PENINA GOLF CLUB

LOCAL RULES

1. 5th Hole Local Rule B-3

"If a player does not know whether his or her ball is in the penalty area in front of the 5th Green, 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) or the *back-on-the-line relief* option (see Rule 17.1d(2))
- Once the player has played a provisional ball under this Rule, he or she 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 the original ball is found in the 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 the original ball is not found within a three-minute search time, or, is known, or, virtually certain to be in the penalty area, the provisional ball becomes the player's ball in play.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty."

2. Aeration holes on the green

“If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole: (a) Ball in General Area. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b.

If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole, the player may take relief again under this Local Rule. (b) Ball on Putting Green. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

BUT relief may only be taken where the ball lies in or touches the hole; interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play.”

3. Area to the right of the fairway bunkers on the 9th

“The wooded area to the right of the fairway bunkers on the 9th hole, the parameters of which are defined by a series of red posts, has been designated by the Committee as a Red Penalty Area.”

4. Option for Lateral Relief on the 10th Hole Only

“When a player's ball is in a Penalty Area, including when it is known, or virtually certain to be in a Penalty Area even though not found, the player may take relief using one of the options under Rule 17.1d.

Additionally, an extra relief option adding one penalty stroke is available from the Red Penalty Area to the right of the 10th fairway only, whereby the player may drop the original ball or another ball on the opposite side of that Penalty Area.

The Reference Point for this additional relief is the estimated point that is the same distance from the hole as the estimated point where the original ball last crossed that Penalty Area.”

5. Drop Zone Hole 13

“When a player's ball is in the Penalty Area defined by yellow stakes on hole 13, in addition to the one stroke penalty options under Rule 17.1d, the player may, adding one penalty stroke, drop the original ball or another ball within the Penalty Drop Zone defined by white lines and marked by a drop zone notice. If the zone is not marked as above, then it is defined as the closely mown area to the left of the water.

The yellow stakes indicate that the water is a penalty area. The margins of that Penalty Area are defined by the natural boundaries of the water and NOT the stakes themselves.”

6. Immovable Obstructions and Relief from Tyre Tracks

“Manhole covers, tree stumps, and their associated roots where marked in blue are defined as Immovable Obstructions ('10'). Where a player's ball touches the 10 or their intended stance or swing is impeded by that IO, the player may take free relief in accordance with Rule 16.1b.
In respect of relief from abnormal ground conditions in the general area defined as tyre tracks, or damage caused by maintenance equipment (this does not apply to tracks caused by players' buggies), the player may take free relief under Rule 16.1b. The relief area is defined as a one-club-length relief area from the nearest point of complete relief, not nearer the hole. As usual, the player may place the ball when on a closely mown area; in all other circumstances, the ball must be dropped."

7. TEMPORARY LOCAL RULES

1. A ball lying on a **closely mown area** through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he/she must place it on a spot within fifteen centimetres of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.
   A player may place his/her ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 14.2c). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot which it is placed, Rule 14.2e applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other rules apply.
   If a player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he/she incurs a penalty of one stroke.

2. Other than in a hazard, a ball that is **embedded in its own pitch mark** in the ground may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned, and dropped as near as possible to where it lay, but not nearer the hole. A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule makes the stroke clearly impracticable.
   The penalty for breach of this local rule is two strokes.

3. New rule from 9 March 2026: When a ball is **plugged in its own pitch mark** in a newly sanded bunker, the player may lift, clean, and place the ball within one-club length, no nearer to the hole, without penalty.

4. All **abnormal ground conditions** in closely mown areas or in the general area within 10m of any green are designated as areas of GUR. A ball lying in these areas may be dropped in accordance with Rule 16.1b. No relief is available where these areas only interfere with the player's stance. Examples of 'abnormal ground conditions' are:

   a. Areas where repairs are in progress.
   b. Areas such as in front of 3rd, 5th, and 9th greens where persistent traffic has worn away the grass.
   c. Wild boar damage.

   Golf Rule 16.1b states that if your ball is in the general area and interferes with an abnormal course condition (such as temporary water, an immovable obstruction, or an animal hole), you may take free relief. Relief involves dropping your ball in a relief area one club-length from your reference point, which is the nearest point of complete relief. Your ball must be in the general area, and you are not allowed to drop it on the putting green.

5. Relief from fallen trees (new rule from 26 February 2026)
   Fallen trees and the resultant exposed stumps/roots are classed as GUR.
   Any relief under this temporary rule should be agreed with your playing partner (s).

~~Bunkers under Renovation (rule revoked on 9 March 2026)~~

Temporary local rules 3. and 5. will remain in place until further notice.

Penina Golf Club Committee
9 March 2026