

GOLF AUSTRALIA RULES

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015



GolfAustralia



Matthew Jones - 2015 Emirates Australian Open Champion

Rules on Tour

By Tom Duguid (Editor & National Referee)

Your Editor officiated at the recent UniQlo Australian Masters at Huntingdale Golf Club on Melbourne's famed sandbelt. Also working with the Australasian PGA Tour staff were Golf Australia representatives Bob Crosby (GA Rules of Golf & Amateur Status Sub-Committee Chairman), Simon Magdulski (GA Director – Rules & Handicapping), Adam Power (GA Manager - Course Rating), David Blake (Golf Victoria – Golf Services Officer) and Jason De Araujo (Golf NT - Secretary). This was Jason's first stint at a PGA tournament and no doubt he enjoyed the experience.

Events such as this are extremely valuable as they provide an opportunity for some less experienced personnel to engage in a

live tournament setting with experienced PGA Tour and GA officials and to afford developing officials the chance to work with the more unfamiliar aspects of tournament golf such as Temporary Immovable Obstructions (TIOs) and Pace of Play protocols.

TIOs are a lesser concern now that the major tournaments usually have movable advertising signs which reduce the need for a referee to attend when the sign intervenes on the line of play. The caddy, usually with the help of a marshal, can now just lift the sign out of its sleeves and place it to one side – or that is the theory – some players will still call for a ruling!

Although the "more than one, less than two club lengths" relief from TIO line of sight has been in force for several decades around the

Spring 2015: In this edition



New Rules of Golf
We explain the changes to the Rules of Golf coming into effect in 2016.



Golf in the Top End
Jason De Araujo from NT writes about golf in Darwin



It's Your Shot!
Your questions regarding the Rules... answered!



world, many elite golfers still have little understanding of the rule, or a reluctance to implement it without official supervision.

An unusual TIO situation occurred on Day 1 at Huntingdale. Playing Hole 7, a player's drive had hooked into the trees between the 6th and 7th fairways and his favoured way of escape was up the wrong fairway towards the 6th tee, but on this line of play was a TV tower. We know that to get relief from a TIO intervention must occur both on the line of play and on a direct line to the flag. As the 7th hole is a dog-leg left, the player suggested that the tower was also on his line to the flag. Bob Crosby and Simon Magdulski, both very experienced in officiating at major events, had the difficult task of confirming the line to the flag as the view was completely blocked by trees. After several visits to the 7th fairway and back trying to gauge the line, Bob and Simon agreed that relief was available.

The player then dropped out closer to the 6th fairway and proceeded to take his chosen route without having to play through the tower. This was an example of a situation when two heads are better than one – similar scenarios often crop up when players take relief under Rule



28b and the line to the flag needs to be estimated.

In this particular event, the Local Rules gave players the option to drop on either side of the TIO. This is common in tournaments where towers and other TIOs are located amongst the trees. This is to provide some equity for the player who, having a relatively clear shot but impeded by a TIO, may otherwise have to drop in a far worse lie if having to drop on the nearer side.

Another rules aspect of the sand belt courses is that balls tend to easily embed in the sandy ground. PGA tournaments provide relief for embedded balls "through the green" utilising the Specimen Local Rule in Appendix 1. This has an exception that relief is not available for a ball embedded in sand in an area not closely mown. This

then sometimes requires the official to determine whether the ball is in sand or not. However by having a consistent approach that sand is the natural surface of the Huntingdale course, a number of requests for relief from non-turfed areas were rejected.

Overall, very few rules calls were required, mainly due to the rather benign weather conditions that prevailed for the four days. May such conditions continue over the summer season!

New Rules of Amateur Status for 2016

The R&A and the United States Golf Association (USGA) have announced the latest revisions to the Rules of Amateur Status for golfers, which take effect on 1 January 2016.

The Rules of Amateur Status will be published within the 2016 edition of the Rules of Golf, a collaborative work by The R&A and the USGA that applies to all golfers around the world.

Among the most significant changes to the 2016 Rules of Amateur Status are the following:

Prize Money to Charity - New Rule 3-1b enables an amateur golfer to participate in an event where prize money or its equivalent is donated to a recognised charity, provided the approval of the governing body is first obtained in advance by the organiser.

This change has been made to reflect the growing number of charitable golf exhibitions organised around the world in aid of worthwhile causes and disaster relief agencies. As long as the organiser seeks prior approval from the governing body, an amateur golfer may donate any prize money to the identified charitable cause without compromising their Amateur Status.

