



2022 MGA Handicap Rules & Procedures: NGC Local Rules

The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and The R&A govern all MGA play. These Local Rules are in effect for all non-tournament, daily play at National Golf Club. Local Rules for tournament play will be specified on a tournament by tournament basis. Any changes to the MGA local rules will be distributed via email and will remain current on the [MGA website](#).

National Golf Club Local Rules

1. General Area and Out of Bounds
 - a. Out of bounds limits are clearly defined on course by white stakes, or white lines. If any part of your ball is inside the stakes or white lines it is considered in bounds. Out of bounds stakes may not be moved for relief and man-made objects that define out of bounds, such as fences, do not qualify for immovable obstruction relief because they are out of bounds.
 - b. All paved roads (not paved cart paths), including parking lots, access roads, and curbs are out of bounds. Balls that cross roads or parking lots and come to rest in grass, in or outside the general area, are out of bounds.
 - c. No play areas are defined by small stakes and rope or white paint on ground with “no play” clearly marked. Play is not permitted to play from these areas but may take free relief using rule 16.1 - abnormal conditions.
 - i. New sod on holes 4 and 7 should be considered “no play” zones until marked as otherwise.
 - d. Players can take a free drop on the left side of #17 from the hedge that encroaches on the golf course near the green.
 - e. Players can take an unplayable lie from the brick wall on the left side of the green on #10 with a 1-stroke penalty
2. Penalty Areas
 - a. Penalty areas are marked with red or yellow stakes and/or red or yellow ground markings. If the stakes are missing or the ground markings cannot be found the penalty area for water should be defined as one club length from the water ground interface. For red penalty areas marking “lateral hazards or overgrown areas” where stakes and/or ground markings are missing, the boundary should be defined as one club length from the area where maintenance is not routinely performed, typically areas of higher grass, weeds, leaves and undergrowth. Relief may be taken from these areas with a 1 stroke penalty.

- i. Pond dredge tailings on holes 4, 5, 6, and 7 are to be considered inside the hazard.
 - b. Balls landing in red or yellow hazards on the following holes areas may take relief with a 1 stroke penalty. The player will have the option of using normal drop procedure OR dropping within the designated drop zone
 - i. #2, #5 (the pond nearest the tee box), #6 (behind the green), #11 (greenside), #13 (greenside).
- 3. Abnormal Course Conditions
 - a. When the course is wet/ muddy, players have the option of playing under Lift, Clean, and Place. Such relief should be limited to those portions of the course where needed. This means the entire course may be played under LCP, or potentially only the players fairway. USGA LCP guidelines should be followed
 - b. Additional areas may be played as Ground Under Repair:
 - i. Large areas (more than a club length in diameter) without grass due to blight, fungus, drought or other defects in the general area normally cut to fairway length (fairway)
 - ii. All bunkers can be played as GUR for the time being
 - iii. Exposed rocks in areas cut to fairway height or less or within two-club lengths of the fairway.
 - iv. Exposed rocks added as topper for drainage systems and/or freshly trenched drainage areas in the general area.
- 4. Additional Lost Ball Items
 - a. Players may play under “Leaf Rule” conditions during the fall. If a ball that is certain to be in bounds is lost due to leaf coverage, the player may play from the location from which they believe their ball to be.
 - b. Players may play under the USGA’s alternate stroke and distance local rule guidance. If a player hits a ball out of bounds or cannot find their ball, they now have the option to take a 2-stroke penalty and play from the fairway nearest where their ball is thought to have gone out of bounds.

GOLF’S NEW RULES: STROKE AND DISTANCE
 A new Local Rule provides an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds, effective January 1, 2019.

BALL OUT OF BOUNDS

LOST BALL

If the Local Rule is in effect, you can still take stroke-and-distance relief, but you now have the following additional option that comes with a penalty of two strokes:

<p>A DETERMINE SPOT where your ball went out of bounds (left diagram) or is likely to be lost (right diagram).</p>	<p>B FIND NEAREST FAIRWAY EDGE no closer to the hole.</p>	<p>C DROP YOUR BALL IN SHADED AREA as defined on one side by a line from the hole through point A and on the other side by a line from the hole through point B, and not nearer the hole. The relief area is extended on both sides by two club-lengths.</p>
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This Local Rule is not intended for higher levels of play, such as professional or elite amateur level competitions.