



ENGLISH

2023 THAI LPGA TOUR LOCAL RULES AND TERMS OF COMPETITION HARD CARD

The Rules of Golf by the R&A and the following Local Rules and Terms of Competition govern play.

The following Local Rules apply to Thai LPGA Tour events. For the full text of the Local Rules and Terms of Competition, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2023 and the Clarifications of the 2023 Rules of Golf as published by the R&A Rules Limited.

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

These Local Rules, together with the Additional Local Rules published at each tournament, will apply until further notice to all tournaments under the auspices of Thai LPGA Tour:

1. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

- (a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.
- (b) A ball that comes to rest beyond a road defining out of bounds, is out of bounds, even though it may come to rest on another part of the course.
- (c) Closed gates 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.

2. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

- (a) **Opposite Side Same Distance Relief for Red Penalty Areas**
The Tournament Additional Local Rules will specify which (if any) red penalty areas have a same distance option on the opposite side. Model Local Rule B-2.1 will apply only to the Penalty Areas that are listed.
- (b) **Opposite Side Relief Where Ball Last Crossed Edge of Penalty Area Where the Edge and the Boundary of the Course Coincide**
When a player's ball last crosses the edge of a penalty area where the edge of the penalty area and a boundary of the course coincide, that edge is deemed red and opposite side relief is available under Model Local Rule B-2.2.
- (c) **Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas**
Where a dropping zone is marked for a penalty area, labelled DZ, it is an additional option under a penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3, meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

3. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16.1)

A. Ground Under Repair

- (1) All areas bounded by white lines including spectator crossing points where marked.
- (2) Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
- (3) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
- (4) For holes left by movable obstructions in parts of the general area, free relief is available for lie of ball or area of intended swing, but there is no relief for interference to the stance.

B. Immovable Obstructions

- (1) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are a single abnormal course condition.
- (2) Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are completely surrounded by an

immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition.

- (3) Mats that are secured and all ramps covering cables (anything which is secured or fastened is not considered “readily movable” if it has to be unfastened to be moved).
- (4) Roads or paths surfaced with woodchip or mulch. Individual pieces of woodchip are loose impediments.
- (5) Non-permanent bridges erected for players or spectators unless otherwise defined on the Additional Local Rules sheet.
- (6) The part of wires or temporary cables located outside penalty areas when they are fixing positions for those floating sponsor boards located within the penalty area and cannot be moved.

C. Temporary Water

Model Local Rule J-2 is in effect and is modified in this way:

When temporary water accumulates on the putting green, relief is available under Rule 16.1d, or:

- (i) The putting green may be squeegeed between groups.
- (ii) The player may have their line of play on the putting green squeegeed.
- (iii) Only when authorized by the Committee, the player may have the putting green squeegeed when a ball lies adjacent to the putting green in any area of the course.

D. Embedded Ball

Model Local Rule F-2.2 is in effect and Rule 16.3 is modified in this way:

Free relief is not allowed when a ball is embedded in the stacked turf face above a bunker.

4. 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 if (i) an immovable obstruction is on the line of play and is on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball, and (ii) both the ball and the obstruction lie in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less.

5. Green-Reading Materials Restrictions.

Model Local Rule G-11 is in effect.

Only Committee Approved materials may be used. Approved materials include:

- (i) Committee approved yardage books from 2022 onwards.
Note: this does not apply to amateurs playing solely in Pro – Am competitions.
- (ii) Committee approved hole locations sheets.
- (iii) Map of the competition course no larger than an A4 sized piece of paper.

6. Integral Objects

- (a) Bunker liners in their intended position.
- (b) Wires, cables, wrappings or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- (c) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located within penalty areas.
- (d) Artificial retaining walls and/or pilings when located on the edge of bunkers. These are part of the general area.
- (e) Floating sponsor display boards in penalty areas (no line of sight relief allowed). Wires or cables anchoring them are temporary cables.

Note: When cables are located outside the penalty area, the cables are immovable obstructions.

7. Permanent Overhead Power Line

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only if it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball strikes a power line located in bounds and not supporting pole/pylon. The player must replay the stroke (see Rule 14.6).

8. Temporary Lines and Cables

Model Local Rule F-22 is in effect.

Drones

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hits a drone in flight and in bounds, the player must replay the stroke by playing the original ball or another ball from the spot where that stroke was made (see Rule 14.6).

Note: If the player replays the stroke but does so from a wrong place, they get the general penalty under Rule 14.7. If the player does not replay the stroke, they get the general penalty and the stroke counts, but the player has not played from a wrong place.

9. Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIO)

Model Local Rule F-23 is in effect

(a) **Either Side Relief.**

The Tournament Additional Local Rules will specify which TIOs have an either side option. Either side relief is restricted to **line of sight relief only**. Note: This does not apply when the player chooses to operate under Rules 16.1 for relief. Either side relief is always available as an extra option for line-of-sight interference from:

- all TV towers & leaderboards when they stand alone.

(b) **Dropping Zone (DZ) Policy**

In the general area, when a player's ball lies in or on a TIO or so close to the TIO that it interferes with the stance or area of intended swing and relief is required, the player may:

- proceed under any of the options allowed under the TIO Local Rule or Rule 16.1, or
 - if dropping zones have been marked, as an additional option, the player may drop the original ball or another ball, without penalty, in the nearest dropping zone. This is true even if it is nearer the hole. The "DZ" is a relief area under Rule 14.3 meaning a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the dropping zone.
- (c) When a TIO is tied into another TIO or an immovable obstruction by a white line, it is treated to be one TIO.

