

“Fit for Qualifying”

1. Preferred Lies are limited to the fairway (closely mown area)

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area on a closely mown area or less (ie cut to fairway height), the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: 6 inches from the reference point, **but** with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
 - Must be in the closely mown part of the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.

(England Golf Preferred Lies - Model Local Rule E3)

2. Players may mark, lift, clean and replace their ball in all areas outside of the fairway (closely mown area)

When a player's ball lies in any part of the general area, outside a closely mown area (ie not on the fairway), the ball may be marked, lifted cleaned and replaced in exactly the same spot without penalty. The player must mark the spot before lifting the ball (see Rule 14.1) and the ball must be replaced on its original spot (see Rule 14.2).

Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a."

(England Golf Winter Checklist and Model Local Rule E2)

3. Bunkers

Rake and Place cannot be used. Any individual bunkers which are considered GUR will be marked with a blue flag or painted as GUR, and are no play zones.

Some bunkers may from time to time have a Drop Zone defined which must be used. Otherwise, when bunkers are marked as GUR, players must take a drop from the nearest point of relief outside of the bunker:

- Reference Point: The nearest point of complete relief (outside of the bunker) in the general area
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: One club-length, but with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area:
 - Must be in the general area,
 - Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and
 - There must be complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition (in this case 'the bunker' defined as GUR).

(Rule 16.1b)

4. *Mats cannot be used*

The County advised that where mats are to be used their use must be compulsory, and that they cannot be used outside of the closely mown (fairway) area if scores are to count for handicap. We are therefore mandating that mats can no longer be used on the course when returning a qualifying score.

(England Golf Winter Rules checklist)

Additional Notes

(a) Roped off areas, when in use, are for traffic management and are classed as Immovable Obstructions. If the posts or ropes interfere with your swing, take relief under Rule 16.1b (One club length from the nearest point of relief, no nearer the hole). Do not attempt to move the ropes or posts.

(b) Any Tees not in use (eg winter tees) are: "Ground Under Repair – No Play Zones". Players must take a drop from nearest point of relief (Rule 16.1b)

(c) 'Stand-alone temporary greens' and 'permanent greens' are classed as "Ground Under Repair – No Play Zones" when not in use. Players must take a drop from nearest point of relief (Rule 16.1b)