Golf-Related Expenses - New Rule 4-3 clarifies that an amateur golfer may receive reasonable expenses, not exceeding actual

expenses incurred, for non-competition golf-related activities. Former Rule 4-3 becomes Rule 4-4.

Reinstatement to Amateur Status - The recommended guidelines on periods awaiting reinstatement are amended to provide that a period in breach of the Rules of up to six years (previously up to five years) should result in a period awaiting reinstatement of one year.

David Rickman, The R&A's Executive Director of Rules and Equipment Standards, said, "After the fundamental review of Amateurism conducted in the previous Rules cycle we have had a period of consolidation and have continued to develop the uniform Code. The new Code provides flexibility in terms of supporting recognised charitable causes, while remaining faithful to the principles of Amateurism."

Thomas Pagel, Senior Director of Rules of Golf at the USGA, said, "The new Amateur Code continues to provide appropriate limits and restrictions to encourage the amateur golfer to focus on the challenge of the sport, rather than on any financial gains. We also want to make it easier for golfers to return to the amateur sport if they no longer wish to play professionally."

New Rules of Golf for 2016



The R&A and the United States Golf Association (USGA) recently announced the publication of the 2016 edition of the Rules of Golf that takes effect on 1 January 2016. The new Rule book is the culmination of the normal four-year review cycle and is a collaborative work by

The R&A and the USGA that applies worldwide to all golfers.

David Rickman, Executive Director – Rules and Equipment Standards at The R&A said, “We continually look at ways we can improve and clarify the Rules of Golf. The R&A and the USGA collaborate closely and we consult with our respective national and international advisory members to produce a code of Rules that is relevant to all golfers around the world.”

Thomas Pagel, Senior Director of Rules of Golf at the USGA, said, “The objective with each four year cycle of the Rules is to monitor developments in the game and, when appropriate, to respond with changes that keep the best interests of the game in mind. The amendments for 2016 preserve and enhance the essential principles of the Rules, while at the same time ensuring that they reflect the evolution of the game.”

Among the most significant of the changes in the 2016 edition of the Rules are the following:

- **Withdrawal of Rule on Ball Moving After Address**

Rule 18-2b (Ball Moving After Address) has been withdrawn. This means that if a ball at rest moves after the player addresses it, the player is no longer automatically deemed to have caused the ball to move. A one-stroke penalty under Rule 18-2 will be applied only when the facts show that the player’s actions have caused the ball to move.

Under Rule 18-2b up until 2012, a player whose ball moved after address was automatically presumed in all cases to have caused the ball to move. In 2012, an Exception to Rule 18-2b was introduced to cover situations where it was “known or virtually certain” that the player had not caused the ball to move, but the application of that standard was not always clear. Under Rule 18-2 from 2016 onwards, if the facts show that the ball was moved as a result of the player addressing it, or by other actions of the player, the player will still incur a one-stroke penalty.

- **Limited Exception to Disqualification Penalty for Submission of Incorrect Score Card**

A new exception has been introduced to Rule 6-6d (Wrong Score for Hole) stating that a player will not be disqualified for returning a score card with a lower score than actually taken for a hole, provided that the mistake is the result of the player failing to include penalty stroke/s that they did not know they had incurred. Instead, the player incurs the penalty under the Rule that was breached AND must add an additional penalty of two strokes for the score card error. In all other cases in which a player returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken, the penalty will continue to be disqualification.

This Rule change will maintain the importance of returning an accurate score card by penalising the player two strokes for the score card error in addition to the penalty for the original underlying breach of the Rules. However it will enable the player to remain in the competition.

- **Prohibition on Anchoring the Club While Making a Stroke**

As announced by The R&A in May 2013, the new Rule 14-1b (Anchoring the Club) prohibits anchoring the club either “directly” or by use of an “anchor point” in making a stroke. The penalty is loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play. This new Rule will apply to all golfers in club golf, social golf, and professional golf.

The R&A has produced a guidance document to assist committees with the implementation of this new Rule. The document is available from the following page of the GA website – <http://www.golf.org.au/randaanchoringdocument>

Two key points to note on this Rule change are that long putters may continue to be used – it’s just that they may not be anchored. And the new anchoring Rule applies to all levels of golf – not just professional golf.

