



LOCAL RULES 26

MAY 2026

Play the ball as it lies. Play the course as you find it, and if you cannot do either, do what is fair. But to do what is fair, you **MUST PLAY BY THE RULES.**

(1) GARDENS AND MULCHED AREAS:

All gardens and mulched areas are IN PLAY, and players may proceed under RULE 19 (UNPLAYABLE LIE PENALTY). **EXCEPTION:** If a ball lies in an ornamental garden with continuous manmade borders, or if these gardens or borders interfere with a player's stance or area of intended swing, the player must take relief under RULE 16 (NO PENALTY)

IDENTIFIED ORNAMENTAL GARDENS ON THE COURSE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Left of the 2nd Tee – between the 1st green & 2nd Tee – surrounded by cart path
Between the 3rd & 8th Tees
Right of the 7th Tee – Running the entire length of the 7th Tee
Left of the 9th Tee – surrounded by concrete bordered edges
Directly right of the Men's 11th Tee
Left of the 11th Green between Green and the 14th Tee – surrounded by cart paths
Left of the 15th Tee – between Tee & 16th Green surrounded by cart paths
Left of the Men's 16th Tee – between the Tee & the 15th Green

(2) **PENALTY AREAS** are marked by RED LINES or STAKES

(3) STAKED TREES:

This is undertaken for the protection of selected trees and young trees, and these trees are identified with stakes/or a plastic sheet surrounding them. If such a tree interferes with a player's stance or the area of the intended swing, the ball must be lifted without penalty & dropped in accordance with RULE 16 (IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION) (NO PENALTY). A woodchip basin surrounding a tree or shrub that is either staked and/or protected by a plastic sheet is part of the obstruction

(4) BARE PATCHES ON THE FAIRWAYS:

All bare dirt patches on the closely mown areas of the fairway, on the fairway of the hole being played, are to be treated as GUR. **This rule DOES NOT apply to divots repaired or not**

(5) FIXED IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT:

Sprinkler heads, Drain Grates on Fairways, Irrigation Control Posts & Irrigation Control Towers are immovable obstructions, if your swing or stance is impacted by any of these items. R & A RULE 16 applies. 1 Club Length relief, no nearer the hole (NO PENALTY)
Please note that you **DO NOT GET LINE OF SIGHT RELIEF** from any of these items. If your ball in flight or Motion hits one of these items, you do not get to replay the shot & must play the ball as it lies. R & A RULE 11 applies.

(6) STAKES PROTECTING SENSITIVE AREAS:

Green Stakes with ropes & White Hoops for controlling motorized carts from entering sensitive areas are movable obstructions & may be removed if interfering with the player's stance or area of intended swing. These stakes, ropes & hoops are to be replaced. All other stakes, pegs & posts are Immovable Obstructions RULE 16 applies (NO PENALTY). If a ball hits any GREEN STAKES or WHITE HOOPS that are placed to protect regrowth are on the fairways, the ball may be replayed without penalty, but you must play out the hole with your second ball.

(7) EMBEDDED ROCKS AND EXPOSED TREE ROOTS:

A ball lying on or near an embedded rock or exposed tree root on the closely mown areas of the fairway which may damage the club or player when playing a stroke, or which interferes with the player's swing or stance, may be lifted & dropped within (ONE) Club length not nearer the hole WITHOUT PENALTY. RULE 16 applies. If the ball is not on the closely mown portion, the ball must be played as it lies-NO FREE RELIEF. If the ball is unplayable – Rule 19 Applies, & relief may be taken with a one stroke penalty.

(8) GROUND UNDER REPAIR:

If a ball lies within an area marked by a continuous WHITE LINE, GUR signage or WHITE PEGS, if any of these areas interfere with the player's stance or area of his intended swing, the ball may be dropped within 1 club length of the nearest point of relief NO NEARER THE HOLE. You can drop your ball outside this without penalty.

(9) LOCAL RULE FOR 16TH HOLE: To avoid SLOW PLAY THE FOLLOWING LOCAL RULE APPLIES:

From the Tee if you believe your ball may have entered the penalty/water hazard area on the left, but you did not physically see, or have any doubts that it entered the penalty area you are required to hit a provisional ball from the tee. You should also ask your marker if they believe it went into the hazard or not. If they don't know or say it didn't reach the hazard, then this also confirms the need to play a provisional ball, as the ball is then considered lost, until it is found. In terms of the R and A Rule 17.1C, the player & marker must be "Virtually certain" that the ball has come to rest in the penalty area, for relief to be taken from the hazard. If any doubt exists as to where the original ball finished & the ball cannot be located, it is therefore lost, & the provisional ball is in play with a stroke & distance penalty applying.

