



ENGLISH

## 2026 THAILAND PGA TOUR AND THAILAND DEVELOPMENT TOUR LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF COMPETITION HARD CARD

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition have been formulated under the Rules of Golf of R&A Rules Limited and apply to all events on Thailand PGA Tour and Thailand Development Tour.

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2023. Refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf for Model Local Rules reference.

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

#### 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 on or beyond a road defining out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course. Model Local Rule A-5.
- (c) Gates in Boundary Fences and Walls. Model Local Rule F-26.

#### 2. Penalty Areas. Rule 17.

- (a) Relief on Opposite Side of Red Penalty Areas.
  - (1) Opposite side relief is available only to the red penalty area listed on the Additional Local Rules under Model Local Rule B-2.1.
  - (2) Opposite side relief is available when a ball last crossed an edge of a red penalty area that coincides with a boundary under Model Local Rule B-2.2.
- (b) Dropping Zones  
Dropping Zone listed in the Additional Local Rules, labelled with DZ sign is an additional option under Model Local Rule E-1.1. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

#### 3. Abnormal Course Conditions, Embedded Ball. Rule 16.

- (a) **Ground Under Repair**
  - (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked, or as otherwise specified.
  - (2) French drains (stones-filled drainage ditches)
  - (3) Seam of cut turf under Model Local Rule F-7.
  - (4) Grass covered cable trenches under Model Local Rule F-22.
  - (5) A hole made by movable obstructions (such as microphones, stakes, signs, tripods, tables, chairs, etc.) in the general area may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee but with no relief for stance under Model Local Rule F-6.
- (b) **Immovable Obstructions**
  - (1) White lined areas tying into an obstruction and the obstruction itself are treated as a single obstruction.
  - (2) Landscaped or garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single obstruction.
  - (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables (anything which is secured or fastened is not considered "readily movable" if it must 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 unless otherwise defined on the Additional Local Rules.

#### (c) Embedded Ball

Rule 16.3 is modified in this way:

- (1) Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect.  
Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in the stacked turf face above bunkers (including artificial staked turf bunker faces). Furthermore, Model Local Rule F-7 is not applicable, including for vertical seams in a stacked turf face.
- (2) Model Local Rule F-2.3 is in effect:  
Free relief is available if the Committee determines it is known or virtually certain that part of a player's ball is below the level of the ground in any player's pitch-mark that has not repaired in some way in part of the general area that is cut to fairway height or less.

#### (d) Removal of Temporary Water.

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect and is modified in this way:

If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the putting green, the player may:

- (1) Take free relief under Rule 16.1d, or
- (2) Have their line of play squeegeed.
- (3) Have the putting green squeegeed when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course, but only when authorized by the Committee.

Such squeegeeing should be done across the line of play and extend a reasonable distance beyond the hole (that is, at least one roller length) and only carried out by the Committee or someone authorized by the Committee. The Committee may squeegee the putting green between groups.

#### 4. Animal Not Defined as Loose Impediment Near Ball

Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect. An animal not defined as a loose impediment may be removed. If the ball moves there is no penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

#### 5. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens

Model Local Rules F-5.2 is in effect as follows:

When both the ball and the obstruction are in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

The obstruction must be:

- (1) On the player's line of play,
- (2) On or within two club-lengths of the putting green, and
- (3) The ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction.

Interference under this Local Rule also applies to holes made by removal of movable obstruction that is treated as Ground Under Repair under Local Rule 3(a)(5) and painted yardage dots or lines under Local Rule 23(a)(6).

#### 6. Green Reading Material Restrictions

Model Local Rule G-11 is in effect, except for amateurs playing only in a Pro-Am competition. Only approved materials may be used and these include:

- (1) Committee approved yardage books since 1st January 2022
- (2) Committee approved hole location sheets, and
- (3) Map of the competition course no larger than Letter or A4 sized piece of paper.