- **Modification of Penalty for Single Non-Permissible Use of Artificial Devices or Equipment**

The penalty for a player’s first breach of Rule 14-3 (Artificial Devices, Unusual Equipment and Abnormal Use of Equipment) during the round has been reduced from disqualification to loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play. The penalty for any subsequent breach of Rule 14-3 will continue to be disqualification. An example of a device that would cause a breach of this rule if used during a round is a purpose-built alignment rod.

- **Distance-Measuring Device Local Rule: Relaxation so that Players now Only in Breach if they Actually Use a Non-Conforming Feature (for competitions where distance measuring devices are permitted)**

The local rule on distance-measuring devices has been relaxed so that there will no longer be a penalty if a player uses a device with a non-conforming feature but does not actually use the non-conforming feature itself. (Distance-measuring devices may only be used in competitions where the committee has the local rule in effect.)

Examples of non-conforming features include applications that measure or provide advice on: elevation changes or slope, wind speed, club selection, green reading, and effective distance between two points based on elevation changes or other conditions that affect shot distance.

There are also a number of minor changes and additions, mainly for clarity or to confirm or reinforce the current interpretation. Your Editor has selected some of the more interesting as follows:-

- Definition of “Ball in Play” – new clause added – “A ball in play that has been marked but not lifted remains in play. A ball that has been marked, lifted and replaced is back in play whether or not the ball-marker has been removed.”
- Definition of “Equipment” – a new Note added – “Note 2: Equipment includes objects placed on the course for the care of the course, such as rakes, while they are being held or carried.”
- Definition of “Substituted Ball” will read as follows: A “substituted ball” is a ball put into play for the original ball that was either in play, lost, out of bounds or lifted, whether or not the substitution was

permitted. A substituted ball becomes the ball in play when it has been dropped or placed (see Rule 20-4).

- Rule 3-3 "Doubt as to Procedure" has had an overhaul to more clearly set out the procedures involved.
- Rule 8-2 "Indicating Line of Play" has been clarified to state that a breach of this rule occurs only when a mark or indicator is placed "for the purpose of indicating" the line of play or putt.
- Rule 25-2. "Embedded Ball". The following new note has been added to complement Decision 25-2/10.5– "Note 1: A ball is "embedded" when it is in its own pitch-mark and part of the ball is below the level of the ground. A ball does not necessarily have to touch the soil to be embedded (e.g. grass, loose impediments and the like may intervene between the ball and the soil)."

- Rule 26-2 "Ball Played Within Water Hazard". Another rule that has been reviewed to make it easier to follow.
- Appendix I "Local Rules". Part A and Part B have been merged into one part, with the specimen Local Rules included under the various sections for ease of reference. Clubs should take note of the new reference numbers and page numbers when quoting Specimen Local Rules on their club Local Rules. The new references can be obtained from your State Association.

Printed copies of the Rules of Golf, which are supported by Rolex, are supplied by The R&A and the USGA. More detailed information on recent changes and the complete Rules of Golf can also be found at www.RandA.org

DID YOU KNOW?

- The R&A will publish in English a total of 2.3 million copies of the Rules of Golf 2016, with 1.7 million printed in the UK and 600,000 in Australia. The UK print run will cover Great Britain & Ireland and all international deliveries, excluding Australia and New Zealand. The book will be delivered to 96 worldwide destinations as far away as the Falkland Islands. Approximately 900,000 copies will be distributed among 3,630 clubs and societies in Great Britain & Ireland in late October/early November.
- Copies of the Rules of Golf are reproduced under licence in 36 languages, in addition to English: Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese (Mandarin), Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, Georgian, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Latvian, Lithuanian, Mongolian, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Tamil, Thai, Turkish and Vietnamese.
- Rolex's relationship with The R&A dates back to 1978 when the company first began to support The Open Championship. In addition to the Rules of Golf, Rolex also support the Amateur Championship, the Walker Cup and the Junior Open. Rolex also sponsors the British Golf Museum and is the presenting patron of the Senior Open Championship.
- Companion publications to the Rules of Golf, Decisions on the Rules of Golf 2016 and Golf Rules Illustrated 2016 are published November 2015 by Hamlyn and are available from The R&A and online bookstores.
- In addition to the printed copy, the Rules of Golf, and the Decisions on the Rules of Golf, are also available as an App for most smartphones and tablets. The Rules of Golf and Decisions Book Apps are free of charge.
- Foreign language versions of the Rules of Golf App (reproduced under licence) are available in Chinese (Mandarin), Japanese and Spanish.

