



2026 LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

Play is governed by the Golf Canada Rules of Golf (effective January 2023), and, where applicable, by the following Local Rules and Terms of the Competition, subject to changes, additions or deletions for particular competitions. Complete text of Local Rules may be found in the Golf Canada Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (available using the R&A or USGA Rules of Golf App).

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)** - Defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white lines, dots or stakes and fence posts defining out of bounds. A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining the boundary of the course.
Closed gates that are attached to boundary walls and fences are part of the boundary object. Relief is not allowed from such a gate under Rules 15.2 or 16.1. **But** an open gate is not treated as part of the boundary object and may be closed or moved to a different position: Model Local Rule F-26 is in effect.
2. **Penalty Areas (Rule 17)** - When a red penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a red penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.
3. **Dropping Zones** - Where a dropping zone is marked, it is an additional option for relief. The dropping zone is a relief area, and the ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.
4. **Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions) (Rule 16)**
 - a. Ground under Repair - Rule 16.1 includes:
 - b. Areas defined by white lines;
 - c. Drainage ditches filled with stones (French drains);
 - d. Seams of Cut Turf – Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect. Interference exists 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. However, 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.
 - e. White-Lined Areas Tied Into Obstructions - White-lined areas and immovable obstructions they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
 - f. No Play Zones – Areas that are ornamental garden beds, turf nurseries or flowerbeds are no play zones that are to be treated as abnormal course conditions. Free relief **must** be taken from interference by the no play zone under Rule 16.1f.
5. **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens** – Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect. For a ball in the general area, relief may be taken under Rule 16.1b when both the ball and the obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less. The ball must be within two club-lengths of the obstruction and the obstruction must be located:
 - a. a. On or within two club lengths of the putting green, and
 - b. b. On the players line of play

6. **Wood Chips and Mulch (Rule 15.1)** - Wood chips and mulch are loose impediments.
7. **Integral Objects** – The following are integral objects from which free relief is not allowed:
 - c. The portion of cables, wires, wrappings and other similar objects closely attached to trees;
 - d. Artificial walls and pilings when located within penalty areas or which are adjacent to the edge of bunkers;
 - e. Bunker liners in their intended position. An exposed bunker liner may be treated as ground under repair by the Committee. However, interference by a bunker liner does not exist if the bunker liner only interferes with a player's stance.
8. **Animals Near Ball** – Model Local Rule E-13 is in effect. An animal that is not defined as a loose impediment and is touching or near a player's ball may be removed. If the ball moves while removing the animal, there is no penalty and the ball must be replaced.
9. **Temporary Immovable Obstructions** – Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect. Temporary Immovable Obstructions include, but are not limited to, starting tents, scoring tents and pace of play stations.
10. **Specifications of 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 the 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 Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: **Disqualification**.
 - d. Broken or Significantly Damaged Club Replaced with Similar Club - Revised Model Local Rule G-9 effective January 2026 is in effect. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – **See Rule 4.1b**.

Note: An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available via www.golfcanada.ca/rules.

11. **Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)** - The player **must** play without delay in accordance with the Unico Primo Junior Golf Tour Pace of Play guidelines in effect. Players are at all times subject to the provisions of Rule 5.6 "Unreasonable Delay; Prompt Pace of Play". In addition, the Committee may establish Pace of Play guidelines including maximum periods of time to complete a round, a hole or a stroke for each event using a time appropriate for the course, playing conditions and the number of players in each group.

Definition of "Out of Position": The first, second and third groups to start will be considered Out of Position if, at any time during the round, they exceed the allotted time established by the Pace of Play guidelines. Subsequent groups will be considered Out of Position if, at any time during the round, they exceed the allotted time and reach any place where there is an open par-3 or par-4 or the preceding group is on the putting green of a par-5 when the group in question is on the teeing ground.

Monitoring and Timing of Group: When a group is Out of Position, it will be at the discretion of the Unico Primo Official whether the players will be warned before timing begins. All players in the group will be subject to monitoring and timing.

Timing: Once a group is determined to be Out of Position, players in the group have a maximum of 40 seconds to play a stroke. The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction. Any time spent determining the yardages will count as time taken for the next stroke. On the putting green, timing will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace his ball, repair his ball mark, or other marks and remove loose impediments on his line of putt.

