



ST BEES GOLF CLUB

CURRENT LOCAL RULES

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Version Control

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1.2	14/06/2020	Bill Douglas	Honorary Secretary	Section 4.2 reworded for clarity

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1. The Game of Golf

Play the course as you find it and play the ball as it lies.

It is important that all members, guests and visitors understand the Health and Safety Policy of St Bees golf club.

2. Conduct Expected of All Players

All players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by:

- Acting with integrity – for example, by following the Rules, applying all penalties, and being honest in all aspects of play
- Showing consideration to others – for example, by playing at a prompt pace, looking out for the safety of others, and not distracting the play of another player
- Taking good care of the course – for example, by replacing divots, smoothing bunkers, repairing ball-marks, and not causing unnecessary damage to the course

3. Rules of Golf

The Rules of Golf are intended for those who administer the game and who need to answer the variety of questions that can arise in relation to golf competitions. As a player you are strongly advised to read 'The Player's Edition' of the rules of Golf, they can be viewed or downloaded using the following link: <https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/pages/players-edition>

For Information. Rules of Golf 2019- **definition of General Area.**

The **area of the course** that covers all of the **course except** for the other four defined areas:

- (1) the **teeing area** you must play from in starting the **hole** you are playing
- (2) all **penalty areas**
- (3) all **bunkers**
- (4) the **putting green** of the **hole** you are playing.

4. Current Local Rules

Local Rules are modification of a Rule or an additional Rule that the Committee adopts for general play and/or competitions. The Committee ensure that our Local Rules are available for players to see in the clubhouse and on the club notice board. They can be also viewed or downloaded using the following link on the St Bees Golf Club website: <https://www.stbeesgolfclub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/St-Bees-Golf-Club-Current-Local-Rules.pdf>

In addition to current local rules, players must maintain appropriate social distancing during the round and follow the England Golf Play Safe Stay Safe protocols designed to eliminate unnecessary handling and points of contact when playing the game of golf. A copy of the England Golf Play Safe Stay Safe protocol can be viewed or downloaded using the following link:

<https://www.Englandgolf.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/A-Framework-for-Playing-Golf-17-May-2021-V4.pdf>

The current Local Rules in play at St Bees Golf Club are outlined in the following subsections of this document.

4.1 Out of Bounds (OoB)

1 st	Car park, Practice area, Fence on left hand side
2 nd , 3 rd	Fence left hand side alongside 2 nd tee, 3 rd tee, leading to 3 rd green
4 th , 5 th	Outside fence on 4 th tee and OoB markers cliff side of fairways
7 th	OoB markers behind green
9 th	Fence on left of tees leading to green, OoB markers alongside green, practice area on left.

Note: When playing 2nd nine holes, read 1st - 10th, 2nd – 11th etc.

4.2 Integral Parts of Course

Stone post right hand side of 5th fairway, cliffside path.

Note: If Out of Bounds markers or fences or stone post right hand side of 5th fairway interferes with a player's stance or swing then the ball must be played as it lies or declared unplayable under Rule 19.

Exception to this rule applies to the fence on the left-hand side of the 3rd green between the 2 green posts directly opposite the green, i.e. if the players stance or swing is interfered with or by the out of bounds fence, then the player may lift and drop the ball in the dropping zone adding one penalty stroke.

Note: if the ball lying between the Two green posts is out of bounds, then the player must take stroke and distance relief by adding a One-shot penalty and playing a ball from where the previous stroke was made (rule 14.6)

4.3 Ground Under Repair (GUR)

Play is prohibited from any area marked as GUR

Rule 16: free relief, drop within one club length, no nearer hole, from nearest point of relief.

4.4 Tractor Ruts and holes made by Green Keeper

Note: A deep rut is deemed GUR, (Relief **Rule 16.1**) a shallow indentation made by greenkeeping machinery or other means would not.

4.5 Practice Putting on Green

The committee, under **Rule 5.5b**, has implemented this local rule: a player must not:

- Make any practice stroke on the putting green of the hole just completed, or
- Test the surface of that putting green by rubbing the putting green or rolling a ball

4.6 Immovable Obstructions Rule 16

Interference: by an immovable obstruction occurs, when a ball lies in or on the obstruction, or when the obstruction interferes with the players stance or the area of his intended swing.

Relief: If the ball lies in the general area, a player may lift and drop without penalty within one club length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief. **Rule 14** applies.

Immovable Obstructions on this course:

- 1) All tee and information signs
- 2) Shelter at 7th tee, latrine and path and fence
- 3) Front and inside shelter left hand side of 5th fairway
- 4) Marker posts behind 1st and 6th greens
- 5) Fence left side of 5th green
- 6) All astro-turfed paths
- 7) All yardage markers
- 8) All tees that are constructed with stone face
- 9) All drain and water point covers
- 10) All Memorial benches and seating

4.7 Movable Obstructions Rule 15.2

A player may take relief, without penalty, from a moveable obstruction as follows:

- a) If the ball **does not** lie on or in the obstruction the obstruction may be removed. If the ball moves it must be replaced and there is no penalty provided the movement of the ball is directly attributable to the removal of the obstruction.
- b) If the ball lies in or on the obstruction the ball may be lifted and the obstruction removed. The ball in the general area or hazard must be dropped, or on the putting green placed, as near as possible to the spot directly under the place where the ball lay in or on the obstruction, but not nearer the hole. The ball may be cleaned under this rule.

Movable Obstructions on this Course Rule 15.2:

- (1) Sighting posts, positioned in the rough
- (2) Bells on left of 3rd and right of 5th fairways
- (3) Marker poles on 1st, 3rd and 5th fairways

4.8 Aeration Holes

Relief without penalty.

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

- a) **Ball in General Area.** The player may take relief under **Rule 16.1b**. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.

- b) **Ball on Putting Green.** The player may take relief under **Rule 16.1d**. The aeration hole cannot be repaired. But interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's stance or, on the putting green, on the player's line of play.

4.9 Embedded Ball Rule 16.3

The embedded ball must be in the general area. The ball is embedded when in its own pitch mark when part of the ball is below ground level. Free relief under **Rule 14.3**. Lift, clean and drop at nearest point of relief.

4.10 Old Hole Plugs on Green

The committee has ruled old sunken or raised plug holes and drain holes are 'abnormal ground condition' and relief may be taken under **Rule 16.1**. (relief for line of putt).3.1

4.11 Animal Holes and Worm Casts

Any holes and excavation tracks left by all animals are classed as an 'abnormal ground condition'. The player may take relief without penalty under **Rule 16.1b**.

Worms and worm casts **on the green** being played are categorised as loose impediments and may be removed without penalty.

4.12 Priority on Course

Players leaving the 9th green must filter in alternatively with players waiting to start in the first tee.

While Covid restrictions are in place, players on the first tee always have priority to tee off on their booked tee off time i.e. on the hour or 10 minute intervals thereafter. Players leaving the 9th green must not filter in if this could prevent the 1st tee players teeing off on time.

Players approaching or on the 6th Tee have priority over players on the 9th Tee and 8th green. Players on or around the 8th green should cease play and stand clear of the green until the final player has played their tee shot from the 6th Tee.

No group or single player has priority over any other group or player. Single, 2, 3, or 4 balls, casual players, visitors or competition players have equal priority on the golf course.