

Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club - Local Rules - 2 March 2026

(To be read in conjunction with the Rules of Golf)

Penalty for a breach of local rules

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, THE PENALTY FOR BREACH OF A LOCAL RULE IS THE GENERAL PENALTY: Stroke Play - Two Strokes | Match Play - Loss of Hole

Local Rules

Drop Zones - Red and Blue Penalty Areas (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 18th)

If a player's ball is in a Penalty Area identified by red stakes with blue tops, including when it is known or virtually certain to be in that Penalty Area even though not found, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke:

- The player may take stroke-and-distance relief under Rule 17.1d(1);
- The player may take relief under Rule 17.1; or
- The player may drop the original ball or another ball in the nearest dropping zone to the point at which the original ball last crossed the edge of the red/blue penalty area. Drop Zones are marked by blue stakes and are relief areas under Rule 14.3.
- Where a blue stake is not present (such as due to vandalism) the player should take relief from the penalty area as close as possible to the point at which the ball last crossed the hazard, but not closer to the hole – this may mean taking more than the club length relief allows for in Rule 17.1d.

Drop Zone - 14th Hole

If a player's ball is in the Red Penalty Area identified by the water between the 14th, 16th and 18th holes, including when it is known or virtually certain to be in that penalty area even though not found, the player has these relief options, each for one penalty stroke:

- The player MAY take stroke-and-distance relief under Rule 17.1d(1);
- The player MAY take relief under Rule 17.1; or
- The player may drop the original ball or another ball in the Drop Zone identified by the blue stake. The Drop Zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3.
- Where a blue stake is not present (such as due to vandalism) the player should drop the ball within 2 club lengths of the permanent Drop Zone marker.

Abnormal Course Conditions in Bunkers

If a Bunker is marked by a stake, it is GUR. If the player's ball lies in or touches the GUR or the GUR interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player MAY take free relief under Rule 16.1b.

Exposed matting in a bunker is an Abnormal Course Condition. If your ball lies on or your swing is obstructed by that matting, the player MAY take free relief under Rule 16.1 (within one club length from the nearest point of complete relief) - the ball must be dropped in the bunker.

All other bunkers on the course, whether they contain temporary water or not, are still bunkers for all purposes under the Rules, and should be played in accordance with Rule 16.1c as follows:

- Free relief under Rule 16.1b, except that the nearest point of complete relief and the relief area must be in the bunker. If there is no such nearest point of complete relief in the bunker, you MAY still take relief by using the point of maximum available relief in the bunker as the reference point.
- Penalty Relief by playing from outside the bunker (back on the line relief) for a one stroke penalty.

Out of Bounds (Rule 18)

Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white stakes and fence posts. Where the boundary is a wall, the course-side edge of the wall at ground level defines the boundary of the course.

A ball coming to rest beyond the fence at the rear of the 5th hole is out of bounds, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course that is in bounds for other holes.

No Play Zones

Free relief MUST be taken from designated No Play Zones under rule 16.1f. No Play Zones include:

- *Staked Garden Beds*
 - Any area defined by white stakes with green tops are No Play Zones. Free relief MUST be taken under Rule 16.1f
- *Other No Play Zones*
 - Other areas of the course may be designated No Play Zones from time to time, for example, sanded areas. These will be clearly marked with “NPZ”.

Ground Under Repair (GUR)

GUR is defined by areas encircled by a white line. All clearly defined wheel ruts made by course maintenance machinery are to be treated as GUR even when not encircled by a white line. All GUR areas are Abnormal Course Conditions, and relief MAY be taken from interference under Rule 16.1b.

Garden Beds

Garden beds surrounded by formed concrete or timber edging (including everything growing within that area) and the concrete or timber edging are treated as GUR, and free relief MAY be taken under Rule 16.1. Garden beds containing a white stake with a green top are a No Play Zone and free relief MUST be taken.

Aeration Holes

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole on the Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or the player's line of play. Aeration holes are not damage to the green and consequently are not allowed to be repaired.

Young Trees

Staked trees and shrubs, including any stakes and/or protective guards, are No Play Zones. Free relief **MUST** be taken in accordance with Rule 16.1b.

Immovable Obstructions (Rule 16)

All manholes covered with artificial turf, 100/150m distance markers, protruding bunker linings, stakes, irrigation control boxes and fixed sprinkler heads on the course are treated as immovable obstructions from which free relief **MAY** be taken under Rule 16.1.

Ball in the 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 is clearly unreasonable. There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

Relief from Roads and Paths

All roads and paths on the course, even if not artificially surfaced, are treated as immovable obstructions from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.

Power Lines

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line or tower or a wire or pole supporting a power line during the play of any hole, the stroke does not count. The player **MUST** play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made (see Rule 8E-11)

Suspension of Play

A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by one prolonged air-horn blast. All other suspensions will be signalled by three consecutive air-horn blasts. In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by two short air-horn blasts. See Rule 5.7b.

Precedence of Local Rules

The Local Rules on the Mi Club App are the official club local rules and take precedence over any other local rules displayed at the club. The local rules on the back of the scorecard are for information only and may differ from the official local rules from time to time.