



METROPOLITAN INFORMATION FORUMS

CURRENT TOPICS IN GOLF

PRESENTED BY GOLF NSW

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www.golfnsw.org





DISCUSSION POINTS

- Pace of Play
- Using Multiple Tees
- 2019 Rules Modernisation
- Statistics on www.golfnsw.org
- Course Rating



PACE OF PLAY FACTS

Did you know?

If each player in a four-ball takes 5 seconds less to play each shot, the round time can be improved by over 25 minutes.

A recent R&A survey not surprisingly showed that 60% of golfers wished their rounds to be shorter



PEOPLE THESE DAYS ARE TIME POOR

CONSIDERATIONS

- 9 Hole Competitions
- Have forward tees rated
- Ready golf




READY GOLF



WHAT IS IT?


- Refers to a method for golfers to speed up play
- Hit when ready
- Shorter hitters can play first
- More efficient play

TOUR & NEWS

R&A set to implement Ready Golf in 2017 amateur events

 **Sean Zak**
Wednesday June 7th, 2017

SHARE  



Ready Golf was just one of a number of Rules changes proposed in February.

GETTY IMAGES // MARK RUNNAGLES

Who needs to be patient in this game of golf? The R&A sure isn't planning to be.

One of golf's governing bodies, the R&A is set to bring "ready golf" to its [amateur championships](#) beginning this year, instead of waiting until 2019 as was proposed earlier in 2017. The decision will be implemented with pace of play in mind, and will affect events such as the men's and women's



What Influences Pace of Play?

There are three factors which influence the Pace of Play:

- The management of play
- The course design and set-up
- The players

Explore the panels opposite to find out more information on each of the topics.

Before embarking on any attempts to improve pace of play, it is best to assess whether there is a widespread view among users of the facility that there is an issue with pace of play. The Pace of Play Manual provides guidance on simple methods of data gathering.





MULTI TEE AND MIXED GENDER COMPETITIONS

HOW?

- Each golfer plays from a specific set of tees of their choice
- Slope rating help to adjust the competition handicap
- Further adjustment of a handicap may be required



MULTI TEE AND MIXED GENDER COMPETITIONS

AN EXAMPLE: AT THURGOONA

- Stuart plays off the blue – par 72, scratch 73 (so his course is 1 harder than par)
- Bernard plays off white – par 72, scratch 72 (so his course is same as par)
- Piret plays off the red – par 74, scratch 75 (so her course is 1 harder than par)

Rules Modernisation

A Fundamental Revision to the Rules of Golf for 2019





2019 RULES MODERNISATION

SPEEDING UP PLAY

- Caddies can't stand behind players to line them up
- Must play within 40 seconds
- Can establish a maximum number of strokes in a competition
- Specifically allow golfers to play out of turn





2019 RULES MODERNISATION



Time for Ball Search



Three minutes
will be the
maximum
allotted time to
search for a ball,
rather than the
current five
minutes.





Repairing Spike Marks



It will be OK to repair spike marks and any other damage done by shoes, damage from a club and almost all other damage on the putting green.



