



CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION & LOCAL RULES FOR GOLF AUSTRALIA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2009

The following Conditions of Competition & Local Rules apply until further notice to all Amateur Championships conducted under the auspices of Golf Australia (and designated competitions conducted by any other Committee which adopts this publication). *Note – A committee is permitted to modify this Hard Card for any or all of its events.*

SECTION A – CONDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION

The following Conditions, in concert with those contained in the specific event entry form and any other additions or amendments as published, will apply under Rule 33-1:

1. Driving Clubs (List of Conforming Driver Heads)

The specimen condition on pages 141-142 is in effect. (The list may be viewed via www.golfaustralia.org.au)

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

a) List of Conforming Golf Balls – The specimen condition on page 142 is in effect.

An updated List of Conforming Golf Balls is available via the Golf Australia website (www.golfaustralia.org.au).

b) One Ball Condition – The specimen condition on pages 142-143 is in effect.

3. Time of Starting (Note to Rule 6-3)

The specimen condition on page 143 is in effect.

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

In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group is liable to be timed if it is in excess of the time allowed and in the case of second or subsequent groups, out of position. From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a 'first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt', or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or 'second or third to play shot', they shall be deemed to have had a bad time.

The time allowed will be determined by the Committee and will be available prior to play. Out of position is defined as being more than the starting interval behind the group in front.

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:

1 st bad time:	Player will be warned by the official and told that if they have a further bad time they will be penalised.	
	<u>Stroke Play</u>	<u>Match Play</u>
2 nd bad time:	One-stroke penalty	Loss of Hole
3 rd bad time:	Additional two-stroke penalty	Loss of Hole & Final warning
4 th bad time:	Disqualification	Disqualification

Note:

- a) It is not necessary for players to be advised they are being timed.
- b) Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Official that it is the player’s turn to play.

When Timing Commences:
Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player’s stroke will begin when it is their turn to play and they can play without interference or distraction. Reasonable time spent by the first player to play in determining their yardage will not count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, the timing of a player’s stroke will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace their ball, repair ball marks and remove loose impediments on their line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

5. **Transportation**
The specimen condition on page 146 is in effect.
6. **Practice (Rule 7)**
 - a) Players may use all recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course for practice.
 - b) Practice Between Holes – Practice on or near the putting green of the last hole played; and rolling a ball on the putting green of the last hole played is prohibited.
7. **Drugs**
All competitors are subject to drug testing by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency for banned substances as laid down in Golf Australia’s Anti-Doping Policy. Any competitor infringing this policy, or refusing to take a test, will be disqualified and subject to any sanction(s) brought down by ASADA. A list of the prohibited substances will be available at registration. Clarification of any medication can be obtained via the ASADA hotline – 1800 020 506, or from www.asada.gov.au.

8. Returning of Score Card

A player's score card is deemed officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the designated recording area.

9. How to Decide Ties

- a) Stroke Play - In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole "sudden-death" play-off to decide the winner.
- b) Match Play – In the event of a tied match, the stipulated round is extended by as many holes as required for a match to be won (NB. excludes Interstate Teams Matches).

10. Results of the Competition – Competition Closed

- a) Match Play – The result of the match is deemed officially announced when it has been officially recorded in the Championship Office.
- b) Stroke Play – The competition is closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner, or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

SECTION B – LOCAL RULES

The following Local Rules, together with any other additions or amendments as published, will apply in accordance with Rule 33-8:

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 27)

- a) Beyond the inside line of any wall, fence (or the extension of such wall or fence line) or line of white stakes and/or white lines defining the boundary of the course.
- b) A ball which crosses a public pathway/roadway area defined as out of bounds and comes to rest beyond that area is out of bounds, even though it may lie on another part of the course.

Note:

- i) 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 over such line. (Note: Angled supports of a boundary fence are obstructions.)
- ii) Where boundary fence posts have concrete bases, out of bounds is defined by the posts (NOT the bases) – additionally, the concrete bases are NOT obstructions.

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

- a) When both stakes and lines are used to define a water hazard, the stakes identify the hazard and the lines define the margin.
- b) A water hazard marking stake is a movable obstruction if it may be moved without unreasonable effort, without unduly delaying play, and without causing damage.

Note: Dropping Zones for Water Hazards – Where there are dropping zones for water hazards, a ball may be played under Rule 26, or a ball may be dropped in the dropping zone nearest to where the original ball last crossed the margin of the hazard under penalty of one stroke. When dropping a ball in a dropping zone, the dropped ball must not be re-dropped if it comes to rest within two club-lengths of the spot where it first struck a part of the course even though it may finish outside the boundaries of the dropping zone or nearer the hole.

3. **Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)**
 - a) Areas encircled by white paint. The white paint may appear in any of the following ways – dots, broken lines, or unbroken lines.
 - b) Clearly defined wheel ruts.
 - c) Seams of cut turf (not the turf itself) through the green that interferes with the lie of the ball or the area of intended swing, ie no relief from interference to stance. All seams within the cut turf are considered the same seam.
 - d) Washaways in bunkers and at the margins of bunkers.
 - e) Ornamental garden beds surrounded by a border (including sections of garden beds defined by white paint).
 - f) Any area of damaged ground (eg caused by crowd or vehicle movement) that is considered by a Rules official to be abnormal.
4. **Abnormal Ground Conditions (Rule 25)**
 - a) Relief will be denied for interference to stance from a hole, cast or runway made by a burrowing animal, a reptile or bird.
 - b) Relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing from any painted distance markings situated in any closely mown area through the green and paint-markings at the fronts and backs of greens. Note: This does not include painted distances on long driving holes.
5. **Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24-2)**
 - a) The artificial surfaces and sides of roads and paths (includes gravel paths).
 - b) White-lined areas adjoining an obstruction are part of that obstruction and not GUR.
 - c) Landscaped garden areas completely surrounded by an obstruction are part of that obstruction.
 - d) Secured mats and plastic cable ramps covering cables are immovable obstructions.
6. **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green (eg Sprinkler Heads)**

The Specimen Local Rule on pages 134-135 is in effect.
7. **Integral Parts of the Course**
 - a) All roads and paths which are not artificially surfaced.

- b) Wood-chipped areas are integral parts of the course unless the provisions of another local rule apply (individual woodchips are loose impediments).
- c) Wires, cables, metal, or wrapping or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.

8. Staked Trees and Shrubs

If a tree or shrub, that is either staked and/or protected by a tree guard, interferes with the player's stance or the area of their intended swing, the ball **MAY** be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 24-2b (Immovable Obstruction). Note – A wood-chipped (or other constructed) basin surrounding a tree or shrub that is either staked and/or protected by a tree guard is considered to be a part of the obstruction. If the ball lies in a water hazard, the player may lift and drop the ball in accordance with Rule 24-2b(i) except that the nearest point of relief must be in the water hazard and the ball must be dropped in the water hazard or the player may proceed under Rule 26. The ball may be cleaned when lifted under this Local Rule.

NOTE: The stakes and tree guards are **IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS**.

9. 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.

10. Stones in Bunkers

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

11. Embedded Ball – Extended to Through the Green

The specimen Local Rule on pages 131-132 is in effect.

12. Permanent Elevated Cables

If a ball strikes an elevated power line or cable, the stroke must be cancelled and replayed without penalty (see Rule 20-5). If the ball is not immediately recoverable, another ball may be substituted.

13. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (eg Temporary Signage Erected for the Event)

The Specimen Local Rule on pages 135-138 is in effect.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE

Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes

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