



Kelowna Golf & Country Club - Terms of Competition & Local Rules

Play is governed by the **2024 Golf Canada Rules of Golf** and, where applicable, the following Local Rules and Terms of Competition. These may be subject to change for specific championships at Kelowna Golf & Country Club (KGCC). Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is:

- **Match Play:** Loss of hole
- **Stroke Play:** Two (2) strokes

1. Code of Conduct (Rule 1.2a)

All players must adhere to standards of conduct during championships.

2. Damaged Clubs (Rule 4.1a and 4.1a(3) – Modified)

Clubs “broken or significantly damaged” during play (except through abuse) may be replaced. A damaged club must immediately be declared out of play. A club is considered broken/damaged if:

- Shaft broken, splintered, or bent.
- Club face or head visibly deformed (Cracked face/head alone does not qualify.)
- Head detached/loose.
- Grip loose.

3. Use of Green-Reading Materials (Rule 4.3)

Players and caddies may add handwritten notes to approved yardage books or hole location sheets, but only based on personal experience and observation. Devices such as levels to gather information are not permitted.

4. Distance Measuring Devices (Rule 4.3a(1))

Devices that measure distance only are permitted. Any feature measuring wind, elevation, or similar must be turned off.

5. Pace of Play (Rule 5.6)

Players are subject to penalty if they breach the posted guidelines:

- **KGCC Pace of Play Guidelines**
 - Maximum time for 18 holes: **4 hours 30 minutes.**
 - A group is out of position if:
 - On a par 4/5, there is a clear hole ahead; or
 - Average time per hole exceeds 15 minutes.
- **Timing & Penalties:**
 - Each player has 40 seconds to play (50 if first to play).
 - Warnings and penalties for repeated breaches:
 1. 1st Offense (2 bad times): Warning
 2. 2nd Offense (3 bad times): One-stroke penalty
 3. 3rd Offense (4 bad times): Two-stroke penalty
 4. 4th Offense (5 bad times): Disqualification

Timings carry over between holes. Penalties are applied at the hole where the breach occurred. Groups finishing beyond 4h30 and more than 12 minutes behind the group ahead will be penalized on the final hole.

6. Suspension of Play (Rule 5.7)

- The course and practice areas are closed when play is suspended due to danger until reopened by the Tournament Committee. Practice during suspension results in disqualification.
- Signals:
 - One prolonged air horn: Dangerous situation (immediate stop).
 - Three consecutive blasts: Normal suspension.
 - Two short blasts: Resumption of play.

7. Practice (Rules 5.2 & 5.5)

- **Stroke Play:** No practice on the competition course before or between rounds.
Penalties:
 - First breach: General Penalty
 - Second breach: Disqualification
- **During play,** no practice strokes or testing of a completed green. See MLR I-2
- **Match Play:** No practice on the competition course before the first match or between matches.

8. Abnormal Course Conditions (Rule 16)

- **Ground Under Repair (GUR):**

- Areas marked by white lines (excluding OB).
- The driving range/short game area right of holes 6 & 7 are in play, whereas:
 - Practice bunkers within the short game area are GUR.
 - Short Game area greens and the secondary green on hole 14 are wrong greens — mandatory free relief.
- The turf nursery between holes 16–18: free relief within one club length, no nearer the hole.
- **Immovable Obstructions:**
- The worn edges/extensions of a cart path, including unpaved areas, are treated as Ground Under Repair. Free relief may be taken from the resulting interference with lie, stance, or swing by finding the Nearest Point of Relief, no closer to the hole. (See MLR F-3)
- Additionally:
 - Hole 2: Gravel cart path
 - Hole 7: Gravel road left of fairway and paved cart path (Specifically, behind the green) - no relief if fence interferes.
 - Hole 9: Tennis courts/paved area to the right of 9 green.
 - Hole 12: Pump house, electrical boxes, maintenance buildings and adjacent roadways, including the maintenance path that parallels hole 12.

9. Penalty Areas (Rule 17)

- Red Penalty Areas extend to infinity unless otherwise defined.

10. Out of Bounds (Rule 18.2)

- Defined by the course-side points of white stakes and/or posts at ground level.
- A ball is out of bounds when beyond any wall that defines the boundary of the course.
- **Hole 6:** The entire left side is out of bounds.
- A ball crossing a public road defined as out of bounds, and coming to rest beyond it, is out of bounds even if on another part of the course.

11. Integral Objects: No relief is permitted from:

- Rock or artificial retaining walls adjacent to tees or within penalty areas.

12. Model Local Rules:

- **MLR B-3: Provisional Ball – Hole 14**

- If a player does not know whether their ball is in the penalty area on Hole 14, the player may play a provisional ball under Rule 18.3, which is modified in this way: In playing the provisional ball, the player may use the stroke-and-distance relief option (see Rule 17.1d(1)), the back-on-the-line relief option (see Rule 17.1d(2)) or, the lateral relief option (see Rule 17.1d(3)). Once the player has played a provisional ball under this Local Rule, they may not use any further options under Rule 17.1 in relation to the original ball. In deciding when that provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play or if it must or may be abandoned, Rule 18.3c(2) and 18.3c(3) apply except that:
- When Original Ball Is Found in Penalty Area Within Three-Minute Search Time. The player may choose either to:
 - Continue to play the original ball as it lies in the penalty area, in which case the provisional ball must not be played. All strokes with that provisional ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count, or
 - Continue to play the provisional ball, in which case the original ball must not be played.
- When Original Ball Is Not Found Within Three-Minute Search Time or Is Known or Virtually Certain to Be in Penalty Area. The provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play.
- **MLR E-5: Alternative to Stroke & Distance:** Is not permitted during championships. Proceed under Rule 18.3 (Provisional Ball)
- **MLR F-3: Ground Under Repair Treated as Part of Nearby Obstruction**
 - Where areas of damaged ground are right next to artificially surfaced roads or paths, they are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.
- **MLR F-5: Immoveable Obstruction Relief Close to Putting Greens:** available in the general area if:
 - The obstruction is on the line of play,
 - Within two club lengths of the putting green, and
 - Within two club lengths of the ball.
- **MLR F-23: Temporary Immovable Obstructions**
 - Includes, but not limited to, starting and scoring tents, storage cans and tent on the tennis court.

- **MLR G-1: Conforming Driver Heads:** Required. Penalty: Disqualification.
- **MLR G-3: Conforming Balls:** Required. Penalty: Disqualification.
- **MLR G-10: Club Length Limitation:** Required. Penalty: Disqualification
 - Except for putters, no club longer than 46 inches may be used to make a stroke. Carrying a non-conforming club without use is not a penalty.
- **MLR I-2: Prohibiting Practicing on or Near Previous Putting Green**
 - 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.

13. Returning Scorecards

- A scorecard is deemed returned when the player has fully exited the defined scoring area, unless prior notice is given to and approved by the Committee.

14. Ties

- **First Place (Stroke Play):** Decided by hole-by-hole playoff (Holes 15–18).
- **Other Ties:** Resolved using USGA Retrogression for single round events & Modified USGA Retrogression for multi round events

15. Close of Competition

- **Match Play:** When the result is recorded in the Championship Office.
- **Stroke Play:** When all scores are posted on the Official Scoreboard and approved by the KGCC Rules Committee.

Kelowna Golf & Country Club Tournament Rules Committee