

More Rule Changes for 2019

By clicking on the underlined title or the image of each rule you can find more information on each rule.

Ball at Rest

Ball Moved During Search



No penalty for accidentally moving your ball during search.

No Penalty for Moving Ball on the Putting Green



No penalty for accidentally moving your ball or ball-marker on the putting green.

Standard for Deciding Why a Ball Moved



New standard to determine if you caused your ball to move.

Replacing Ball When Original Spot is Not Known



When the original location of your ball is not known, replace it on its estimated spot.

Ball in Motion

Ball in Motion Accidentally Deflected



No penalty if your ball in motion is accidentally deflected by you, your equipment, or your caddie.

Taking Relief

Measuring the Size of the Relief Area Where a Ball Must Be Dropped and Played



Your relief area for dropping a ball will be a fixed size of either one or two club-lengths using the longest club in your bag, other than your putter.

New Procedure for Dropping a Ball



Your ball must be let go from knee height and fall through the air without touching any part of your body or equipment.

Where a Dropped Ball Must Come to Rest



Your ball must come to rest in the relief area where it was dropped, or else it must be redropped.

Fixed Distances to be Used for Measuring



A fixed distance of the longest club in your bag, other than your putter, will be used for measuring.

Time For Search Before Ball is Lost



Your ball is lost if not found in three minutes (rather than the current 5 minutes).

Substitution of Ball Always Allowed When Taking Relief



You may always substitute a ball when taking relief.

Relief For an Embedded Ball



Relief allowed without penalty for an embedded ball anywhere (except in sand) in the “general area” (a new term for “through the green”).

Procedure for Taking Lateral Relief



In taking lateral relief, you will drop within two club-lengths of where your ball entered the penalty area. The size of a club-length will always be measured using the longest club in your bag, other than your putter.

Procedure for Taking Back-on-the-Line Relief



One of your options for relief from either a red or yellow penalty area will be called back-on-the-line relief.