

# Local Rules of the RNZAF Auckland Golf Club Inc. (Rules of Golf- Committee Procedures)

## March 2026

(To be read in conjunction with the Rules on the Scorecard and Players Edition of the Rules of Golf 2019)

### 1. OUT OF BOUNDS (O.O.B). Rules of Golf Definitions & Rule 18

Is defined by **the inside of** the posts of the airfield perimeter security fence, white stakes around: the cart shed, sand storage area, left/right-side of 3<sup>rd</sup>, left side of 17<sup>th</sup> holes, and the Main Runway (Northern) boundary side of the course (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>). The left-hand side of the 7<sup>th</sup> hole is marked by white paint on the side of the cart path and white stakes between the cart path and tee. The O.O.B around the Bomb Dump Area is fenced off by either wire or rope. **The wire or rope does not define the O.O.B (the course side of the orange tipped white posts do).**

### 2. PROHIBITED AREAS

Any O.O.B or Penalty Area defined by orange tipped: white (O.O.B) or red (Penalty Area) wooden stakes/posts (some roped) or orange PVC stakes.

Prohibited Areas are **No Play Zones** and the player must take free relief under Rule 16.1f (2) if his or her ball is on the course (**inbounds or outside an orange tipped penalty area**) and anything in the no play zone (stake, post, wire, rope) interferes with the player's area of intended stance or swing. The player must not play the ball as it lies. A ball in the Bomb Dump Penalty Area on the right side of 18<sup>th</sup> that commences just past the flaxes (orange tipped red posts commence); drop within 2 club lengths of the point of entry with a one shot penalty i.e. normal red penalty area options less the option to the ball play it as it lies.

Prohibited Areas are also marked on the course layout diagram on back of scorecard and on Notice Board.

Entering, or crossing into, any Prohibited Area will result in **DISQUALIFICATION** and **Members will face disciplinary action. Visitors will be escorted from the course.**

The Bitumen aircraft taxiway on the right of the eighth hole/left of 17<sup>th</sup> (defined by orange stakes/rope or orange tipped PVC posts) is a **Prohibited Area** at all times. **If there is an aircraft on any part of this taxiway, holes 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 and 17 are closed; proceed from the 7<sup>th</sup> green to 12<sup>th</sup> hole via the perimeter fence side of 16<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> holes. Proceed from 15<sup>th</sup> green to 18<sup>th</sup> via 16<sup>th</sup> fence line and 7<sup>th</sup> hole (not via 17<sup>th</sup>!).**

Any area defined with orange tipped stakes/posts/ropes i.e. Prohibited Areas, or black stakes are No Play Zones that are to be treated as an abnormal course condition. Free relief **must be taken** from interference by the no play zone under Rule 16.1f."

### 3. TREES UNDER TWO CLUB LENGTHS IN HEIGHT and/or TREES WITH BLUE/Black PAINT ON SUPPORTING STAKES in the General Area are No Play Zones. **No relief for trees supported by unpainted stakes above 2 club lengths in height.**

If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course **other than in a penalty area** and it lies on or touches such a tree or such a tree interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player **must take free relief** under Rule 16.1f.

#### **4. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS. Rule 16-1**

The player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b from an immovable obstruction interfering with a ball lying **outside of a penalty area**. Ball must be dropped in accordance with Rule 14.3 in the Relief Area.

**Immovable Obstructions include: AERIALS, TEE MARKERS, SCREENS, DISTANCE MARKERS, PENALTY AREA MARKERS, G.U.R MARKERS, NO PLAY ZONE MARKERS, SHELTERS, FORMED ROADS/CART PATHS and the PERIMETER SECURITY FENCE CONCRETE FOOTING (not O.O.B stakes or the perimeter security fence poles/netting as these are outside the boundary of the course).**

To get free relief from the perimeter security fence concrete footing the ball **must be inbounds**; see Local Rule 1.

If the ball lies in a Penalty Area, the ball must be either played as it lies or penalty relief must be taken under Rule 17.1b – Options for Ball in Penalty Area.

#### **5. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN.**

The player also has these extra options to take relief when such immovable obstructions are close to the putting green and on the line of play:

**Ball in General Area.** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b if an immovable obstruction is:

On the line of play, and is:

- Within two club-lengths of the putting green, and
- Within two club-lengths of the ball.