Leaving Flagstick in the Hole

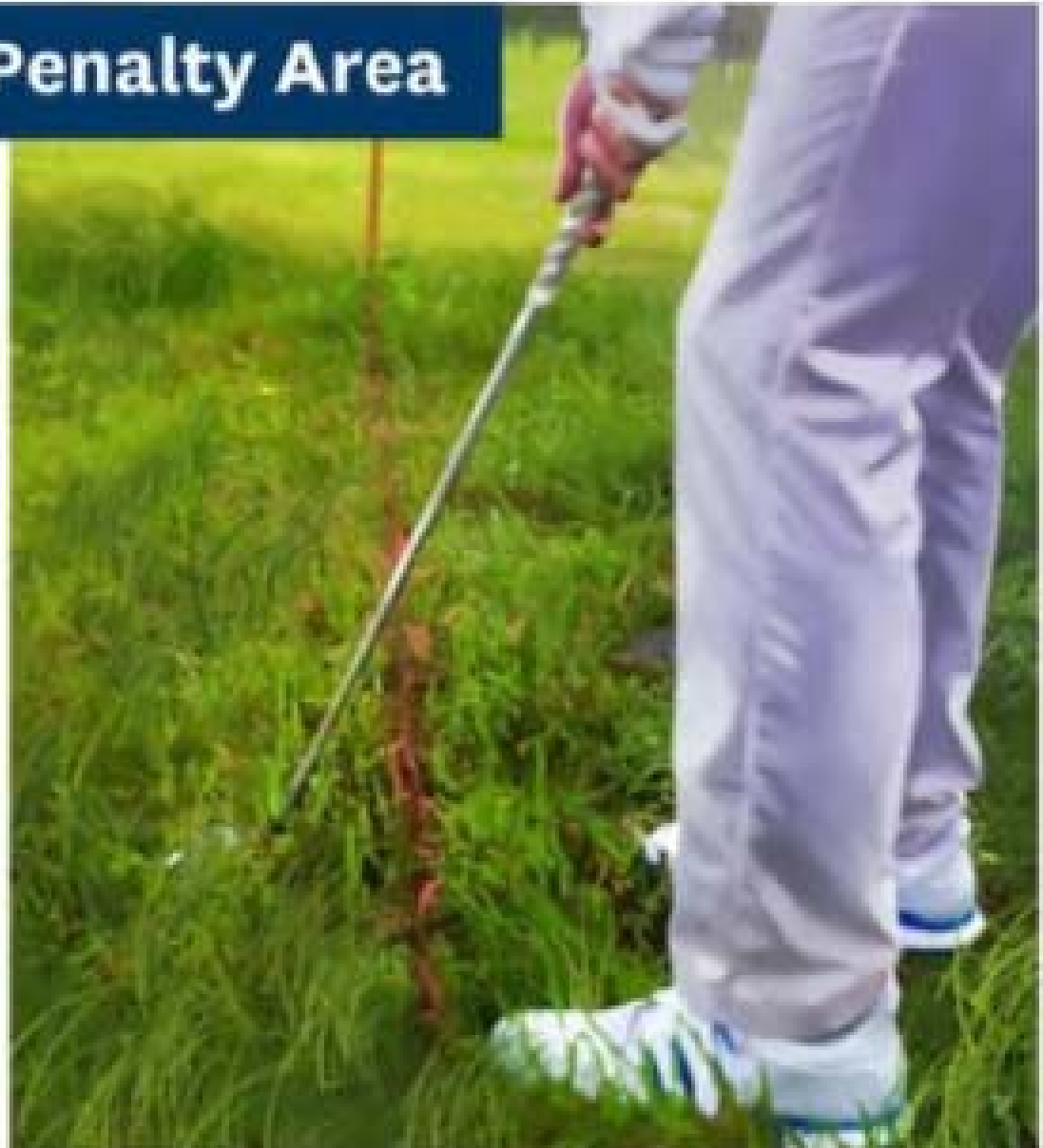
If you make a stroke from on the green and your ball hits the flagstick in the hole, there will be no penalty.





Relaxed Rules in Penalty Area

You are allowed to ground your club and move loose impediments in a penalty area (an expanded concept of water hazards).



BALL IN MOTION ACCIDENTALLY DEFLECTED



Proposed Rule

If a ball in motion is accidentally deflected by you or your equipment, there will be no penalty and the ball will be played from where it comes to rest.

Loose Impediments in a Bunker





New Writing Style and Formats

Rule 16

RULE 16

Rule 16 – Relief from Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions), Dangerous Animal Situations, Embedded Ball

Purpose of Rule 16:

Rule 16 covers when and how you may take free relief from interference by abnormal course conditions and dangerous animal situations.

- › Because such conditions and situations are not considered part of your challenge in playing the game, you are normally allowed relief without penalty when they interfere with your ball that lies anywhere on the course except in a penalty area.
- › You normally take relief by dropping your ball in and playing it from a relief area based on the nearest point of complete relief, so that you are completely free of the interference.

The Rule also allows you to take free relief when your ball is embedded in its own pitch mark in the general area.

16.1 Abnormal Course Conditions (Including Immovable Obstructions)

This Rule covers relief from interference by *animal holes, ground under repair, immovable obstructions or temporary water*.

These are collectively called abnormal course conditions, but each of these terms has a separate Definition.

a. When You May Take Relief

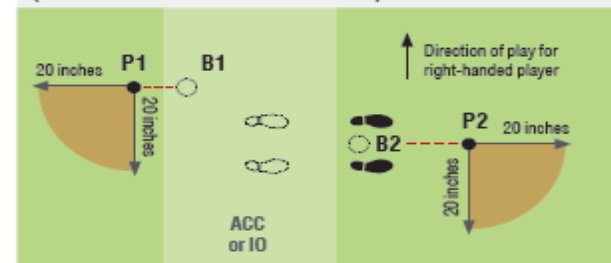
Meaning of Interference by Abnormal Course Condition.
Interference exists when:

Rule 16

- › Your ball touches or lies in or on an *abnormal course condition*, or
- › An *abnormal course condition* interferes with your area of intended *stance* or area of intended *swing*, or
- › Only when your ball is on *the putting green*, an *abnormal course condition* on or off *the putting green* intervenes on your *line of play*.

