

Howlong Golf Resort Local Rules from September, 2022

Please be aware of this update and ignore current fixed places displaying local rules (rules board and pre-printed score cards).

1. Out of Bounds: All boundary fences and areas defined by out of bounds pegs.

2. Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions): Artificially surfaced paths, course gardens, embedded gravel/stones, ropes, artificial hole covers if the players ball is on the putting surface, protection fences and course sprinkler heads. Rule 16.1b applies.

i. Rule 16.1b. Applies to sprinkler heads close to putting greens. In addition to the types of interference described in Rule 16.1a, interference also exists if a sprinkler head is on the player's line of play, and is within two club – lengths of the putting green, and is within two club – lengths of the ball. (Exception – There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.)

ii. Rule 16.1b. Applies to the protective fence 9th tee box. When a player's stance or intended swing is impeded from the protective fence surrounding the 9th tee. A player can proceed under free relief to the drop zones provided

* When playing Hole 8, drop Zone is located at the back of the 8th green

* When playing Hole 16, drop Zone is located to the left side of the protective fence

* One drop zone is located near the protective fences between 14th green and 11th tee, if a players swing and stance is affected they may take relief to the drop zone.

* When relief is required whilst playing all other hole's, players are to proceed to the nearest drop zone

Players when using a drop zone, the ball must be dropped in the drop zone area and it must come to rest in the drop zone. A dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

3. Exposed Tree Roots in the Fairway If the players ball is in the general area and there is interference from exposed tree roots that are part of the general area cut to fairway height or less or in the rough within two club lengths of the edge of the fairway the tree roots are treated as ground under repair. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. Interference does not exist if the tree roots only interfere with the players stance. Penalty for playing ball from a wrong place in breach of local rule; General Penalty under Rule 14.7a.

4. Penalty Areas:

i. If a ball is in the penalty area left of the 6th green, including when it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the penalty area, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke:

* Take relief under Rule 17.1, or

* As an extra option, drop the original ball or another ball in the dropping zone. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3. Players are to proceed to nearest drop zone

ii. If a ball is in the penalty area behind and to the side of the 16th green , including when it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found came to rest in the penalty area, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke:

Take relief under Rule 17.1, or

As an extra option, drop the original ball or another ball in the dropping zones .A dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3. Players are to proceed to nearest drop zone

*Local Rule 4-ii only available when playing the 16th hole.

Players when using a drop zone, the ball must be dropped in the drop zone and it must come to rest in the drop zone. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3

5. Abnormal course condition no play zones: Free relief must be taken from interference by the no play zone under Rule 16.1f

i. All staked trees and staked shrubs are no play zones and are ground under repair (the GUR includes the stake and any wrapping).

ii. When playing the 6th hole the path beyond behind the 6th green and extending behind and to the side the practice putting green is a no play zone. A drop zone is provided for players behind the 6th green and immediately in front of the path. Players when using a drop zone, the ball must be dropped in the drop zone area and it must come to rest in the drop zone. A dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

ii. The defined area immediately surrounding and inclusive of the shed on the left of the 17th fairway is a no play zone when a ball is known or virtual certain to have entered the shed. Players are to proceed to the nearest drop zone available. Players when using a drop zone, the ball must be dropped in the drop zone and it must come to rest in the drop zone. A dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3. Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for a breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty (stroke play, two strokes. match play, loss of hole.)

Indicator markings

* Out of bounds: white stakes with black tops.

* Red Penalty Area: red stakes/ red lines.

* Yellow penalty Area: yellow stakes/ yellow lines.

* Marked abnormal course condition (GUR): white stakes/ lines and GUR signs.

* Drop Zones: White lined box with DZ markings and or Drop Zone signs.

Howlong Golf Resort Pace of Play Policy for 18 holes, 4 hours 5 minutes and strongly encourages READY GOLF for stroke play events.