Penalties: Any player in a group Out of Position who exceeds 40 seconds to play a stroke will be penalized in accordance with Rule 5.6 as follows:

- 1st excessive time - warning.
- 2nd excessive time - one penalty stroke.
- 3rd excessive time - general penalty.
- 4th excessive time - disqualification.

Any player in a group Out of Position who exceeds 40 seconds to play a stroke will be informed as soon as practicable that he or she has been penalized.

Note: Rule 5.6a (Unreasonable Delay) is still applicable.

12. **Stopping and Resuming Play (Rule 5.7)** – Model Local Rule J-1 is in effect as follows:
 - a. **Immediate Suspension** (Dangerous Situation): One prolonged note of the air horn.
 - b. **Normal Suspension** (Non-Dangerous situation): Three short notes of the air horn.
 - c. **Resume Play:** Two short notes of the air horn.

Note: During an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing. Players who fail to do so will be subject to penalties under the Code of Conduct.
13. **Practice (Rules 5.2 and 5.5)**
 - a. **Before or between rounds in Stroke Play** – Model Local Rule I-1.1 is in effect and Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course (except on or near the first teeing area or any practice area) on the day of a competition or between rounds.
 - Penalty for first breach: General Penalty (applied to the player's first hole).
 - Penalty for second breach: Disqualification.
 - b. **Between holes in Stroke Play** – 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:
 - 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. **Transportation** – Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified as follows: During a round, players must not ride on any form of transportation, unless authorized or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation for that purpose.
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.
15. **Caddies (Rule 10.3)** Rule 10.3a is modified in this way: A player must not have a caddie during a round.
16. **Prohibiting or Restricting Use of Audio and Video Devices** - Model Local Rule G-8 is in effect and Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device. Penalty for Breach of Local Rule - see Rule 4.3.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

17. **Scorecard Responsibilities**
 - a. **Scorecard Returned** – A player's scorecard has been returned to the Committee 15 minutes after the last player has completely exited the defined scoring area.
 - b. **Missing Player or Marker Certification** – Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect and Rule 3.3b(2) is modified in this way – If a player returns a scorecard without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the General Penalty. The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.

- c. **Scoring in Stroke Play, (Rule 3.3b(1)) Marker's Responsibility: Entering and Certifying Hole on a Scorecard** - After each hole during a round, the marker should confirm with the player the number of strokes on that hole (including strokes made and penalty strokes) and enter that gross score on the scorecard.
Note: If a marker, who is also a player, knowingly certifies a wrong score for a hole, the marker should be Disqualified under Rule 1.2a.
18. **Ties for Regular Season Events** - In a stroke play competition, ties for first place will be decided by a hole-by-hole playoff. In the event a playoff cannot be conducted; the tie will be decided by matching cards based on the best score for the last nine holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last nine, then the last six holes, last three holes and finally the 18th hole will be used to determine the winner. If the players are still tied, the same process will be used for the front nine.
In match play, in the event of a tied match, (a) the winner is decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off and (b) the round is deemed to extend to as many holes as are required for a match to be won.
Ties for Overall Tour Championship - In the event of two or more players tying for the most points in a division the tie will be broken through a three-hole total stroke playoff. In the event a tie remains after three holes the playoff will continue in sudden death format until a champion is declared.
19. **Meaning of Round** - Unless otherwise posted in the Notice to Players a tournament round for a division will consist of two consecutive 9-hole rounds when all play in a division starts on the same hole. If every player in a division is unable to complete 18 holes but has completed 9 holes and the event is subsequently cancelled, the 9-hole score will count. Every player in that division must complete nine holes for the event to count. When all play in a division does not start on the same hole (e.g. Shotgun start), all members of that division must complete all 18 holes for the event to count.
20. **Close of Competition** –
Stroke Play Championships: The competition is deemed to be closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner, or in the absence of prize ceremonies, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.
21. **Parents and/or Spectators:** A player may be subject to penalty if he/she or any member of his/her party is in violation of the Unico Primo Junior Golf Tour Parent/Spector Policy, which is in effect and posted.
22. **Code of Conduct – (Rule 1.2b)** The Unico Primo Tour has adopted a Local Rule under Rule 1.2b setting standards of player conduct on the golf course during play at all competitions. The full policy is available on the Unico Primo Website. The Committee may assess any or all the following penalties outlined below, based on the severity and frequency of the violation:
- **Warning**
 - **One-stroke penalty**
 - **General penalty**
 - **Disqualification**