



Hoylake Golf Club  
Carr Lane  
Hoylake  
Wirral CH47 4BA

## Local Rules (Amended 2017)

### 1. OUT OF BOUNDS

- a. A ball is out of bounds if it lies beyond the edges or fences bounding the course.
  - b. Over the fence surrounding the Practice Pitching / Putting Green – or – over the white posts.
  - c. 5<sup>th</sup> Hole – over the hedge on the right, or over the line of white posts on the right.
  - d. 6<sup>th</sup> Hole – over the line of white posts on the right and over hedge / tree line on right, Over white posts on left before lateral water hazard.
  - e. 8<sup>th</sup> Hole – in or over ditch on left after fenced field up to the transverse ditch behind the 8<sup>th</sup> green.
  - f. 12<sup>th</sup> Hole – Enclosure on left and 14<sup>th</sup> Fairway, marked by white posts.
  - g. 13<sup>th</sup> Hole – Practice Ground defined by the white posts on right.
  - h. 14<sup>th</sup> Hole – Left of 14<sup>th</sup> Tee and beyond white posts on left, up to diagonal ditch and white posts behind 12<sup>th</sup> Tee.
  - i. 18<sup>th</sup> Hole – In or over ditch on left from the start of the ditch by 11<sup>th</sup> Green, up to last white post. Over white posts between 18<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> fairways up to the last white post on left and also the pathway behind 18<sup>th</sup> Green.
2. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Holes – A ball lying within 3 club lengths of the road may be lifted and dropped behind without penalty, other than when the ball is lying in a hazard.
  3. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Holes - A ball striking the overhead cables MUST BE replayed from as near as possible from the point it was last played, No penalty.
  4. Pond on right of 4<sup>th</sup> Hole and pond on right of 7<sup>th</sup> Hole and moat behind 11<sup>th</sup> Green to be regarded as Water Hazards.(See Rule 26.1).
  5. All Sheds, shelters, seats, toilets and are integral parts of the course. A ball lying in, on, under or touching any of the above must be played as it lies or lifted and dropped under penalty of one stroke, not nearer the hole, (Rule 24.2 & 33.2a).
  6. Relief may be taken without penalty from staked trees and trees with protective plastic bands around their base or saplings under 6 feet, plus Small conifers marking 150 yards on fairways, ball to be dropped at nearest point of relief plus one club length, not nearer the hole.
  7. A plugged ball on the Fairway or Green MUST be lifted. A plugged ball in the rough must be played as it lies or lifted and dropped under penalty of one stroke, (Rule 24.2 & 33.2a).
  8. All protection fences are **IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS**. A ball, swing or stance

obstructed by such fences should be lifted and dropped within one club length of nearest point of relief without penalty.

Rule 24.2 Note 3. Committee Local Rule stating that the player must determine the *nearest point of relief* without crossing over, through or under the obstruction.

9. Ditches on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, left of 6<sup>th</sup>, immediately left of the 8<sup>th</sup> tee, 9<sup>th</sup> hole beyond the white posts (corner of the adjacent field) to be regarded as lateral water. (except the transverse ditch on left of 5<sup>th</sup> adjacent to 1<sup>st</sup> teeing area is a WATER HAZARD).
10. All other ditches, other than those mentioned above, to be regarded as WATER HAZARDS.
11. Stones and other loose impediments may be removed from bunkers, a loose impediment supporting ball, ball must be marked lifted, impediment removed and ball replaced. No penalty. Leaves can be removed until ball is visible and then play as it lies.
12. All shale paths are immovable obstructions. Relief under Rule 24.2.
13. Distance measuring devices as approved by the R&A may be used during competitions.
14. Preferred Lies. A ball lying on a closely-mown area through the green may be lifted and cleaned, without penalty. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must **PLACE** it on a spot within six inches of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on the putting green. A player must place his ball **ONLY ONCE**, and it is in play when it has been placed, (Rule 20.4) if the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it is placed, (Rule 20.3d) applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provision of any other Rule applies.
15. The "Teeing Ground" is defined as that area marked by the SINGLE tee marker of the day and 2 Club Lengths in depth. The SINGLE tee marker of the day and 6 Club Lengths or the width of the raised tee defines the width.
16. Players must take relief from areas marked as GUR. Ball to be lifted and dropped, without penalty, within one club length of the nearest point of relief.
17. Putting Green: Rules 18-2, 18-3 & 20-1 are modified as follows;  
When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball marker is accidentally moved by the player, his partner, his opponent, or any of their Caddies or equipment. The moved ball or marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 & 20-1. This Local Rule applies only when the player's ball or ball marker lies on the putting green and any movement is accidental.

**Note:** *if it is determined that the player's ball on the putting green was moved as a result of wind, water or some other natural cause such as the effects of gravity, the ball must be played as it lies from its new location. A ball marker moved in such circumstances is replaced.*