



Conditions of Competition and Local Rules for Russell Vale Golf & Social Club Ltd

Section A. Local Rules

1. Out of Bounds. Rule 2.1

- a) Out of bounds is defined by the line between the course-side points at ground level of white pavers and fence posts. Out of bounds is also defined by all grounds beyond the inside of course boundary fences.
- b) During play of the 12th Hole, the area on the left-hand side of the hole, defined by white pavers at ground level is out of bounds.

1) No Play Zones. Rules 2.4 and 16

- a) All garden beds defined by rock or timber edges.
- b) The area beyond the 11th green marked with green/white markers.

2) Immovable Obstructions. Rule 16

- a) All roads and pathways constructed of concrete, bitumen, plastic matting or gravel.
- b) Water drain plates, pipes, taps, hydrants.
- c) Distance indicating markers.
- d) On course buildings and wire mesh fences are immovable obstructions relief may be taken (No line of sight)
- e) Trees or shrubs staked or identified with plastic or metal tags interfering with a player's stance or swing are immovable obstructions.
- f) **Sprinkler Heads on or Close to the Putting Green**
If a ball lies off the putting green but not in a hazard and a sprinkler head is on or within two club lengths of the putting green and within two club lengths of the ball intervenes with the line of play to the hole, the player may take relief as follows:
The ball must be lifted and dropped at the nearest point to where the ball lay that 1) is not nearer the hole, 2) avoids the intervention and 3) is not in a hazard or on the putting green.
The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

3) Distance Measuring Devices.

- a) For all play in club competitions a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round a player uses a device that is capable of

measuring items that might affect his play (e.g. gradient, wind speed, temperature etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4-3, for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is used or not.

4) Pace of Play

"Maximum Allowable Time

The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes at The Vale is 4 hours. The following procedure applies only if a group is "out of position."

Definition of Out of Position

- The first group to start will be considered "out of position" if, at any time during the round, the group's cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played. Any following group will be considered out of position if it is,
- More than the starting interval behind the group in front of them.
- On a par 4 or par 5 the hole is open before the group reaches the teeing area of that hole and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

Procedure When Group is Out of Position

1. Referees will monitor pace of play and decide whether a group that is "out of position" should be timed. An assessment of whether there are any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g. a lengthy ruling, lost ball, unplayable ball, etc. will be made.
If a decision is made to time the players, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing and a referee will advise each player that they are "out of position" and they are being timed.
In exceptional circumstances, an individual player, or two players within a group of three, may be timed instead of the entire group.
2. The maximum time allocated per stroke is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play: a) a tee shot on a par 3 hole; b) an approach shot to the green; and c) a chip or putt.
The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach the ball, it is his or her turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction. Time taken to determine distance and select a club will count as time taken for the next stroke.
On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace the ball, repair damage that interferes with the line of play and move loose impediments on the line of play. Time spent looking at the line of play from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.
Timings will be taken from the moment it is decided by the referee that it is the player's turn to play and he or she is able to play without interference or distraction.
Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.

Penalty for Breach of Local Pace of Play Rule:

- Penalty for first breach: Verbal warning from referee.
- Penalty for second breach: One-stroke penalty.
- Penalty for third breach: **General Penalty** applied in addition to the penalty for the second breach.
- Penalty for fourth breach: **Disqualification.**"

5) **Lost Ball or Ball Out of Bounds. (For Championships or Pennant events see Rule 18)**

“When a player’s ball cannot be found or is *known or virtually certain* to be *out of bounds*, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under *stroke and distance*.

For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* the original ball or a *substituted ball* in this *relief area* (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

a. Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball:

- Is estimated to have come to rest on the *course*, or
- Last crossed the edge of the *course boundary* to go *out of bounds*.

b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the *hole* being played that is nearest to the ball reference point but is not nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, “fairway” means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points: Anywhere between:

- A line from the *hole* through the ball reference point (or within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the *hole* through the fairway reference point (or within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the *general area*, and
- Must not be nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

But the player may not use this option when:

- The ball is *known or virtually certain* to have come to rest in a *penalty area*, or

- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of *stroke and distance* (see Rule 18.3).”

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

6) Preferred Lies.

This applies only if Preferred Lies is posted on the notice Board for the current event.

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, 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: nominated length posted on notice board 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 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.

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

7) Mobile Phones.

