



Model Local Rule G-8 Questions and Answers

MLR G-8

Rule 4.3a(4) is modified in this way: During a round, a player must not listen to or watch content of any nature on a personal audio or video device.

1. What is a “personal audio or video device?”

A “personal audio or video device” is any electronic device capable of producing or transmitting audio or video streaming, programs, music, entertainment, podcasts, videos, movies, sports broadcasts or any other transmission for personal consumption, instruction, entertainment or other information. Such devices include, but are not limited to, computers, laptops, tablets, smartphones, smart watches, earphones or other similar devices.

2. What are some examples of violating this Model Local Rule?

Listening to music, a blog or other verbal transmission for entertainment or educational purposes, watching a movie or TV program, checking Facebook, Instagram or other similar social network, playing video games, face-timing (except for an emergency), watching sports or any other similar audio or visual transmissions are not allowed.

3. May I briefly check my smartphone or smart watch to check scores of individuals and teams in the current competition?

Yes, that is allowed, but care must be taken to not allow other disallowed programming to be presented.

4. May I use my phone or watch to gather distance or directional information as allowed in Rule 4.3?

Yes. However, if other functions such as slope, interpreting distance or directional information (such as to get a recommended line of play or club selection) are present, the player is in violation of this Rule.

5. If I need to be in contact with a family member due to illness or some other condition, may I check and send texts or e-mails to and from them?

Yes.

6. May I text or e-mail my coach/advice giver?

Yes, but texting or e-mailing other team members or non-advice givers, asking for or giving advice information, could be a breach of the advice Rule.

7. Can an advice giver or player use an electronic device to get certain information?

Yes, The following are examples of what **would NOT be** a breach of MLR G-8 or Rule 4.3 (Use of Equipment):

- Using an electronic device app to get weather information (including wind speed) that is available from weather forecasts.

- Using an electronic device to get information that was gathered before the round (such as an Aim Point chart or playing information from previous rounds).
- Using an electronic device to record playing information or physiological information during the round, but must NOT process or interpret this playing information or use this physiological information recorded from the round.

8. Does the Committee restrict the means in which an advice giver can communicate advice information to their players or to the other advice giver?

No, an advice giver and a player, or an advice giver and the other advice giver, may communicate advice information to each other in person or by radio, telephone or other electronic means.

9. Can the advice giver communicate advice information by a group text to multiple players?

Yes, but this is NOT recommended. A group text is allowed as long as the advice information is one directional, from an advice giver to the players. If a player, during their round, were to give advice information in a group text, intended for another player in the competition playing on the course, this would be a breach of Rule 10.2a (Advice).

10. When does the communication of advice information need to stop between an advice giver and an outside influence (including a third coach)?

Once any of an advice giver's players has started their round, until the last of an advice giver's players have completed their round (except while play is stopped), the advice giver may only ask for advice from, or give advice to their players or their other advice giver (if applicable).

11. Can an advice giver or player use an electronic device to communicate non-advice information to others?

Yes, for example, during a round an advice giver or player may text the third coach or a parent to bring out a rain suit, an umbrella, food, more golf balls or a replacement club.

12. May I watch a broadcast of the competition I am in?

No, that would be a violation of the Model Local Rule under "content of any nature."

13. May I watch a screen or other visual device that is displayed on the course for public viewing?

Yes.

14. May I check a CGM (Continuous Glucose Monitor) if I'm diabetic?

Yes, such a medically necessary device is allowed. However, a device that monitors heart rate, blood pressure, breathing rate, etc. and is used during that round for the purpose of controlling those conditions in order to affect better golf is not allowed.