

SECRET VALLEY GOLF RESORT

LOCAL RULES & TERMS OF COMPETITION 2019

The following Local Rules and Terms of Competition, together with any additions or amendments published by Secret Valley Golf Resort at the golf course, will apply to all events run by the Secret Valley Golf Resort and Club.

1. **Out of bounds (Rule 18-2)**
 - a) A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall, road, post or other marker defining a boundary.
 - b) Practice Putting Greens.
 - c) The Driving Range.
 - d) The Club House.
 - e) Internal out of bounds exists to the righthand side of the river on the 5th and behind the putting green on the 13th marked by white stakes. This includes where a ball being played down the 13th fairway has been struck across the river and lies on the 5th fairway.
2. **Penalty Areas (Rule 17)**
 - a) Penalty areas are marked with Yellow and/or Red posts or paint markings on the ground.
 - b) When a penalty area adjoins a boundary, the penalty area edge extends to and coincides with the boundary.

Model Local Rule

No Play Zones - Rule 2.4

The club has designated on a temporary basis, No Play Zones in two Penalty Areas on the course. Entering those areas puts players at severe risk of injury and as such is considered dangerous and entry is forbidden.

These temporary No Play Zones are located on the 7th and 9th holes.

7th Hole.

If the players ball is known or virtually certain to have crossed into the penalty area beyond the wooden railed fence adjacent to the 7th putting green, the player MUST take relief in the marked Drop Zone under Penalty of one stroke.

Be aware that even if the players ball is visible on the bank beyond the fence line which marks the penalty area, it lies within the No Play Zone from which players are forbidden to enter or play. The player MUST take relief at the Drop Zone before the fence begins under Penalty of one stroke.

9th Hole.

If the players ball is known or virtually certain to have crossed into the penalty area to the right of the 9th fairway, in the area marked by red stakes to the right of the cart path and the first fairway bunker the player MUST take relief under Penalty of one stroke at the nearest point of complete relief from where the player knows or is virtually certain that the ball crossed into the Penalty area.

Interference from the wooden railed fence (Immoveable Obstruction).

Applicable to hole 7 and hole 9.

If the ball lies to the fairway side of the wooden railed fence and the fence interferes with the players stance or swing then the player is entitled to move the ball and obtain free relief, without penalty, at the nearest point of complete relief no nearer the hole.

This Model Local Rule has immediate effect.

3. **Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas. Model Local Rule 8-E-1.1** is in effect.
 - a) Hole 5. Under penalty of one stroke. If it is known or virtually certain that a ball is in the penalty area to the right of the 5th hole beyond the last tree marked with a white cross the player MUST take relief from the dropping zone provided. The dropping zone is a mat provided to prevent damage to the course. Should the mat not be in position for any reason then the drop zone will be marked by white paint. The mat itself is an integral object.
 - b) Hole 16. Under penalty of one stroke. If it is known or virtually certain that a ball has crossed into the penalty area behind the 16th putting green, between the trees along the river marked with a white painted cross then relief MUST be taken from the dropping zone.
The dropping zone is a relief area under [Rule 14.3](#) and the ball **must** be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.
4. **Abnormal Course Conditions including Immoveable Obstructions (Rule 16).**
Ground Under Repair (GUR)
 - a) Any area bounded by a white painted lines, blue stakes or signs.
 - b) Any area of damaged ground (e.g. caused by vehicle movement) that is considered to be abnormal.
 - c) French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
 - d) Seams of cut turf; [Model Local Rule F-7](#) is in effect.
 - 1) Ball in the General area. The player may take relief under [Rule 16.1b](#).
 - 2) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under [Rule 16.1d](#).
 - e) Yardage painted lines or dots on the putting green or in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less are to be treated as ground under repair from which free relief is available under Rule 16.1. Interference does not exist if yardage painted lines or dots only interfere with the player's stance.

- f) Bunkers filled with temporary water [Model Local Rule F-16](#). The committee can choose to treat such bunkers as ground under repair from which free relief is allowed on a case by case basis and any holes affected will be notified by the Pro Shop and/or starter. The Committee is NOT authorized to declare that all flooded bunkers are ground under repair.
- g) Players must **NOT** make a stroke from inside any area marked as GUR.

5. Immovable Obstructions

- a) White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into are treated as a single abnormal course condition. Landscaped garden areas, decorative planted areas and everything growing in them that are surrounded by an immovable obstruction are treated as a single abnormal course condition, [Model Local Rule F-3.3](#). Free relief may be taken at the nearest point of relief OR at the provided drop zone. Such areas are;
 - 1) 1st - the decorative planted areas/flowerbeds to the right of the cart path. A Drop zone is provided adjacent to the 1st hole Orange teeing area.
 - 2) 9th - the decorative planted areas/flowerbeds to the right of the cart path, on the approach to the halfway house and to the right of the 9th putting green. The player must use the nearest point of relief option.
- b) Concrete, tarmac or stone roads or paths.
- c) Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Greens. [Model Local Rule F-5](#) is in effect. This Local Rule only applies when the ball and immovable obstruction lie in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less.
 - a. And additionally under [Rule 16.1a](#), interference also exists if an immovable obstruction such as a sprinkler or drain cover is on the player's line of play, is within two club lengths of the putting green and is within two club lengths of the ball.
 - b. Exception: there is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a line of play that is clearly unreasonable.

6. Embedded Ball

[Rule 16.3](#) is modified in this way:

- a) no free relief is allowed for a ball embedded in the stacked turf or soil faces above a bunker.

7. Integral Objects.

[Rule 8.1](#). The following are integral objects from which free relief is **NOT** allowed:

- a) bunker liners in their intended position.
- b) wires, cables, wrappings or other objects where they are closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
- c) artificial retaining walls and pilings when located in penalty areas.
- d) any artificial mat in use as a dropping zone.
- e) irrigation pipes when located in penalty areas, but free relief may be taken from irrigation pipes when located in the general area.

8. Special or Required Relief procedures.

- a) [Model Local Rule E-10](#). Protection of Young Trees.
In the general area free relief must be taken from staked trees and shrubs identified by a plastic tag. Such areas exist on the hillside to the left of the 8th fairway where bushes are marked with plastic tags.
- b) [Model Local Rule E-11](#). Ball deflected by Power line and lighting towers.
If it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball hit a powerline, support tower or lighting tower during play the stroke does not count. The player must play a ball without penalty from where the previous stroke was made.

9. Temporary Immovable Obstructions

[Model Local Rule F-23](#) with any additions or amendments in the additional Local Rules published by the Committee is in effect.