- a) The use of a mobile phone or portable phone by a competitor or his caddie, whilst on the golf course during an event is distracting and inconsiderate. If the competitor or caddie is in the possession of a mobile or portable phone it should be turned off. If the phone rings this is deemed to be in use and the committee may take disciplinary action against the offending player in accordance with the concluding paragraph of section 1, Etiquette of the Rules of Golf. If a mobile phone has a distance measuring device facility it may be used in line with Condition 5, provided the device does not have the facility to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (e.g. gradient, windspeed, temperature, etc). However, the 'phone communication' facility of the mobile phone should be turned off. In match play, the opponent should be informed if the player plans to use this facility.

8) Scorecards.

If two different scores are recorded for the same hole (e.g. number 5 in the autoscore box but a 4 has been written down the higher score will count. If only a number, or an autoscore box is selected that number or the autoscore box will count.

Section B. Conditions of Competitions

The following conditions, in concert with those contained in specific entry forms and any other additions or amendments as published.

1) **Eligibility:**

- a) The Match Committee shall have the power to vary these conditions and to decide any dispute or question arising as to the qualification of any entrant and may, in its absolute discretion at any time and without assigning any reason therefore, refuse any entrant ineligible to compete. Players should determine their eligibility for any event prior to the entry of the event.
- b) In the event of a player being suspended by an affiliated club, a club affiliated with a District Golf Association or a District Golf Association on a golf related matter the player shall not be eligible to enter or play in any event during the period of suspension.

2) **Match Committee:**

The members of the Match Committee present during the playing of an event may exercise all functions of the Match Committee in relation to the event and shall constitute the Committee within the meaning of the Rules of Golf.

3) **Returning of Score Card:**

A player's score is deemed officially returned to the Committee when the player has posted his card into the designated card return box in the clubhouse.

4) **Protests:**

Protests or disputes in relation to any competition or match must be made in writing and submitted to the Match Committee within fifteen (15) minutes of Competition being Closed.

5) **Entry to events:**

The openings for each competition play will start two (2) weeks prior to the competition day. Booking your name in for a competition day can be made from 6am for Tuesday and Thursday and Saturday events at the clubhouse or Internet. Bookings for Saturday events can be entered at the clubhouse from 5pm Friday 2 weeks and one day prior to the event. One person is eligible to enter up to four (4) names only. The Match Committee reserves the right to fill any vacant position in any match play draw.

6) **Starting Times:**

Rule 5.3 provides that the player(s) shall start at the time laid down by the committee. The penalty for breach of rule 5.3 is disqualification. However, if a player arrives at their starting point ready to play, within five (5) minutes after the starting time, the penalty for failing to start on time is loss of the first hole in match play or the general penalty at the first hole in stroke play instead of disqualification. The Match Committee reserves the right to alter starting times.

7) **Suspension of Play.**

"A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by one prolonged note of the horn. All other suspensions will be signalled by 2 short notes of the horn. In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by 3 short notes of the horn. See Rule 5.7b."

8) **Cancellation:**

Players who are unable to compete for any reason, should cancel by contacting the starter during business hours on phone number (02) 4283 5322 or via the internet. Failure to do so could result in a suspension penalty.

9) Results of the Competition- Competition closed:

The competition is closed 15 minutes after the completion of play. Score cards returned after this time will not be considered for inclusion in the event.

10) Determination of Ties:

The winner of ties will be decided on the score for the last nine holes. If ties still exist the winner of the last 6 holes and then the winner of the last 3 holes and then the last hole. If a tie still exists, the winner will be decided on a hole by hole basis from the 18th hole. If players are still tied after this procedure they will be declared joint winners of the competition.

11) Championship Events:

To win a major prize (gross / net) in a club championship, members must return Three (3) live Russell Vale single competition handicap cards within twelve (12) months prior to the commencement of such club championship.

12) Transportation:

Automotive locomotion during the play is permitted except in conditions where it is considered the use of such devices will result in undue damage to the course.

13) By-Laws, Rules and Dress Regulation:

The by-laws, rules and dress regulations of Russell Vale Golf and Social Club shall apply. The penalty for non-compliance shall be no start or disqualification.

- a) The Board: Means the Russell Vale Golf and Social Club Ltd.
- b) The Match Committee: Means the Match and Handicap Committee of the Russell Vale Golf and Social Club Ltd.
- c) Recognised Golf Club Means a golf club affiliated within the association and district golf association and the governing bodies of other states of Australia.

Signed _____ Club Captain

On behalf of the Board and the Match and Handicap Committee of Russell Vale Golf & Social Club Ltd