The R&A

Based in St Andrews, The R&A runs The Open, elite amateur events, international matches and rankings. Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions but sharing a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A governs worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, with the consent of 152 organisations from amateur and professional golf and on behalf of over 30 million golfers in 138 countries.

The R&A is committed to working for golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally and the development and management of sustainable golf facilities.

For more information about The R&A visit www.RandA.org.

The USGA

The USGA conducts the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open and U.S. Senior Open, as well as 10 national amateur championships, two state team championships and several international matches,

Together with The R&A, the USGA governs the game worldwide, including writing and interpreting the Rules of Golf, Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. While collaborating to issue a single set of Rules to apply worldwide to all golfers, the R&A and the USGA operate in separate working jurisdictions, with the USGA responsible for administering the Rules of Golf and Rules of Amateur Status in the United States and its territories and Mexico. As a service to the game, the R&A and USGA also jointly administer the World Amateur Golf Rankings.

The USGA is a global leader in the development and support of sustainable golf course management practices. It serves as a primary steward for the game's history and funds an ongoing "For the Good of the Game" grants program. Additionally the USGA's Course Rating and Handicap systems are used on six continents and more than 60 countries.

For more information about the USGA, visit www.usga.org.

Welcome to the Top End



A typical Lateral Water Hazard in the Dry Season

By Jason De Araujo (GA National Referee & Golf NT Secretary)

Up in the Northern Territory we have a very different season to the majority of the Australian golfing scene. The Australian golfing calendar tends to get into full swing during the November to March period. Up in the Top End this is when the humidity is in the 90s and the temperature in the mid 30s. Added to this our annual rainfall of about 1500 mm also occurs during these 'wet season' months.

"The tide is up" during the wet season and many of our water hazards which you can often play from in the 'dry' are more of a challenge this time of year.

The Rules of Golf can allow for the play of a provisional ball under Rule 26-1 (Relief for Ball in a Water Hazard). Under normal circumstances you cannot play a provisional ball for a ball that may be lost in a water hazard. However, if a water hazard (including a lateral water hazard) is of such size and shape and/or located in such a position that:

- i. it would be impracticable to determine whether the ball is in the hazard or to do so would unduly delay play, and
- ii. if the original ball is not found, it is known or virtually certain that it is in the water hazard,

the Committee may introduce a Local Rule permitting the play of a ball provisionally under Rule 26-1. The ball is played provisionally under any of the applicable options under Rule 26-1 or any applicable Local Rule. In such a case, if a ball is played provisionally and the original ball is in a water hazard, the player may play the original ball as it lies or continue with the ball played provisionally, but he may not proceed under Rule 26-1 with regard to the original ball.

In these circumstances, the following Local Rule is recommended:

"If there is doubt whether a ball is in or is lost in the water hazard (specify location), the player may play another ball provisionally under any of the applicable options in Rule 26-1.

If the original ball is found outside the water hazard, the player must continue play with it.

If the original ball is found in the water hazard, the player may either play the original ball as it lies or continue with the ball played provisionally under Rule 26-1.

If the original ball is not found or identified within the five-minute search period, the player must continue with the ball played provisionally.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes."

About Me –

Secretary – Golf NT

Area/Events of Responsibility

- Dealing with the constitutional and legislative responsibilities of the association.
- Representing Golf NT at Golf Australia meetings for CEO's.
- Chairman of Selectors.
- Member Protection Information Officer.
- Public Officer for the Association.

Home Club: Darwin GC

In 2001 I took up golf socially and in 2003 I joined Palmerston Golf and Country Club. In 2005 I was asked to apply for the vacant position of Secretary of the NT Golf Association, and was part of the team that worked through the amalgamation of the men's and women's golfing bodies.

In 2006 a new amalgamated body for golf in the NT was formed. I have held the position of Secretary since the inception of Golf NT and was also appointed Public Officer for the association. As our organisation is very small in terms of paid employees I represent the association at State and National CEO's meetings.

I have a broad knowledge of the activities of the association and one of my key projects is working with Tony Albon (Palmerston), Stephen Tieck (Alice Springs) and Peter Hargreaves (Darwin) to develop the NT representative program for men and women. As NT Selectors we are overseen by the Development Sub-committee.

I am an accredited National Referee and have officiated at men's and women's Australian Opens as well as National Amateur Tournaments. I successfully completed an Australian Advanced State Level Rules and Competitions Course (with Citation).



