

SURFSIDE GOLF CLUB

SURFSIDE GOLF COURSE

LOCAL RULES

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017

This document contains the Local Rules of the Surfside Golf Club at Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia for the Surfside Golf Course.

All play will be governed by the Rules of Golf as approved by “R&A Rules Limited” and “The United States Golf Association”.

Saudi Aramco Golf Association (SAGA) rules have been adopted without change and are embedded within the Ras Tanura Golf Club Local Rules. They are identified within the rules by including “(SAGA)” at the end of the rule.

Local Rules and Conditions of Play have developed using the template given in Appendix I of the Rules of Golf, 33rd Edition, Effective January 2016.

DEFINITIONS

R&A/USGA Definitions are used and are indicated in italics and are listed within the Rules of Golf, 33rd Edition, Effective January 2016. Additional definitions are included below:

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION: Gas/electric riding cart. (SAGA)

BRUSH: The broom that is supplied for each putting surface for the purpose of smoothing the sand to an even texture. (SAGA)

PUTTING GREEN: The putting green is all ground of the hole being played which is specifically prepared for putting. It is the specially oil treated sand that is brushed in order to provide a smooth, even surface. (SAGA)

TREE WELL: A manmade depression and dike surrounding a tree (or former tree) used for irrigation purposes. The dike is part of the tree well. (SAGA)

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DEFINITION OF STAKE COLORS

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| a) | White Stakes: | Out of Bounds |
| b) | Yellow Stakes: | Water Hazard |
| c) | Red Stakes: | Lateral Water Hazard |
| d) | Yellow with Black Stripe: | Environmentally Sensitive Area (water hazard) |
| e) | Red with Black Stripe: | Environmentally Sensitive Area (lateral water hazard) |
| f) | Orange Stakes: | 75 yards from stake to the center of the green |
| g) | Blue Stakes: | 150 yards from stake to the center of the green |
| h) | Green and Yellow Stripe: | Drop Zone |

GENERAL

The Committee has developed these Local Rules as provided by Rule 33-8a and in accordance with Appendix I of The Rules of Golf.

1. **Course – Defining Boundaries, Margins, Status of Object, and Protection**

1A. Out of Bounds

Any ball coming to rest either (a) on the line or beyond the boundary marked by White Stakes, (b) beyond the course perimeter fence, or (c) beyond a curb designated below is Out of Bounds. (See Rule 20-5).

- Hole 1: The curb adjacent to and surrounding the club house.
- Hole 4: Fence to left side of fairway and behind the green.
- Hole 7: Fence surround the communication building/tower.
- Hole 8: Fence to left of tee box and all the way to the green.
- Hole 9: Fence surround the communication building.
The white stakes to the left side of fairway (i.e. road).
The curb/white stakes near the cart sheds behind the green.
- Hole 12: Fence to the right side of fairway no. 12.
- Hole 18: White Stakes the right of the fairway (i.e. the driving range).
The curb adjacent to and surrounding the club house.

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1B. Water Hazards

Any ball coming to rest on the line or within the boundary marked by Yellow Stakes is in a Water Hazard. (See Rule 26-1a/b). See Local Rule 6 for mandatory drop zone areas.

- Hole 7: Ditch crossing the fairway.
- Hole 8: Lake on left side and ditch crossing the fairway.
- Hole 12: Lake on left (drop zone) and crossing the fairway.
- Hole 13: Lake on fairway 13.
- Hole 17: The Gulf or beyond the high tide mark to the right of the fairway.

1C. Lateral Water Hazards

Any ball coming to rest on the line or within the boundary marked by Red Stakes is in a Lateral Water Hazard. (See Rule 26-1a/b/c). See Local Rule 6 for mandatory drop zone areas.

- Hole 1: The road to the right of the fairway.
- Hole 3: The area to right of the fairway beyond the yellow/black stakes (drop zone).
The ditch behind the green (drop zone).
- Hole 4: Ditch to right of the fairway.
- Hole 5: Ditch in front of tee box.
Ditch over the road near the helipad (drop zone).
The road to the right of the fairway.
- Hole 7: Ditch to left of the fairway.
- Hole 13: Ditch to the right of green (drop zone).
Ditch behind the green (drop zone).

1D. Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Any ball coming to rest on the line or within a boundary marked by Yellow with Black Stripe Stakes is in an Environmentally Sensitive Area that is treated as a Water Hazard with the exception that relief MUST be taken. (See Rule 26-1a/b). See Local Rule 6 for mandatory drop zone areas.

- Hole 3: The area to the right of the tee box and fairway up to hole no. 5 fairway.
- Hole 5: To the right of fairway up to the tee box and fairway on hole no. 3.
- Hole 18: The area in front of the tee box.

Any ball coming to rest on the line or within a boundary marked by Red with Black Stripe Stakes is in an Environmentally Sensitive Area that is treated as a Lateral Water Hazard with the exception that relief MUST be taken. (See Rule 26-1a/b/c)

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- Hole 6: The right side of the fairway up to the road.
Hole 16: The left side of the tee box up to hole no. 18 fairway.
Hole 18: The left side of the fairway.
The right side of the fairway (drop zone for drives only).

