournament counting towards the Order of Merit.

Penalty for breach of Rule 4.3: See penalty statement in Rule 4.3.

Note: First breach – General Penalty

Second breach (unrelated to first breach) – Disqualification

15. Transportation Policy

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and modifies Rule 4.3a(1) in this way.

During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Rules Committee. (A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized).

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between holes applies to the next hole.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

16. Deciding Ties

Unless otherwise stated, if there is a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner.

17. Scoring Area and Scorecard Returned.

The location of the Scoring Area will be detailed in the Tournament Additional Local Rules. The scorecard is returned when the player leaves the scoring area with both feet. Score Recorders are part of the Committee.

18. Results of Competition - Competition Closed

The result of the tournament is officially announced when the final results are posted by the Rules Committee.

19. Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the International Golf Federation (IGF) Anti-Doping Policy which is published at <https://www.igfgolf.org>

Note: Players should be aware that under the Anti-Doping Policy, if a player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, he may face disqualification from the tournament at which he was tested (or otherwise committed the violation) and also from any subsequent tournament in which he participated until provisionally suspended or rendered ineligible under the Policy. Disqualification in such cases includes the loss of all results, points and prize monies.

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULES

APPLY IN THAILAND CHAMPIONS TOUR COMPETITIONS ONLY

Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to: Flightscope, fixed TV poles (**these will always have an either side option**), all fixed clocks, advertising boards fixed to other temporary immovable obstructions or advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are **situated around teeing areas**.

Movable Obstructions – Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to: free-standing advertising boards **situated away from teeing areas**, drinks dispensers that are on wheels or easily lifted, all cameras and their tripods, TV microphones, free standing scoring and data masts or tripods and all crossing point indicators.

20. Embedded Ball - Rule 16.3

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way: Free relief is not allowed when a ball embedded in the stacked turf face above a bunker.

21. Abnormal Course Conditions - Rule 16

(a) Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole.

Rule 16.1a is modified in this way:

Interference does not exist if the animal hole interferes with only the player's stance.

(b) Yardage Spots or Lines.

Painted lines or dots in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less are treated as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1b. But, interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only the player's stance.

(c) Staked Trees are immovable obstructions.

22. Concrete Drainage Channels

Model Local Rule F-20 is modified in this way:

Drainage channels that are made of artificial materials and run next to cart paths are treated as immovable obstructions and are part of the cart path. A player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b.