The 8th (Island Tee) at RAAF Darwin Golf Club

Rules Quiz

By Brian Nesbitt

(Victorian State Level Referee)

Answers can be found on the back page

In this edition, I am going to change the way we try to learn the rules by taking you through some “situations” that you might observe as a referee on the course. In each case, you have three minutes to find the rule and give a ruling. I would like the exact rule, including sub-paragraphs please.

1. You are called to a match and there is a dispute! A requested B to lift B's ball that is on A's line of play. B has refused to do so. How are you going to rule?
2. In a match, A has holed out. As B, A's opponent, is preparing to putt for a half, A gives advice as to his line of putt. B immediately claimed the hole as A has given him advice. You are called.
3. Again, in a match you are called as A, believing that he has won a hole picks up the coin marking the position of his opponent B's ball. In fact B had a putt to halve the hole. Should the picking up of B's ball-marker be considered a concession of B's next stroke?
4. In a match, between A and B, A has made two strokes and the ball with which A made his second stroke out of the rough is on the green. B, having played five, concedes the hole to A. A then discovers that he has played a wrong ball on to the green. You are called.
5. A, unable to find his ball after a two minute search, suggests to B, his opponent, that they move to the next hole. A's ball is then found. A withdraws his suggestion to move on to the next hole and play is resumed. Before A plays his ball, B plays a stroke with a wrong ball and you are called.
6. In a stroke play competition, a group preparing to start a hole is waiting for the group ahead to get out of range. May the group take

shelter from the rain in a rain shelter close to the tee?

7. A player removes a post defining out of bounds on his line of play. He realises that he has made a mistake and replaces it before playing his next stroke. His fellow-competitor calls you over.
8. A player finds a ball out of bounds, thinks it is his original ball, plays it at the spot from which the original ball was played and then finds his original ball in bounds. You are called.
9. The balls of A and B are in the same heel mark in a bunker. B's ball is farther from the hole. A lifts his ball under Rule 22-2, and B plays and obliterates the heel mark. You are called.
10. A player deemed his ball unplayable. In proceeding under Rule 28b or 28c, the player dropped his ball in an area of ground under repair from which play was prohibited by Local Rule. He then took the mandatory relief under Rule 25-1b. Is this procedure permitted?

Club Level, No Rule Book Quiz – Rule Numbers Please

1. Disputes and Decisions
2. Match Play
3. Stroke Play
4. Foursomes
5. The Ball
6. The Putting Green
7. Practice
8. Advice; Indicating line of play
9. Ball at Rest Moved
10. Order of Play

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It's Your Shot!!!

Marianne (Gisborne Golf Club, Vic) writes:-

"I don't know whether it is a misconception or not, but I can't find it in the rule book.

I have often heard that (during a stipulated round) a player can't hit off a tee (say 4th tee while marker is using the 'facilities') unless another player is there to observe, even if another player has a caddie who is present to observe. Can you clarify if this is correct? I can't find such a stipulation in the rules. Or if not, can it be added to the misconceptions list!

Simon Magdulski (Director – Rules & Handicapping, Golf Australia) replies:-

Hi Marianne,

Thanks for your query.

There is nothing in the Rules that prohibits the action you describe and it is in fact common on many courses for a marker at some stage during a round to not witness a stroke that the player has made – eg ball in deep bunker, or ball played from trees or bushes, etc.

That said, if the marker had reason to be concerned about the player's actions they could report this to the committee and ask the committee to make a determination on whether further investigation may be warranted.

Frank Gal (Golf NSW) forwarded the following query to Golf Australia:-

An enquiry has been received about the conformity of hickory shafted irons, specifically the face markings, as follows:

"It is true that many grooves are not parallel and would therefore not conform under the current Rules. This is despite the fact that the old grooves are quite shallow and spaced in a way that, in imparting spin to the ball, they are inferior to modern irons. The article also claims that the old style of punched holes on the face is non-conforming. This is a common misconception. Punch marks are perfectly legal in competition play if they conform to the specifications laid down in the current Rules (pages 157, 158)."

Is the author correct?

Simon's response:-

The R&A's generic advice on this topic is as follows:

"We can't provide a blanket comment about the likely conformance status of hickory clubs except to say that they would be required to conform to the current Rules in order to be used.

Many such clubs do have conformance issues when viewed against the modern Rules, for example, in relation to their grips, head shapes and face markings. (When we say face markings, we don't necessarily mean the 2010 groove specifications – as these do not apply at Club level as yet. We are simply referring to the basic groove Rules regarding, for example, "straight and parallel" and separation.)"

