

WHAT'S NEW ON THE PGA TOUR HARD CARD IN 2019?

The PGA TOUR Hard Card (Local Rules and Terms of the Competition) has been modified to reflect the 2019 Rules of Golf, Model Local Rules, Rule numbers, Defined terms and new language.

Notable omissions from the 2018 Hard Card:

- Removed Accidental Movement of Ball on Putting Green Local Rule - now exists in full Rules
- Removed Failure to Include Unknown Penalty Local Rule - now exists in full Rules
- Removed Embedded Ball in the General Area - now exists in full Rules
- Removed Turf Plugs on Putting Green - now exists in full Rules

Notable additions/changes to the 2019 Hard Card:

- The 2019 Hard Card incorporates the new Rules terms and defined area names. (i.e. Penalty Areas, General Area, Integral Object, Temporary Water, etc.)
- **Item 2a:** Ball dropped in a Drop zone must land and come to rest in the Drop zone.
- **Item 2b:** By Rule, relief is NO longer automatically available on the opposite side of a Red Penalty Area.
However, check the weekly Notice to Players (Local Rules sheet) for those Red Penalty Areas where the opposite margin relief is available for a specific hole that week.
For a ball entering on the OB side of a Red Penalty Area opposite margin is always allowed.
- **Item 3d:** Relief may be given by the Rules Committee for holes left by movable obstructions, but not for stance. (i.e. Microphones, chair indentations, Shot Link equipment, etc.)
- **Item 4:** Relief is now permitted from immovable obstructions (sprinkler heads) close to putting greens when on the player's line of play and in an area cut to fairway height or less. The obstruction must be within 2 club-lengths of the putting green and the ball within 2 club-lengths of the obstruction, and both must lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.
- **Item 5e:** Gates in boundary fences are now integral objects on the course but may be treated as movable obstructions if they are movable.
- **Item 6:** Replay for striking an overhead permanent power line, but only if the power line is in bounds.
- **Item 12:** Distance-Measuring Devices are now allowed by Rule, so the PGA Tour will disallow them for tournament use by Local Rule.
- **In Box:** NO relief for a ball embedded in stacked turf face in a bunker.

Any questions may be referred to: 2019RulesQuestions@pgatourhq.com

