



U.S. KIDS VENICE OPEN

13-15 August 2026



The following Terms of Competition and Local Rules and notes published by the Committee, together with USKIDS International Championship Rules and Regulation, will apply to VENICE OPEN 2026 – (boys 13-18 and girls 13-18 at Golf Frassanelle) (boys 9-12 and girls 10-12 at Golf della Montecchia) - and played in accordance with the Rules of Golf approved by the R&A Rules Limited. For the full text of the Local Rules referenced below, please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf effective from January 2023 and the Clarifications updated quarterly by the R&A. **Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of the Local Rules is the General Penalty**

LOCAL RULES

PREFERRED LIES ONLY for FRASSANELLE:

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another ball in and playing it from this relief area:

- **Reference Point:** spot of the original ball.
- **Size of Relief Area measured from Reference Point:** within the length of one scorecard length from the Reference Point.
- **Limits on Location of Relief Area:** must not be nearer to the hole than the reference point and must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the Ball and use the procedure for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e

Penalty for playing ball from a wrong place in Breach of Local Rule: General Penalty under Rule 14.7a.

1. OUT OF BOUNDS (RULE 18.2)

A ball is out of bounds when it is beyond any wall defining a boundary.

ONLY for MONTECCHIA:

- a. **INTERNAL OUT OF BOUNDS:** When playing hole #16 the right side up to about 100 meters from the green, defined by white/green stakes, is out of bounds. The white/green stakes are objects that define the limit during the game of hole #16; for all other hole these stakes are immovable obstructions.
- b. The outer edge of the asphalt road (identified with white stakes): - on the right of hole #9, - behind the greens of hole #9 and #18, - behind the teeing area of hole #1 and #10, defines the out of bounds.

ONLY for FRASSANELLE:

If the Out of Bounds is defined by the wild boars fence, the fence is Boundary Object. The electric boundary fence is not armed during the day.

2. PENALTY AREAS (RULE 17)

ONLY for FRASSANELLE:

Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas: as the hole #15 Dropping Zone is marked for a penalty area, it is an additional option under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3, meaning that a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

Hole #12: Red Penalty Area on the left side is extended to infinity.

ONLY for MONTECCHIA:

Dropping Zones for Penalty Areas: at the hole #11 dropping zone is marked for a penalty area, it is additional option under penalty of one stroke. The dropping zone is a relief area under Rule 14.3, meaning that a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

3. ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS (RULE 16.1)

a) **Ground Under Repair**

1. All areas bounded by white lines.
2. Seams of Cut Turf: Model Local Rule F-7 is in effect.
3. French drains (stone-filled drainage ditches).
4. Erosions in bunker caused by water. Relief available for lie of the ball ONLY.
5. Damages created by wild boar.

6. Cracks in earth.

b) **Immovable Obstructions**

1. White lined areas and the immovable obstruction they tie into, are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
2. Landscaped garden areas (and everything growing in them) that are completely surrounded by an immovable obstruction, are treated as a single abnormal course condition.
3. All roads and paths.
4. Where areas of damaged ground are right next to artificially surfaced road or path or other identified obstruction they are treated as a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under RULE 16.1: Model Local Rule F-3.2 is in effect.

4. IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS CLOSE TO PUTTING GREEN

Model Local Rule F-5.2 is in effect but is modified as follows: For a ball in general area, relief is allowed only when both the ball and the immovable obstruction lie in an area cut to fairway height or less.

5. INTEGRAL OBJECTS

1. Wires, cables, wrapping or other objects when closely attached to trees or other permanent objects.
2. Artificial retaining walls and pilings when located within penalty areas.
3. Any closed gate attached to a boundary object.
4. **ONLY FOR FRASSANELLE:** Rocks and Stones wall located between holes #7 and #8.

6. GREEN

ONLY FOR FRASSANELLE: the green serving holes 9 and 18 is considered to be two separate green divided by yellow dotted line. A player who has interference with the portion of the green for the hole not being played is on a wrong green and must take relief under Rule 13.1f.

7. PERMANENT OVERHEAD POWER LINE

Model Local Rule E-11 is in effect but only if it is known or virtually certain that a player's ball strikes a power line in bounds and not the supporting pole; the stroke is cancelled and must be replayed (see Rule 14.6). If the player does not replay the stroke, she gets the general penalty and the stroke counts, but the player has not played from a wrong place. If the player replays the stroke but does so from a wrong place, she gets the general penalty under Rule 14.7.

8. DISQUALIFICATION MODIFICATION

The U.S. Kids Golf Disqualification Policy (DPQ) is NOT applied for rankings (WAGR, Order of Merit, Italian Rankings)

9. TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect and is modified in this way: "During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation **except** as authorized or later approved by the Committee. (A player taking a stroke and distance penalty is always authorized)."

Penalty for breach of this Local Rule: General Penalty for each hole during which there is a breach, maximum penalty for round: Four strokes. A breach between holes applies to the next hole.

10. PRACTICE (RULE 5)

Practice before or between rounds in Stroke Play (Rule 5.2b): Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: *A player must not practice on the competition course before or between rounds.*

Penalty for breach of Rule 5.2: See penalty statement in Rule 5.2.

11. SCORECARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Rule 3.3b(2) is modified in this way:

If player returns a scorecard without the hole scores being certified either by the player, the marker or both, the player gets the *general penalty (two penalty strokes)*. *The penalty applies to the last hole of the player's round.*

COMMITTEE:

MAURO VINCHESI	Tournament Director	CHRISTA VAN LUIJK	Referee
ERIC ALLEN	Referee	MASSIMO FABBIANI	Referee
ZOE ALLEN	Referee	NICOLO' ZAVARISE	Referee
DAVIDE BALDI	Referee		

ALL REFEREES ARE EMPOWERED TO MAKE A FINAL DECISION: ONLY THE REFEREE HIMSELF CAN ASK FOR A SECOND OPINION.

PLAYERS CAN CALL THE TOURNAMENTE HOTLINE IF RULLING IS NEEDED OR FOR ANY ON COURSE EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL NUMBER +39 06 56549980 (US KIDS), [+39 049 9910722 (FRASSANELLE), +39 049 8055550 (MONTECCHIA)]