**Exception - No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable.** There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

#### **6. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS: Animal Hole, G.U.R, Immovable Obstruction, or Temporary Water. Relief Rule 16.**

**G.U.R defined by: Blue Stakes and/or White Lines.** Includes wheel ruts in General Area and all scoria drains.

Free relief must be taken from GARDENS marked as either G.U.R (blue stakes) or No Play Zone (black stakes). **Any supporting walls/structure around gardens not marked as G.U.R or a No Play Zone are part of the course i.e. no free relief.**

**Bare Ground on a Putting Green** is deemed an Abnormal Course Condition.

If a player's ball is on the Putting Green and there is interference by bare ground to lie of the ball or line of play, free relief may be taken under Rule 16.1d. Place a ball on the spot of the nearest point of complete relief, which must be either on the Putting Green or in the General Area. Relief is not allowed for interference only with the player's stance.

**Paspalum Stalks on Own Fairway.**

If a player's ball lies in a part of the General Area that is closely mown to fairway height or less on the hole being played, and there is interference to the lie of the ball or area of intended swing by a paspalum stalk, free relief may be taken using Rule 16.1b. Drop a ball in the General Area within one club-length of the nearest point of complete relief, no nearer the hole. Relief is not allowed for interference only with the player's stance.

Unless marked as G.U.R. all cart paths and roads are immovable obstructions.

## 7. PREFERRED LIES

When 'preferred lies' is in play it will be displayed (including on printed scorecard) as:

### 1) 'Preferred Lies on Own Closely Mown Fairway'.

When a player's ball **touches** part of the general area cut to fairway height or less on the hole being played as designed, the player **may take free relief once** by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- **Reference Point:** Spot of the original ball, which should be marked.
- **Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:** **15 cm** (scorecard length) from the reference point, but with these limits:
- **Limits on Location of Relief Area:**
  - **Must not be nearer the hole** than the reference point, and
  - Must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e. **But, for the purposes of applying Rule 14.2e, the player has only chosen the spot on which to place the ball once the ball has been set down, and the player has let the ball go with the intent for that ball to be in play.**

**If you to try place your ball but it does not stay on its original spot, you must try a second time. If it still does not stay on this spot place it at the nearest spot where it will stay at rest.**

**Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty under Rule 14.7a.**

### 2) 'Preferred Lies in The General Area'

As per 'Preferred Lies on Own Closely Mown Fairway' above except in the whole General Area.

## Definition of FAIRWAY

For purposes of this Local Rule, "fairway" means any area of grass in the general area that is cut to fairway height or less.

## 8. Drains

a. The swale to the left of the 1<sup>st</sup> hole leading up to and into the red-staked Penalty Area is in play, **no relief** without penalty.

b. The drain adjacent to the 18<sup>th</sup> Tee Block running down to the red-staked Penalty Area, whilst not marked is G.U.R., free relief.

## 9. Ball Not Found or Out of Bounds

When a player's ball has **not been found** or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player must proceed in accordance with Rule 18 or use the *Alternate to Stroke and Distance* option:

In addition to Rule 18.2 covering a ball lost or out of bounds:

When a players ball has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under stroke and distance. For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this relief areas (see Rule 14.3):

### Two estimated Reference Points:

(a) **Ball reference Point:** the point where the original ball is estimated to have:

- Come to rest on the course, or

- Last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds.

(b) **Fairway reference point:** the point of the fairway of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but is not nearer the hole than the ball reference point.**

For purposes of this Local Rule, 'fairway' means any part of the general area cut to fairway height of less.

If the ball is estimated to be lost on the course or last crossed the edge of the course boundary short of the fairway, the fairway reference point may be a grass path or a teeing ground for the hole being played cut to fairway height of less.

But the player **may not use this option** to take relief for the original ball when:

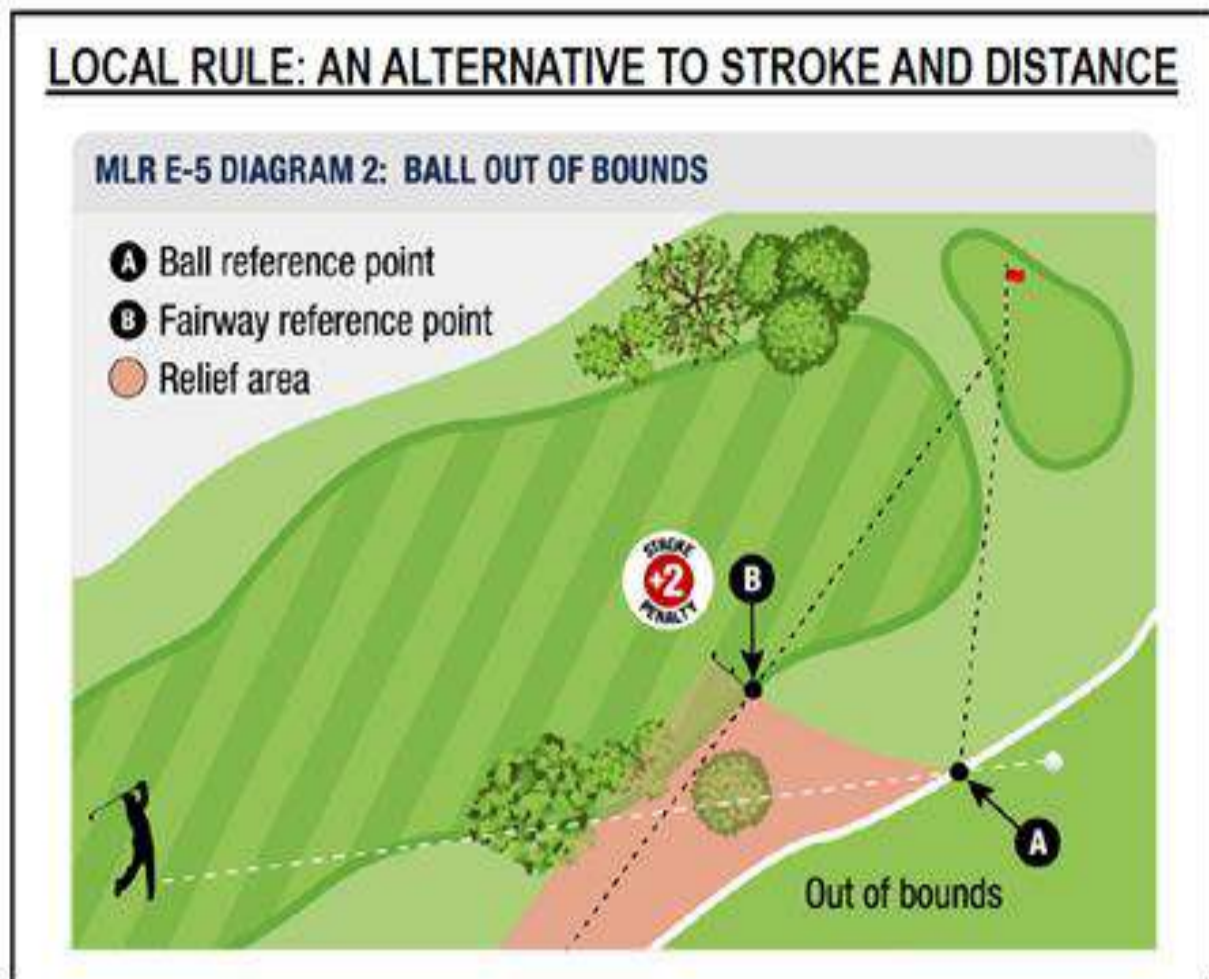
(a) That ball is known or virtually **certain to have come to rest in a penalty area.** Or,

(b) The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of stroke and distance (see Rule 18.3).