The R&A does also say that they don't see any harm in a club organising a 'hickory' event for fun and writing its own conditions of competition for that event. They would see this on a par with events such as '3 clubs and a putter', 'iron only' competitions and Texas scrambles. None of these formats would be covered by the Rules of Golf and, as such, would not be 'counting' events for handicap purposes (albeit, there may be circumstances where such a competition may be used for 'reduction only').

This R&A's Reader's Rules Request came from Terry Mills of Malaga, Spain. Terry wrote in to ask, "I often play golf in the UK and Spain and I've noticed this always causes some confusion when we discuss the golf we've watched on TV. You see players replacing their ball on the putting green but they do not remove the ball-marker and then the player goes back to touch and rotate the ball to align it. Is this allowed? I thought this would be a penalty situation?"



The R&A's Answer: Rule 20-4 is applicable in this situation. If the player's ball in play has been lifted, it is again in play when dropped or placed. Therefore, on the putting green, the ball is in play as soon as it is replaced on the ground, even if the ball-marker is still in position.

It is at this point that the player must be careful as the ball is now back in play. If the player carelessly caused the ball to move, the penalty under Rule 18-2 would be applied. The fact that the ball-marker is on the ground marking the ball's position does not exempt the player from the penalty.

However, while the ball is in play when it replaced with the ball-marker still on the ground, the position of the ball is also still effectively marked. Therefore, if the player wished to touch, lift or rotate the ball, the player can do so without penalty as the position of the ball is still marked. Once the ball-marker is removed, the player is prohibited from touching the ball other than as provided in the Rules (Rule 18-2).

If a player was to putt with the ball-marker still in position, generally there is no penalty, but it is not good practice to do so. Moreover, if the ball-marker was shaped in such a way that it could or did aid in alignment, the player is subject to penalty under Rule 8-2b (Indicating Line of Play On the Putting Green)

The Note to Rule 20-1 recommends that the position of the ball should be marked by placing a ball-marker, small coin or other similar object immediately behind the ball. While the shape of a ball-marker may take any form, as a general guideline, a ball-marker should not be larger than 2 inch by 2 inch square and should not be deeper than 0.25 inches.

This Note to Rule 20-1 is a recommendation of best practice, but there is no penalty for failing to act in accordance with the Note. Examples of methods of marking the position of the ball that are commonly used but are not recommended are:

- placing a toe of a club at the side of, or behind the ball;
- using a tee;
- using a loose impediment;
- scratching a line on the ground, provided the putting green is not tested and a line for putting is not indicated.



As the latter may cause damage to the putting surface, this practice is to be discouraged if you don't want to experience the wrath of the greenkeeper!

It is worth noting that under Rule 20-1, it is necessary to physically mark the position of the ball. Reference to a mark or blemish on the ground does not constitute marking the position of the ball.



Rules Quiz Answers

Club Level Quiz - Situations Quiz

1. In equity (Rule 1-4), B loses the hole for failing to comply with A's request to lift his ball under Rule 22-2.
2. A would normally lose the hole for a breach of Rule 8-1, but Rule 2-2 becomes operative in these circumstances and the hole is halved. (Once you've got a half, you can't lose it).
3. No. In equity (Rule 1-4), A should be penalised one stroke. Therefore, under the second paragraph of Rule 2-2 the hole is automatically halved.
4. A lost the hole (Rule 15-3a) before B conceded it to him. Therefore, B's concession was irrelevant.
5. A's suggestion amounted to a concession of the hole and B won the hole. Concession of a hole may not be withdrawn (Rule 2-4). B's actions after A's concession could not deprive him of a hole already won.
6. Yes, but the group must leave the shelter and resume play as soon as the group in front is out of range.
7. The player was in breach of Rule 13-2 the moment he moved the post and there was nothing he could do to avoid the penalty. The replacement of the post before the next stroke was irrelevant.

8. The original ball was lost and the ball found out of bounds is in play under penalty of stroke and distance. (Rule 27-1a)
9. Under Rule 20-3b, A is required to recreate his original lie as nearly as possible, including the heel mark, and place his ball in that lie.
10. Yes.

Answers to Club Level Quiz - Rule Numbers

1. Rule 34
2. Rule 2
3. Rule 3
4. Rule 29
5. Rule 5
6. Rule 16
7. Rule 7
8. Rule 8
9. Rule 18
10. Rule 10

