

# Bedfordshire Golf Club – Local Rules

Issued: 25 January 2017

These Local Rules override those on the current score card and should be read in conjunction with any Temporary Local Rules currently in force. The latest changes are in **red**.

## **1 Out of Bounds (Rule 27-1)**

A ball is out of bounds if it lies

- a) beyond any boundary of the Course or nearest inside points at ground level of any white stakes bounding the course
- b) in or on any paved area, planted flower/shrub bed or any part of the clubhouse surroundings.

## **2 Water Hazards (Rule 26 - 1)**

The margins of all water hazards are marked by stakes. The stakes indicate the type of hazard (Yellow for ordinary Water Hazard or red for Lateral Water Hazard).

## **3 Protection of the Course**

### **a) *Plantations* – Withdrawn 8 April 2016**

**b) *Young Trees*** – If a young tree identified only as such if supported by a stake, interferes with a player's stance or the area of intended swing, the ball **must** be lifted, without penalty and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 24-2b(i) (Immoveable Obstruction). The area of cultivated ground surrounding staked trees is to be regarded as Ground Under Repair and relief under Rule 25-1b(i) may be taken.

Exception: A player may not obtain relief under this local rule if a) it is clearly unreasonable for the player to play a stroke because of interference by anything other than the tree or b) interference by the tree would only occur through the use of an unnecessary abnormal stance, swing or direction of play.

**c) *Ground Under Repair (Rule 25-1)*** - A player **must** take relief without penalty from any area marked as Ground Under repair.

### **d) *Temporary Greens*. Withdrawn – 12 May 2011**

**e) *Teeing Areas*.** Other than in competitions (Club, County and Higher Organisations) all teeing areas other than that of the hole being played are deemed as Ground Under Repair from which play is prohibited. If a player's ball lies on a teeing area the player must take relief as provided in Rule 25-1b(iv).

## **4 Obstructions (Rule 24)**



**a) Rabbit Guards** – These are integral to the course and relief is not available.

**b) Stones in bunkers** – These are movable obstructions (Rule 24-1 applies).

**c) Paths, roadways and fixed course furniture/structures** – These are immovable obstructions (Rule 24-2b applies).

**PENALTY FOR BREACH OF A LOCAL RULE:**

Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two strokes

**5 Practice Before or Between Rounds (Rule 7-1b)**

The practice putting green and the chipping area to the left of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> fairways are within the bounds of the course. Practice on these areas is permitted prior to, or between rounds of a stroke play competition.

**6 Distance Measuring Devices (DMD) (Rule 14-3)**

Unless the conditions of the competition state otherwise, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind-speed etc), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3

Penalty: Match Play – Loss of Hole; Stroke Play – Two Strokes.

For subsequent offence – Disqualification

**7 Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green**

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1 are modified as follows:

When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their caddies or equipment.

The moved ball or ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 20-1.

This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball-marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

Note: If it is determined that a player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball-marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.

*Notice to be located:*

*Main Entrance Notice Board*