## LOCAL RULE: AN ALTERNATIVE TO STROKE AND DISTANCE



**ONLY ACTIVE IF LOCAL RULE PUBLISHED IN FULL AT THE CLUB**

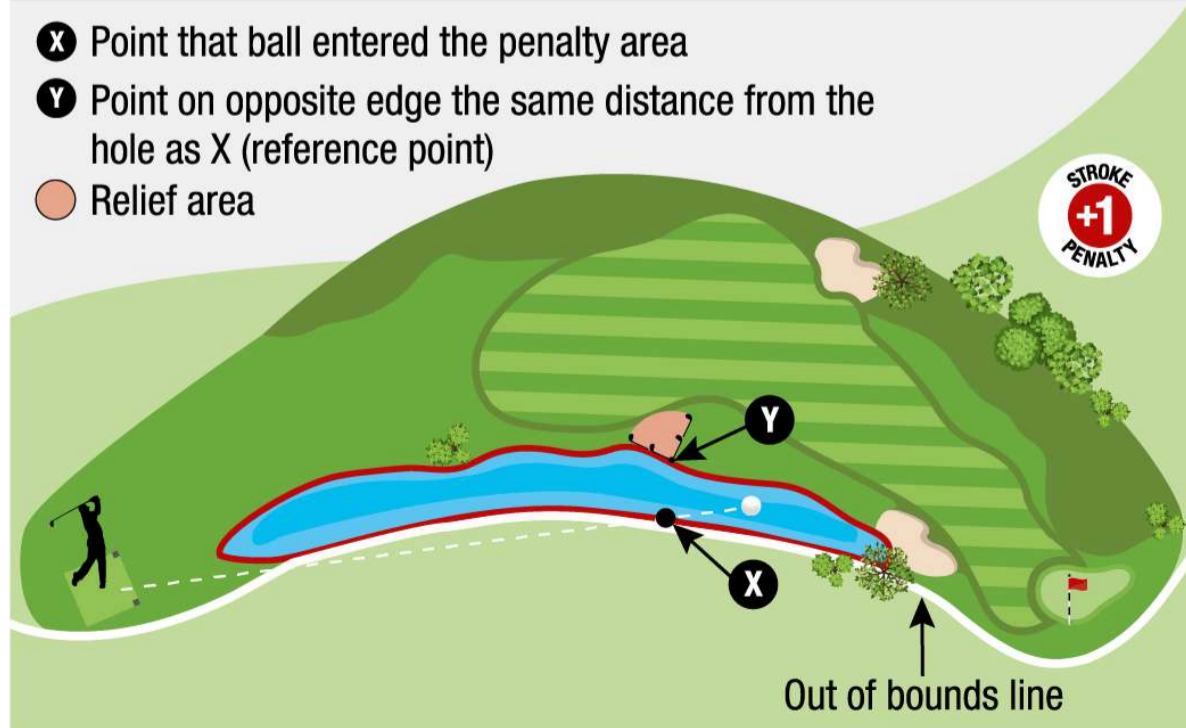


**10. Penalty Area.** When a player's ball is in a penalty area, including when it is known or virtually certain to be in a Penalty Area even though not found, the player may take relief using one of the options under Rule 17.1d. **Exception see Rule 4.**

**Or,** when the ball last crossed the edge of the **red penalty area between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes,** as an extra relief option adding one penalty stroke, the player may drop the original ball or another ball on the opposite side of the penalty area:

- **Reference Point:** The estimated point on the opposite edge of the penalty area that is the same distance from the hole as the estimated point where the original ball last crossed the edge of the red penalty area.
- **Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:** Two club-lengths, but with these limits:
- **Limits on Location of Relief Area:**
  - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
  - May be in any area of the course except the same penalty area.
- ***Explanation Note: for this Red Penalty area only, the same options are available as per the 2016 Lateral Hazard rules. This is the only Red Penalty area on the course where this option is available.***

**MLR B-2.1 AND B-2.2: RELIEF ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF RED PENALTY AREA**



**Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.**

**11. Exposed Tree Roots.** If your ball is at rest in the General Area, and is more than one club length from the base of a tree, and there is interference from exposed tree roots, the tree roots are treated as ground under repair (GUR). The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. **No relief for interference to player's stance alone, must affect swing.**

## **12. Compulsory Drop Zone(s) (DZs) on 9th Hole.**

The following Abnormal Course Conditions between the left side of 9th hole adjacent to the 14th tee box area, are considered to be a **single** Abnormal Course Condition:

- The blue-staked GUR area of hedge.
- The safety fence that lies between the blue-staked area and the path.
- The formed path between the safety fence and 14th tee box.

When the lie of the ball results in any interference to the player's stance or area of intended swing by any part of this **single** Condition, **the only relief available without penalty** is to drop the original ball or another ball in the nearest DZ to where the ball lies, not closer to the hole.

There are two DZs (DZ 1 & DZ 2) located on the 9th hole side of the Abnormal Course Conditions. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.

The player **must not take nearest point relief under Rule 16.1**, but **may take** Stroke and Distance **penalty relief** or one of the other **penalty** relief options under Unplayable Ball - Rule 19, if preferred.

Penalty for playing a ball from a Wrong Place in breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty under Rule 14.7a.

## **14. PENALTY FOR BREAKING LOCAL RULES**

Stroke Play – General Penalty (two strokes).

Match Play – Loss of Hole.

**15. General Area.** The *area of the course* that covers all of the course **except** for the other four defined areas:

1. The *teeing area* you must play from in starting **the hole you are playing.**
2. All *penalty areas.*
3. All *bunkers,* and
4. The *putting green* of **the hole you are playing.**