Players should refer to the additional notice regarding Model Local Rule G-11 and the specific restrictions that apply to handwritten notes.

Penalty for First Breach: General Penalty

Penalty for Second Breach: Disqualification

#### 7. Integral Objects

- (a) Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed liner may be treated

as Ground Under Repair by the Committee, but in such cases prohibiting relief when only stance interference exists under Model Local Rule F-6.

- (b) The portion of wires, cables, wrappings or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects. Any portion of temporary objects not closely attached may be treated as a temporary immovable obstruction by the Committee.
- (c) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within Penalty Areas.
- (d) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located on the edge of bunkers but such objects are not part of the bunker.
- (e) Artificial stacked turf faces above bunkers
- (f) Sponsor display floating or within water in penalty areas. Lines or cables anchoring them are temporary cables and Model Local Rule F-22 applies.

#### 8. Ball Deflected by Permanent Overhead Power Line

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect. If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line located in bounds (not the supporting pole or pylon), the player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6). If the player replays the stroke but does so from a wrong place, they get the general penalty under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the stroke, they get the general penalty and the stroke counts, but the player has not played from a wrong place.

#### 9. Temporary Lines and Cables

Model Local Rule F-22 is in effect and is modified in this way:

Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables are immovable obstructions. Cables located within grass trenches are movable obstructions.

#### Drones

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a drone in flight and in bounds, the player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6). If the player replays the stroke but does so from a wrong place, they get the general penalty under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the stroke, they get the general penalty and the stroke counts, but the player has not played from a wrong place.

#### 10. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs).

Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. (Definitions of some common obstructions and TIOs can be found in the box below).

- (a) "Either Side" Relief Option

The Additional Local Rules will specify which TIOs have an either side relief option. Either side relief is restricted to **line-of-sight relief only** and does not apply when the player chooses to operate under Rule 16.1 in taking free relief. The either side relief option is always available for line-of-sight interference from:

- (1) TV towers and Leaderboards when they stand alone.
- (2) CTV HD Tents.

- (b) Optional Use of Dropping Zone (DZs)

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. 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 "DZ" is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

- (c) When a TIO is tied into another TIO or an immovable obstruction by a white line, it is treated as a single TIO.

#### 11. Clubs and Balls

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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.

- (c) List of Conforming Balls. Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.  
Penalty for making a stroke at a ball not on the Current List in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.
- (d) One Ball Rule. Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect.  
Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this Local Rule: the player gets one penalty stroke for each hole during which they are in breach of this Local Rule. 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).
- (e) Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged. Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect (revised January 2026).  
Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: See penalty under Rule 4.1b.
- (f) Prohibited Use of Clubs Longer than 46 inches. Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.  
This Local Rule is also in effect in a Pro-Am played as an Official Competition, except for an amateur playing solely in Pro-Am competitions and not participating in the main tournament.

**12. Starting Round and Stopping Play; Resuming Play: Rule 5.3a and Rule 5.7.**

- (a) The official starting time is displayed on the clock at the starting tee, or as otherwise provided by the Committee.
- (b) Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows to suspend and resume play:
- (1) Immediate Suspension (such as when there is imminent danger):  
One prolonged note of the siren.
  - (2) Normal Suspension (such as when the course is flooded):  
Three consecutive notes of the siren.
  - (3) Resume play: Two short notes of the siren.

All practice areas are closed during a suspension for imminent danger.

**13. Restriction on Practice. Rule 5.**

- (a) Before or between rounds in stroke play - Model Local Rule I-1.2 is in effect. Rule 5.2b is modified in this way:  
A player must not practice on the course before or between rounds.  
Exceptions:
- (1) A player may practice on the designated practice areas.
  - (2) A player may practice putting or chipping on or near their first teeing area.
- (b) During Round - Model Local Rule I-2 is in effect and Rule 5.5b is modified in this way:  
Between the play of two holes, a player must not:
- (1) Make any practice stroke on or near the putting green of the hole just completed, or
  - (2) Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball.

