

# **LOCAL RULES**

**Updated 14.01.2026**

## **1. Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green**

If a ball lies in the General Area and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball, intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief, without penalty.

## **2. Immovable Obstructions include**

- (a) All pegs (except those defining out of bounds) i.e. Red (Penalty Area), Yellow (Penalty Area), White (GUR and 150 metre markers), Blue (100 metre markers) and Pink (location for new trees)
- (b) All sprinkler heads and irrigation control boxes.
- (c) Drainage grates, headwalls and culverts, not in Penalty Area.
- (d) Retaining Walls
- (e) Ropes and stakes erected to direct traffic.
- (f) Water tank and Pump Shed on 6<sup>th</sup> Hole (not in Penalty Area)
- (g) Protection Screens, Ball Washers, Sandboxes and Nearest the Pin boxes on par 3's.

## **3. Movable Obstruction.**

Where roped pegs and white bollards shall be moved if they interfere with the golf swing or stance only. They cannot be moved for any other reason. They must be replaced immediately after relief is taken. No penalty applies.

## **4. Preferred Lie (When applicable under daily conditions).**

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, 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

Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: 30cm, but with these limits:

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

## **5. Protection of Staked Trees**

Staked trees are no play zones and are ground under repair (the GUR includes any stakes and/or protective guards) Free relief MUST be taken in accordance with Rule 16.1b

## **6. Power Line Model Rule E-11**

If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a power line or a pole supporting a power line, the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made. (See Rule 14.6 for what to do)

## **7. Out of Bounds**

All ground beyond the lines defined by the inside face, at ground level, of all boundary fence posts and white stakes with black stripes.

The Practice Fairway is Internal Out of Bounds as defined by white stakes with black stripes. This extends to the fence line on eastern end of the course.

## **8. Ground Under Repair includes**

- (a) All GUR is a compulsory drop.

Within one club length of nearest point of relief, not nearer to the hole.

- (b) Areas marked with white stakes, white lines or GUR signs

- (c) All gardens and mulch/woodchip covered areas (note: hedge to the right of the 9<sup>th</sup> green is **not** a garden and is therefore in play)

- (d) Clearly defined vehicle and machinery tracks

- (e) Roped off areas

- (F) Bare Patches on Closely Mown Areas (not old divots, whether sand filled or not)

- (g) Exposed Tree Roots on Closely Mown Areas, or within three club lengths of surfaces cut to fairway height or less. Interference does not exist if the tree roots only interfere with the player's stance.
- (h) Areas in bunkers where sand has been removed by the movement of water resulting in deep furrows through the sand
- (i) Grass clippings & sticks piled around tree bases.

## **9. Creek Crossings**

All creek crossings within the boundaries of a Penalty Area are an integral part of the course. Relief may only be taken in accordance with Rule 17.1

## **10. Testing for Tree Roots**

If a player believes there may be tree roots interfering with their area of intended swing, may test the ground by inserting a tee, provided they do not improve their lie.

## **11. Drop Zone 5<sup>th</sup> Hole**

If a player's drive from the 5<sup>th</sup> hole fails to cross the margin of the Penalty Area of the 5<sup>th</sup> hole dam, as an additional relief option, for one penalty stroke, the player may drop a ball in the drop zone near the white tees. The ball may be dropped within the yellow tee markers.

## **12. Drop Zone 17<sup>th</sup> Hole**

If a player's drive from the 17<sup>th</sup> hole fails to cross the margin of the Penalty Area, as an additional relief option, for one penalty stroke, may drop a ball in the Drop Zone, to the right of the dam, adjacent to the northern end of the dam. If a drop zone is not marked, the area adjacent to the northern end of the dam and behind the furthest point of the dam and within 2 club lengths of the white Drop Zone stake adjacent to the end of the penalty area, will be deemed as the drop zone.

## **13. Kangaroo footprints in Bunkers only. (Local Rule F-13)**

Footprints in bunkers that are clearly identifiable as having been caused by kangaroos are ground under repair from which free relief is allowed under Rule 16.1.

When taking relief under this rule, the ball must be dropped within the bunker, no nearer the hole, as per the standard dropping procedure from knee height. Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.

## **14. Relief on Greens.**

Only when the ball is on the putting green, line of play relief can be taken to avoid putting over green keeper repairs on the green and only if the area is defined G.U.R.

As a temporary measure, all damaged, diseased and repaired areas on the green are to be treated as GUR whether marked or not.

### **Relief:**

Relief must be the nearest point of relief, which gives a clear line of play to the hole, taking into account the anticipated path of travel of the putt. All relief must be agreed on by the marker, prior to the taking of the relief. The nearest point of relief may be off the green.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a

Note: General Penalty, is 2 strokes in stroke play and loss of hole in Matchplay

## **15. The 105 Rule.**

If your age and handicap total 105 or more, you may tee off on the Vets tee on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> hole always, and on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole when the orange tees are being used on that said day only. No penalty applies.

### **Relief cannot be taken for the following:**

Old pitch marks or old hole plugs.

## **Annexure:**

Under the "New Rules of Golf 2019" some rule changes were made as a guide for clubs to help with the speed of play.

A "Local Rule" is required for these rules to take effect. At this stage, Kew CC will not be making a Local Rule for the following Rule:

(Lost Balls or Out of Bounds)

The following rule is in play at Kew CC. (Rule 14.6)

If you play a ball and it cannot be found within three minutes or if you hit a ball out of bounds you are required to hit a replacement (Provisional) ball from within one club length of where the original ball was played. (Rule 14.6)

**Remember:** If at any time you feel that the ball you have played may be lost outside a penalty area, or out of bounds, you can play a provisional ball and if you cannot find your original ball within 3 minutes, you can continue with your provisional ball, under penalty of 1 stroke plus distance. (Rule 14.6)