Penalty: Match Play LOSS OF HOLE
Stroke Play TWO STROKES

1E. Abnormal Ground Condition /Ground Under Repair

Abnormal Ground Condition is an unrepaired area of the course where the mat cannot be fairly place or a stance cannot be fairly taken. Note: Swing and Line of Play relief is not applicable. Relief is optional unless explicitly marked as Ground Under Repair. (See Rule 25-1)

- (a) Casual Water
- (b) Ground Under Repair
- (c) A hole or the cast from a hole by an animal.
- (d) Deep Tire Ruts
- (e) Damage done through course maintenance

The Tournament Committee may post additional unmarked areas that will be treated as abnormal ground conditions on the club house bulletin board and announced at the start of a tournament.

Note: Course maintenance includes the castings from cleaning the ditches and ponds around course. In some cases, it takes a long periods of time to remove these casting and new vegetation growth within the castings (i.e. grass) is possible; however, this is still considered abnormal ground condition.

Ground Under Repair (GUR) is a special type of Abnormal Ground Condition that is under the state of repair. Relief MUST be taken from GUR that is marked by white lines and posted with signs that clearly indicate the boundary of GUR.

Penalty: Match Play LOSS OF HOLE
Stroke Play TWO STROKES

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1F. Obstructions

Movable Obstructions (See Rule 24-1) (Move the obstruction)

- (a) Irrigation Hoses

Immovable Obstructions (See Rule 24-2) (Stance and Swing Relief Only)

- (b) Yardage, Hazard, and Drop Zone Markers
- (c) Tee Boxes
- (d) Benches
- (e) Tree Wells
- (f) Valve Boxes
- (g) Tree Wells
- (h) Sprinkler Heads
- (i) Utility Boxes
- (j) Sweeper Shed
- (k) Rake Stands

Note 1: Stakes and fences that define out of bounds are not considered obstructions.

Note 2: Tree Wells are part of SAGA Rules; however, RTGC has no Tree Wells defined.

1G. Integral Part of the Course

No relief is allowed from an integral part of the course. However, the ball and mat may be optionally placed when a drop is required on these surfaces.

- (a) Artificially surfaced roads
- (b) Artificially surfaced cart paths

1G. Drop Zones

Drop zones are identified by a single green stake with yellow stripes. For areas without a prepared drop zone box, the drop zone area is anywhere within 3 club lengths of the stake. Use of Drop Zones are mandatory unless the ball is played as it lies. See Local Rule 5.

- Hole 3: Lateral Water to Right of Fairway.
- Hole 5: Lateral Water Adjacent to Helipad (not water splitting Fairway 5 & 7).
- Hole 12: Lateral Water beyond the green.
- Hole 13: Environmental Area left of Fairway and pond left of fairway.
- Hole 18: Environmental Area right of Fairway.

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2. **Course Protection**

Suggested rules for course protection included in Appendix I of the Rules of Golf have been embedded in Section 1 above or Section-3 below.

3. **Course Condition (Sand Course)**

3A. MAT USE (Through the Green)

- (a) Except in a hazard (any bunker or water hazard) or when the ball is suspended in a tree (including oleanders), the ball may be lifted, cleaned, and placed on the mat, or on the ground in its original position. The centerline edge of the mat must be placed directly behind the ball (within one ball diameter distance) in a manner that will not cover the spot where the ball originally lay. The mat may be used on the teeing ground. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (b) During the normal course of play, the area in which the mat is to be placed may be cleared of loose impediments to ensure an even surface without changing the natural contour of the lie. When the mat requires placement on vegetation, it shall not be elevated more than three inches from the ground. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (c) A ball played from the mat shall be placed so that the outer edge of the ball is a minimum of one ball diameter distance from any edge. In case of a damaged mat the ball must be placed so that a minimum of one ball diameter distance of undamaged mat surrounds the ball. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (d) Once the mat is placed and the ball has been lifted, the mat cannot be moved unless the original position of the ball can be positively established by a mark or a marker and the ball replaced. When a ball is lifted and placed on the mat, it is not in play until a stroke has been made. Accordingly, if a ball that has been placed on a mat subsequently moves, it may be replaced without penalty. If however, a stroke is made at the ball, the stroke shall count whether the ball was moving or not. Should the lie not allow the ball to be

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played from the mat, the player may place the ball on the ground as stipulated in 2.a) above. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (e) A player's mat must be placed, not forced, on the ground or any vegetation before placement of the ball on it. (RTGC)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (f) Should the lie of the mat not allow the ball to be placed on it, the player must either play the ball as it lies, or declare an unplayable lie and proceed under USGA Rule 28. (RTGC)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

3B. UTILITY LINES

- (a) If a ball strikes a utility line, guy wire, power or utility pole, the player must disregard that stroke, abandon the ball and play another ball as near as possible at the spot from which the original ball was played as stipulated in Rule 20-5 (Playing next stroke from where previous stroke played). (SAGA)

Note: The Communication Tower and associated items contained within the area bounded by its fence near Hole 9 is NOT a considered a utility line, guy wire, power or utility pole. Reference Local Rule 1A.

