

Model Local Rule G-9:

Note: The following Model Local Rule **replaces** the version of MLR G-9 published in the printed edition of the 'Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, Effective January 2023' starting on 1 January 2025.

G-9 – Broken or Significantly Damaged Club Replaced with Similar Club

Purpose. Rule 4.1a(2) allows a player to repair or replace a club that is damaged during the round, except in cases of abuse. But a Committee may adopt a Local Rule to restrict replacement to cases where the club is broken or significantly damaged.

Model Local Rule G-9

“Rule 4.1a(2) applies but is modified in these ways:

1. A club damaged by the player or their caddie during the round or while play is stopped under Rule 5.7a may only be replaced if the damage was not caused by abuse and if the club is broken or the damage is significant.

For the purposes of this Local Rule, examples of when a club is “broken or the damage is significant” include:

Shaft:

- The shaft is in pieces, or it is bent, dented, kinked or splintered.

Clubhead (except Club Face):

- The clubhead is visibly cracked or substantially deformed (but not when it is only scratched, chipped or has a minor dent),
- The clubhead is loose or no longer attached to the shaft, or
- A part inside the clubhead is loose (such as when there is an audible rattle).

Club Face:

- The club face is visibly cracked or deformed (including when it has a chip or minor dent but not when it is only scratched).

Grip:

- The grip or part of it is loose.

2. To ensure the progression of the set is maintained, the replacement club must fill the gap created when the player took the broken or damaged club out of play.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule – See Rule 4.1b.” (Revised January 2025)