

GLOUCESTER GOLF CLUB BYE-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS

1 INTERPRETATION OF BYE-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS:

a) Any dispute or difference which may arise as to the meaning of the Byelaws, Rules and Regulations, or as to the powers of any Committee, or the validity of any proceedings at any meeting of The Club, or any Committee, or any matter in any way whatsoever or howsoever affecting or connected with The Club and not provided for by these Byelaws, Rules or Regulations there under, or any member, shall be determined by the Proprietor and General Committee whose decision shall be final and binding on all members.

b) A copy of the Club's Rules, Regulations and Bye-laws shall at all times be available and accessible in the Clubhouse.

2. LOCAL RULES - RULES OF GOLF:

a) Out of Bounds (Rule 27)

i) Beyond any fence or hedge forming the boundaries of the course and over the dirt road to the left of the 11th fairway.

ii) On or over any white lines/stakes to the right of the 1st, 2nd, 12th and 13th fairways and to the left of the 17th fairway

iii) On or over the road to the left of the 10th fairway between the white marker posts. The first post being situated adjacent to the 10th tee and the second post being situated adjacent to the 10th green.

iv) The Club Car Park and Clubhouse surrounds, including all flower beds.

iv) Where there are white lines and stakes the white line and stakes defines the boundary, both the white lines and stakes being out of bounds.

vi) To the left of the 1st fairway, left of the 2nd tee box and left of the 8th fairway on the purpose built driving range.

b) Water Hazards (Rule 26)

i) All ditches and ponds marked with red posts are LATERAL water hazards. A ball lying within the hazard may be played as it lies, or lifted and dropped within 2 club lengths either side of the hazard, not near the hole and under penalty of 1 shot.

ii) All ditches and ponds marked with a yellow post are ordinary water hazards from which a ball can be played as it lies (without grounding club) or lifted and dropped behind the hazard, keeping the point at which the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard directly between the flag and the spot on which it is to be dropped, under penalty of 1 shot.

iii) Stakes and any lines defining the margins of the hazards are part of the hazard, while both red and yellow posts are immovable obstructions and cannot be touched or moved when the ball is in the hazard. Rule 24.2

iv) A ball cannot be lost in either type hazard. Rule 26.1

v) With regard to the water hazard at the 1st hole and when considering the difficulties of deciding where a ball in the hazard last crossed the margins of the hazard with a view to dropping within the rules, the following Rule will apply. In addition to options listed under rule 26-1 & 2, a player may elect to use the dropping zone located adjacent to the right of the Ladies tee. Relief taken using either option is under penalty of one shot.

c) Ground Under Repair (Rule 25)

i) Abnormal ground conditions encircled by a white line on any part of the course, winter greens when in play, and any other area the Committee for the time being designate as GUR, such as clay cracks during dry weather, may be treated as GUR and relief, without penalty, may be taken under Rule 25-1 b

ii) Deep tractor marks and ground damaged or inadequately restored following course workings, such as drainage, are to be treated as GUR from which relief may be taken without penalty under Rule 25-1 b

iii) Interference by a "wrong putting green", i.e. any putting green other than the one being played, including the practice green, occurs when a ball in play comes to rest on the wrong putting green. Relief, without penalty, may be taken under Rule 25-3. However interference to a player's stance or the area of his intended swing is not, of itself: interference under this Rule.

iv) Where a spare hole plug or damage caused by rabbits on the putting green interferes with a players stance, or the line of the putt, relief may be taken. The ball may be lifted and placed at the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole. Rule 24-1 applies.

d) Obstructions Rule 24

i) Young trees staked, or protected with a plastic guard or other material, are to be treated as immovable obstructions. If such a tree interferes with a player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the ball MUST be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedures described in Rule 24-2b.

ii) All manufactured stakes and posts, artificial roads, shale paths and any other artificial obstruction, such as the protection fence running along the right side of the 5th fairway, seats, waste bins etc., within the bounds of the course are immovable obstructions and relief, without penalty, may be taken in accordance with Rule 24-2. Conversely stones in bunkers and hoop protection (by the green) are movable obstructions, Rule 24-1.

iii) All fixed sprinkler heads are immovable obstructions and relief, without penalty, from any interference by them may be obtained under Rule 24-2b. In addition if such an obstruction on or within two club lengths of the putting green of the hole being played intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may obtain relief, without penalty as follows; if the ball lies off the putting green but not in a hazard and is within two club lengths of the intervening obstruction, it may be lifted, cleaned and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay which is not nearer the hole, avoids such interference and is not in a hazard or on putting green.

iv) All bridges and dirt paths are integral parts of the course. A ball lying on a bridge must be played as it lies or relief taken under penalty of one shot.

Note: The *nearest point of relief* is the reference point for taking relief, without penalty, from interference by an *immovable obstruction* Rule 24-1, an *abnormal ground condition* Rule 25-1 or a *wrong putting green* Rule 25-3. It is the point on the *course*, nearest to where the ball lies, which is not nearer the hole and at which, if the ball were so positioned, no interference (as defined) would exist. Relief is one club length from that *Reference point* and the player should determine his nearest point of relief by using the club with which he expects to play his next shot, to simulate the address position and swing for such stroke.

f) Preferred Lies (Winter Rules).

(i) When the Committee decide to implement preferred lies (winter rules) the following rule will apply: a ball lying on any *closely mown area* of the course, which includes paths through the rough cut to fairway height or less, *through the green* may, without penalty, be moved, or may be lifted, cleaned and placed within 6 inches of where it originally lay, but not nearer the hole, in a hazard or on a putting green. A player may move or place his ball once and after the ball has been so moved or placed, it is in play Rule 25-1. The position of the ball so moved or lifted must be marked prior to the ball being moved or lifted Rule 20-1.

(ii) During winter competitions or adverse weather conditions when temporary tees and greens are in use, they shall be deemed "tees and greens of the day".

(iii) When temporary greens are in use and a ball comes to rest on the putting green proper, of the hole in play, it must be dropped from that green, without penalty, at the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole.

g) Embedded Ball Rule 25-2

A ball embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground in any *closely mown area through the green* may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible where it lay keeping that spot directly on a line between the flag-stick and the spot on which the ball is dropped, not nearer the hole. In addition during any severe adverse weather conditions the Competitions Committee may make a *temporary local rule* that a ball which is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground, other than sand, *anywhere through the green* may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must strike a part of the course through the green.

Exception: A player may not obtain relief under this *temporary local rule* if it is clearly unreasonable for him to play a stroke because of interference by anything other than the condition covered by the temporary rule.

h) Suspension of Play due to a Dangerous Situation Rule 6-8

(i) During any competition and when the Committee because of any dangerous situation suspends play, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he shall be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving such penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

(ii) The signal for suspending play due to a dangerous situation will be a prolonged blast of the Klaxon, and to resume play two short blasts of the Klaxon, repeated.

Penalty for breach of local rule - match play, loss of hole, stroke play 2 strokes.

i) Distance Measuring Device.

Following recent instruction from the R & A and the Gloucestershire County, the Management Committee has agreed to allow the use of satellite devices on buggies and any other measuring devices which only have a measuring function. Any DMD that has other functions, such as wind speed and direction will not be allowed in Club competitions. Penalty for use will be disqualification.

General Information and Instructions from the Committee will be posted on the changing room notice boards and all members will be deemed to have read and to have received good notice of said information and instruction unless otherwise provided by Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws and Local Rules.