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

3C. BUNKERS

- (a) A ball on the berm, touching on or inside the white painted line, chalk line or rope that delineates the bunker must be dislodged gently and made to roll in such a way that the ball comes to rest in the bunker. White lines or ropes on the berm shall delineate the bunker. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

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- (b) The portion of the berm outside the white line or rope is declared as an immovable obstruction. If the ball comes to rest on the berm outside of the white line or rope, it is to be played as stipulated in Rule 24-2 (Immovable Obstruction). (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- (c) In a bunker rocks lying within six inches of the ball are declared as movable obstructions and played as stipulated in Rule 24-1 (Movable Obstruction). (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

3D. PUTTING GREEN

- a) A ball on the putting green may be lifted, cleaned and placed no nearer the hole within 6 inches of the spot where it came to rest. A visible mark in the putting green or a marker constitutes marking the ball under Rule 20-1. The sole of the shoe or the sole of the putter may be used in preparing the putting green for the placement, but the ball mark shall not be eliminated. (SAGA).

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- b) When the ball is at rest on the putting green, and without unduly delaying play, repairs may be made to the putting surface with the sole of the shoe, the sole of the putter or swept with a brush across the line of the putt. Other than by sweeping, the player may move loose impediments by picking them up or brushing them aside with his fingers. The player may also repair damage to the putting green caused by the impact of a ball, a footprint, or damage to the hole caused by the removal of the flagstick. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- c) At any time without undue delay, the putting green may; be swept with a brush, loose impediments moved by picking them up, repair damage to the putting green caused by the impact of a ball, a footprint, or damage to the hole caused by the removal of the flagstick. The direction of sweeping must be across the line of the putt. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

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- d) Repairs with the sole of the shoe or the sole of the putter may only be made across the line of the putt and shall be a minimum of 6 inches. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- e) The sum total of all repairs made with the sole of the shoe or the sole of the putter shall not exceed 12 inches along the line of the putt. Repairs requiring more than a total of 12 inches in length must be swept per c) above. (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

- f) A ball resting on the putting green, so close to a raised berm or bunker that the stance or putting stroke is hindered, or the stance may cause damage to the green adjacent to the bunker or berm, is played as stipulated in Rule 24-2/b(iii) (Immovable Obstruction, Relief, On the Putting Green). (SAGA)

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
	Stroke Play	TWO STROKES

4. **Obstructions**

Local Rules for Obstructions are covered by 1F.

5. **Dropping Zones (Mandatory)**

Drop zones are identified by a single green stake with yellow stripes or through the use of an elevated box designated as a drop zone. The drop zone area marked by a yellow and green stake is anywhere within 3 club lengths of the stake.

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in the water hazard and there is a drop zone as identified under local rule 1B or 1C, the player shall either play it as it lies or optionally drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the dropping zone.

If a ball is in or it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in environmentally sensitive area as and there is a drop zone as identified under local rule 1D, the player shall drop a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in the dropping zone.

Penalty:	Match Play	LOSS OF HOLE
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Stroke Play TWO STROKES

6. **Equipment**

6A. MAT DESIGN (SAGA)

- a) Mats (including the backing) shall be round with a minimum diameter of 10" and a maximum diameter of 12."
- b) Mats shall be made from artificial grass or equivalent material, be uniform in thickness, be of even texture, lie flat, and be free of wrinkles.
- c) No markings are allowed on the upper surface of the mat, i.e.: shall not have a line on the surface of the mat.
- d) Without penalty, a mat damaged or lost during play may be replaced or two or more players may share a single mat. The damaged or shared mat shall be replaced at the earliest opportunity.
- e) Only one side of the mat shall be used during play.

Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION

6B. BALLS

Clubs and balls shall conform to the Rules specified by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. "X-Out", "Range", and "Practice" golf balls are prohibited in RTGC sponsored competitions.

Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION

6C. SHOES
Only flat soled shoes are permitted. Shoes which leave a print on the putting surface that may not be removed by normal sweeping are not permitted. Shoes with knobby, rippled or spiked soles or shoes with elevated heels are not permitted.

Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION

6D. CART EQUIPMENT

- a) Use of automotive transportation during RTGC sponsored tournaments is allowed. (RTGC).
- b) Players and caddies may use automotive transportation during inter-area SAGA sponsored tournaments provided sufficient automotive transportation is available for all participants. Changes or exceptions to this rule may be made by the respective Tournament Committee for reasonable cause. (SAGA)

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Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION

- c) Under no circumstances will players or caddies use automotive transportation during the Saudi Aramco Invitational Tournament. (SAGA)

Penalty: DISQUALIFICATION

6E DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

For all play at this course, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3

7. **Accidental Movement of a Ball on a Putting Green**

Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 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 ball-marker must be replaced as provided in Rules 18-2, 18-3 and 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 a 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.