**14. Distance Measuring Devices**

Model Local Rule G-5 is **not** in effect. Players are allowed to use Distance Measuring Devices, unless otherwise specified in the Additional Local Rules. Reminder: Functions that measure elevation changes or slope are not allowed and must be disabled.  
Penalty for breach of Local Rule – see Penalty Statement to Rule 4.3.

**15. Prohibiting Use of Motorised Transportation**

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified 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 Committee. A player (or caddie) who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized. Exception: At some tournaments players and caddies may be permitted to ride on a shuttle between specific holes and these holes will be identified in the Additional Local Rules.

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

**16. Reduced Penalty When Player Unaware Ball Moved**

Model Local Rule E-14 is in effect and applies only when the player is unaware, before the stroke is made, that the ball might have moved.

**17. Scoring in Stroke Play**

Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect and modifies the penalty for a missing signature(s) under Rule 3.3b (2).

**18. Pace of Play**

The Pace of Play Policy as defined in the applicable Members' Handbook and General Regulations is in force. Fines for multiple "Timing Sessions", "Bad Times" or "Excessive Shot Times" in an Official Season are detailed within this Policy. The following penalties apply and these penalties carry over all tournament rounds of each tournament:

1st bad time during the Tournament: No penalty and warning from Referee.

2nd bad time in the Tournament : One stroke penalty

3rd bad time in the Tournament : Additional two stroke penalty.

4th bad time in the Tournament : Disqualification.

**TERMS OF COMPETITION**

**19. Recording Area and When Scorecard Has Been Returned.**

- (a) Score Recorders are part of the Committee
- (b) The Recording Area will be defined on the Additional Local Rules.
- (c) The scorecard of a player or side is returned to the Committee 15 minutes after the scorecard is accepted into the electronic scoring system. If a mistake is discovered before it is accepted into the scoring system and the player, or member of the side, is not present to correct the mistake, the scorecard is returned 15 minutes after that mistake is discovered. Exceptions apply as outlined in the section "When scorecard has been returned" located on the Members' Handbook and General Regulations.

**20. How Ties Will Be Decided**

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

**21. When the Result of the Competition is Final**

The result of the competition is final when the official results have been validated in the scoring system by the Score Recorder and approved by the Committee. In the event of a play-off, the competition is final when the play-off scores have been approved by the Committee.

**22. 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 APPLY IN THAILAND PGA TOUR AND THAILAND DEVELOPMENT TOUR COMPETITIONS BUT MAY NOT APPLY ON OTHER MAJOR TOURS**

**Movable Obstructions**

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 (including those mounted on vehicles), TV microphones, free standing scoring/data masts, non-display cars, tables, chairs, trash bins, individual sections of crash barriers that are not fixed together, individual directional signages and all crossing point indicators.

**Immovable Obstructions**

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Curbs, gutters or similar adjoining an artificially surfaced road or path is part of the road or path,
- Stakes or objects that are supporting trees (the tree and its limbs or branches are not part of the obstruction).

**Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs)**

Examples include but are not limited to: All fixed clocks, advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are situated around teeing areas, tents, grandstands, hospitality structures, scoreboards, towers, platforms, white lined areas that tie into a TIO are treated as part of the TIO. Multiple TIO's are treated as one single TIO when they are tied together with white lines or when they are touching or virtually touching each other.

**23. Abnormal Course Conditions. Rule 16.1**

- (a) In addition to Local Rule 3a above:
- (6) Painted lines or dots in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less but with no relief for stance under Model Local Rule F-6.
  - (7) Animal Holes but with no relief for stance under Model Local Rule F-6.
- (b) In addition to Local Rule 3b above:
- (6) Irrigation pipes (when not movable) but with no relief for stance under Model Local Rule F-6.

**24. Concrete Drainage Channels**

Model Local Rule F-20 is in effect.

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

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