10. 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 this 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 Balls.** Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect.

Penalty for making a stroke in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

(d) **One Ball Rule.** Model Local Rule G-4 is in effect. (Exception: This Local Rule does not apply to Professional or Amateur players in any pre-tournament Pro-Am or approved one-day event or to amateurs who partner professional players in a major Pro-Am Tournament). Penalty for making a stroke at a ball in breach of this Local Rule: The player gets one penalty stroke for each hole during which they are in breach of this Local Rule.

(e) **Replacing Club that is Broken or Significantly Damaged:** Model Local Rule G-9 for replacement of a club in effect.

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: See penalty under Rule 4.1b.

(f) **46 -inches Club Length Limitation:** Model Local Rule G-10 is in effect. This is also in effect in a Pro-Am played as the official competition. Exception: This rule will not apply to amateurs playing solely in Pro-Am competitions. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.

11. Stopping Play; Resuming Play (Rule 5.7)

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

- Immediate Stop/ Dangerous Situation - 1 prolonged note of the siren.
- Normal Non-Dangerous Stop - 3 consecutive short notes of the siren.
- Resume play - 2 consecutive short notes of the siren.

Note: When play is stopped in a Dangerous Situation, all practice areas are immediately closed.

12. Practice (Rule 5)

- (a) **Before or Between Rounds in Stroke Play – Model Local Rule I –1.1** is in effect. Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practice on the competition course but may practice on the designated practice areas.

Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule:

First Breach: General Penalty

Second Breach: Disqualification

- (b) **Between the play of two holes – Model Local Rule I – 2** is in effect. Rule 5.5b is modified in this way: 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.

Penalty for Breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty

If the breach happens between two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.

13. Distance Measuring Devices (Rule 4.3a)

Model Local Rule G-5 is in effect. Rule 4.3a(1) is modified in this way:

During a round, a player must not obtain distance information using an electronic distance measuring device during any tournament counting towards the Order of Merit.

Penalty for breach of Rule 4.3: See penalty statement in Rule 4.3.

Note: First breach – General Penalty

Second breach – Disqualification

14. Transportation Policy

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect:

During a round a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Rules Committee.

Note: a player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized.

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: 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. Modification of Penalty Under Rule 3.3b(2) for Missing Player or Marker Certification

Model Local Rule L-1 is in effect. 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.

16. Starting Round and Pace of Play Policy. Rule 5.3a and Rule 5.6b(3)

- (a) The official starting time is displayed at the tournament official notice board.

- (b) The 2023 Thai LPGA Tour Pace of Play Policy as defined within Member Handbook is in effect. Fines for multiple "Timing Sessions", "Bad Times" or "Excessive Shot Times" in an Official Season are detailed within this Policy. Additionally the following penalties apply:

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Stroke Play

1st bad time in the Tournament - Verbal warning from Referee.

2nd bad time in the Tournament - 1 stroke penalty and 2,000 Baht fine.

3rd bad time in the Tournament - 2 strokes penalty and 3,000 Baht fine.

4th bad time in the Tournament - Disqualification and 5,000 Baht fine.

Penalty for Breach of Pace of Play Policy in Match Play

For these tournaments, the penalties will be defined on the local rules sheet.

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULES APPLY IN THAI LPGA TOUR COMPETITIONS ONLY

Temporary Immovable Obstructions – Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to: Flightscope, fixed TV poles, all fixed clocks, advertising boards fixed to other temporary immovable obstructions or advertising boards and hole number distance indicators that are **situated around teeing areas**.

Movable Obstructions – Definitions

Examples include but are not limited to: free-standing advertising boards **situated away from teeing areas**, drinks dispensers that are on wheels or easily lifted, all cameras and their tripods, TV microphones, free standing scoring and data masts or tripods and all crossing point indicators.

Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16.1)

- (a) Restriction on Relief from Stance in Animal Hole.

Rule 16.1a is modified in this way: Interference does not exist if the animal hole interferes with only the player's stance.

- (b) Yardage Spots or Lines.

Painted lines or dots in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less are treated as ground under repair from which relief is allowed under Rule 16.1b. but, interference does not exist if painted lines or dots interfere with only the player's stance.

- (c) Staked Trees are immovable obstructions.

Concrete Drainage Channels

Model Local Rule F-20 is in effect.

Drainage channels that are made of artificial materials and run next to cart paths are treated as immovable obstructions in the general area and are part of the cart path. A player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b.

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. Deciding Ties

Unless otherwise stated, if there is a tie for first place, there will be a hole-by-hole play-off to determine the winner.

2. Scoring Area and Scorecard Returned.

The location of the Scoring Area will be detailed each week in the Tournament Additional Local Rules sheet. The scorecard is returned when the player leaves the scoring area with both feet. Score Recorders are part of "The Committee".

3. Results of Competition - Competition Closed

The result of the tournament is final when the official results have been validated in the scoring system by the score recorder and approved by the Committee.

4. Anti-Doping

Players are required to comply with and be bound by the International Golf Federation (IGF) Anti-Doping Policy which is published at <https://www.igfgolf.org>

Note: Players should be aware that under the Anti-Doping Policy, if a player is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation, he may face disqualification from the tournament at which he was tested (or otherwise committed the violation) and also from any subsequent tournament in which he participated until provisionally suspended or rendered ineligible under the Policy. Disqualification in such cases includes the loss of all results, points and prize monies.