All section members are to note that due to the current COVID19 restrictions and to enable qualifying competition to take place, all bunkers will be subject to a temporary provision of preferred lies. The following local rule will therefore be in effect from 03rd August 2020.

**Bunkers – Model Local Rule E3 – Preferred Lies**

When a player’s ball lies in a bunker, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing from the relief area as follows:

* Reference point: The reference point must be the spot of the original ball.
* Size of the Relief Area: The maximum allowable distance must be within 6 inches from the reference point.
* Limits on Location of Relief Area: The **ball must be placed in the bunker** and **not nearer the hole** and the relief area **cannot** **be smoothed** before placing your ball.

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)](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-14#14-2b) and [14.2e](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-14#14-2e).

**Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under**[**Rule 14.7a**](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-14#14-7a)**.**

**Protection of Young Trees – Model Local Rule E10 – No Play Zone**

A number of newly planted trees are now established throughout the general area of the course that will require protection from damage. Therefore, any newly planted tree defined with a stake are designated as a no play zone.

* If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course other than in a penalty area and it lies on or touches such a tree or such a tree interferes with the player's stance or area of intended swing, the player must take relief under [Rule 16.1f](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-16#16-1f).
* If the ball lies in a penalty area, and interference to the player's stance or area of intended swing exists from such a tree, the player must take relief either with penalty under [Rule 17.1e](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-17#17-1e) or with free relief under [Rule 17.1e(2)](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-17#17-1e).

**Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty Under**[**Rule 14.7a**](https://www.randa.org/en/rog/2019/rules/the-rules-of-golf/rule-14#14-7a)**.**