(10) CONCRETE DRAINAGE PIPES AND CONCRETE ABUTMENTS:

All concrete drainage pipes & concrete pipe abutments not part of hazards are deemed to be an integral object of the course & relief may be taken under RULE 19 (UNPLAYABLE LIE) (PENALTY)

(11) TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER BETWEEN 6TH AND 7TH HOLES:

The towers & the enclosures are deemed to be Immovable Obstructions, & relief may be taken under RULE 16 (IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION) (NO PENALTY)

(12) PATHWAYS:

Any ball laying on any concrete path or Blue Metal buggy path, an animal hole, ground under repair, an immovable obstruction, or temporary water (Abnormal Ground Condition) you may take relief under RULE 16 (NO PENALTY)

(13) ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS – FREE RELIEF (RULE 16) BLUE LINES AROUND GREENS:

If your ball comes to rest on a blue line surrounding the greens & is on the closely mown portion of the course, free relief may be taken, within one club length, no closer to the hole. **If your stance is impacted by the blue line, you are not entitled to any relief & must play the ball as it lies**

(14) CODE OF CONDUCT:

A copy is on the Notice Board at the Clubhouse-near the Match Room, it is also on the website & a copy can be requested from the Match Committee. The code applies to all players, both Bargara Golf Club Members & Visitors from other clubs.

(15) RELIEF FROM THE WRONG GREEN:

Further to RULE 13.1F, the area defined as the "wrong green" is extended to the closely mown areas surrounding the green IE: the fringe or collar. This extension of the defined area of the green applies only in furtherance to RULE 13.1F

(16) CALL UP HOLES 3RD & 14TH:

This rule has been introduced to try & reduce congestion on these tees & speed up play. When all players in the group have reached the putting surface of the green on these two holes, the first thought should be "are the group behind in position to be called up?"

If two or three groups are waiting on the tee behind you, then please consider inviting the next group to hit up. This helps keep the field moving and avoids long delays for the groups waiting. If only one group is waiting behind you, or if play is already backed up on the Tee ahead, then there is no need to call-up - continue play as normal. Safety must always take priority. On the 3rd hole players are to stand towards the middle at the back of the Green, not to the left of the green to ensure they have a clear view of the tee shot. The players on the back of the green must watch the following players tee shots carefully to ensure they are not hit. If a player on the tee believes their ball maybe travelling near the players on the back of the green, the player must immediately yell "FORE".

(17) DRAIN 14TH HOLE:

The drain on the 14th hole before the green is not classed as fairway, therefore if your ball happens to land on the bare/dirt patches, you are not entitled to a drop or any free relief. Also near the water on the left, if your ball lands in the dirt in front of the rocks you are not entitled to a drop. Also to the right of the cart path where it is bare, you are not entitled to a drop as it is not classed as fairway or cart path, so you must play it as it lies.

(18) OOB PEGS:

OOB Pegs have a black top on them. If you see any white pegs with a ribbon attached, or just plain white, they are surveyors pegs, not OOB.

(19) MOTORISED CARTS AND RIDE ON GOLF VEHICLES:

Must stay outside of the blue cart lines in front, side & back of GREENS AT ALL TIMES. Golf Carts & Ride on Golf Vehicles must not be driven on any Tees. Please stay to paths where possible. Players who are issued with a Yellow Flag (Doctors Certificate), are permitted to travel inside these cart lines, however, should always take care to stay 5 metres or more away from the surface of the green wherever possible.

(20) LOCAL RULE FOR LADIES ONLY:

Maximum Score for Ladies Only is in play for all stroke rounds. The maximum score is 12 & must be recorded in MiScore or on the card if you take this option. Any player who takes this option is not eligible to win any prize or a rundown ball in that competition, but can still win prizes in a club approach shot or the pro pin (if they pay the relative Pro Pin fee)

(21) PRACTISING ON THE COURSE

Practice on the golf course outside of a competition or social round is restricted to a maximum of two (2) balls per player at any one time. This includes full shots, wedge practice, chipping and putting around/on the greens.

Repetitive practice involving multiple balls, excessive hitting from one location, or practice that unreasonably delays other players or causes unnecessary damage to fairways, tees, green surrounds or other course areas is prohibited.

Players must avoid excessive divot damage and must repair all divots and pitch marks created during practice. The designated practice facilities should be used wherever possible for extended practice sessions.

Breaches of this Local Rule may result in action being taken under the Club's Code of Conduct.

(22) MOBILE PHONE USAGE:

Mobile phones can be used for scoring purposes in competitions under the MiScore App. Phones should be turned silent & should not be used for other purposes, during competition rounds, apart from GPS for Distance Measurements only – **you cannot measure slope and wind speed, as this is a breach of the rules.** The making & receiving of urgent or emergency phone calls. (IE: Medical issues, Emergency workers on Call etc) is also allowed.

(23) DRAIN BEHIND 15TH GREEN:

The drain that has been dug out behind the 15th Green & near the 16th Tee is not GUR, so if you go in there, you either take a penalty drop (Unplayable Lie – Rule 19) or you play the ball as it lies.

(24) FLAG COLOURS:

BLUE: FRONT, YELLOW: MIDDLE, RED: BACK

REFER TO RULE 21.2 PENALTY FOR BREACH LOCAL RULE

MATCH PLAY: LOSS OF HOLE

STROKE PLAY: GENERAL PENALTY (2 STROKES)

RED STAKES OR LINES: PENALTY 2 CLUB LENGTHS RELIEF

PENALTY WHITE STAKES OR LINES: GUR AREAS 1 CLUB LENGTH RELIEF NO PENALTY

WHITE STAKES WITH BLACK TOPS: OUT OF BOUNDS 1 STROKE PENALTY, REPLAY SHOT FROM WHERE YOU HIT FROM (STROKE AND DISTANCE)

APPROVED BY MENS AND LADIES MATCH COMMITTEE 16/09/2025