When your ball is off *the putting green*, intervention on your *line of play* is not interference under this Rule.

FIGURE 16.1a. RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS (INCLUDING IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS)



Relief is allowed for interference by an abnormal course condition (ACC), including an immovable obstruction (IO), when your ball touches or lies in or on the condition (B1), or the condition interferes with your area of intended stance or swing (B2). For a right-handed player, the nearest point of complete relief for B1 is very close to the condition (P1). For B2, it is farther from the condition to accommodate the stance (P2).



DROPPING THE BALL

- Within 20 or 80 inches rather than a club length or two
- Ball must land in and remain in the dropping area
- Drop from any height

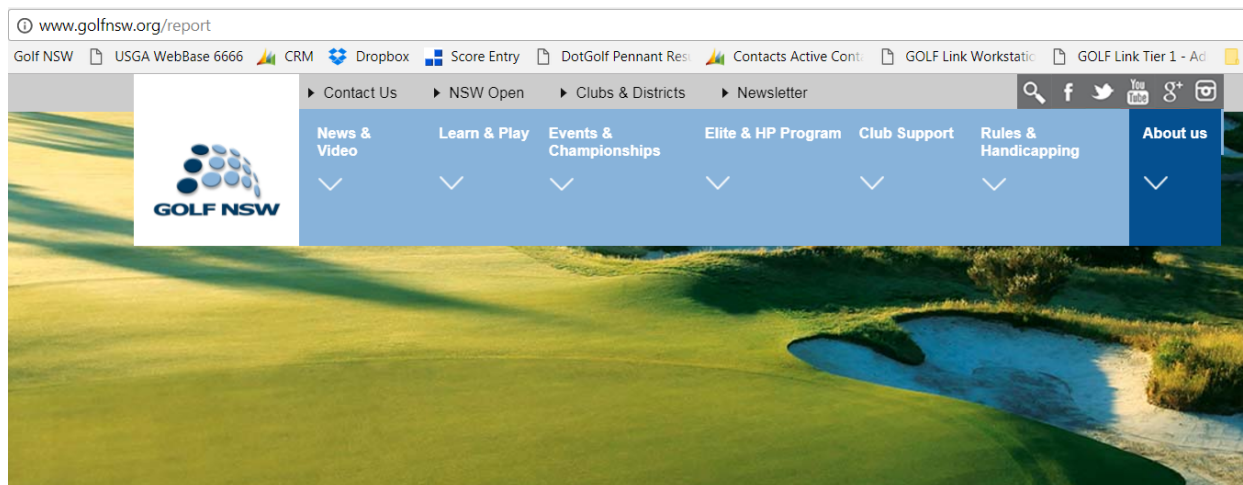




STATISTICS

MAKE YOUR DECISIONS EVIDENCE OR STATISTICALLY BASED

- Data from last 5 years of membership numbers available online



Club	District		
Roseville	Metro NSW	39%	61%
Mona Vale	Metro NSW	34%	66%
Wakehurst	Metro NSW	33%	67%
Balgowlah	Metro NSW	30%	70%
Avondale	Metro NSW	30%	70%
Elanora	Metro NSW	30%	70%
Woollahra	Metro NSW	30%	70%
The Royal Sydney	Metro NSW	29%	71%
Cammeray	Metro NSW	29%	71%
Randwick	Metro NSW	28%	72%
Killara	Metro NSW	28%	72%
Palm Beach	Metro NSW	28%	72%
Pymble	Metro NSW	27%	73%
Manly	Metro NSW	26%	74%
Chatswood	Metro NSW	25%	75%
Concord	Metro NSW	25%	75%
Cromer	Metro NSW	25%	75%
Pennant Hills	Metro NSW	24%	76%
North Ryde	Metro NSW	24%	76%
The Australian	Metro NSW	24%	76%
Cronulla	Metro NSW	23%	77%
Barnwell Park	Metro NSW	23%	77%
Bayview	Metro NSW	23%	77%
Carnarvon GC	Metro NSW	23%	77%
Kareela	Metro NSW	22%	78%
Botany	Metro NSW	21%	79%
New South Wales	Metro NSW	21%	79%

Year
2016

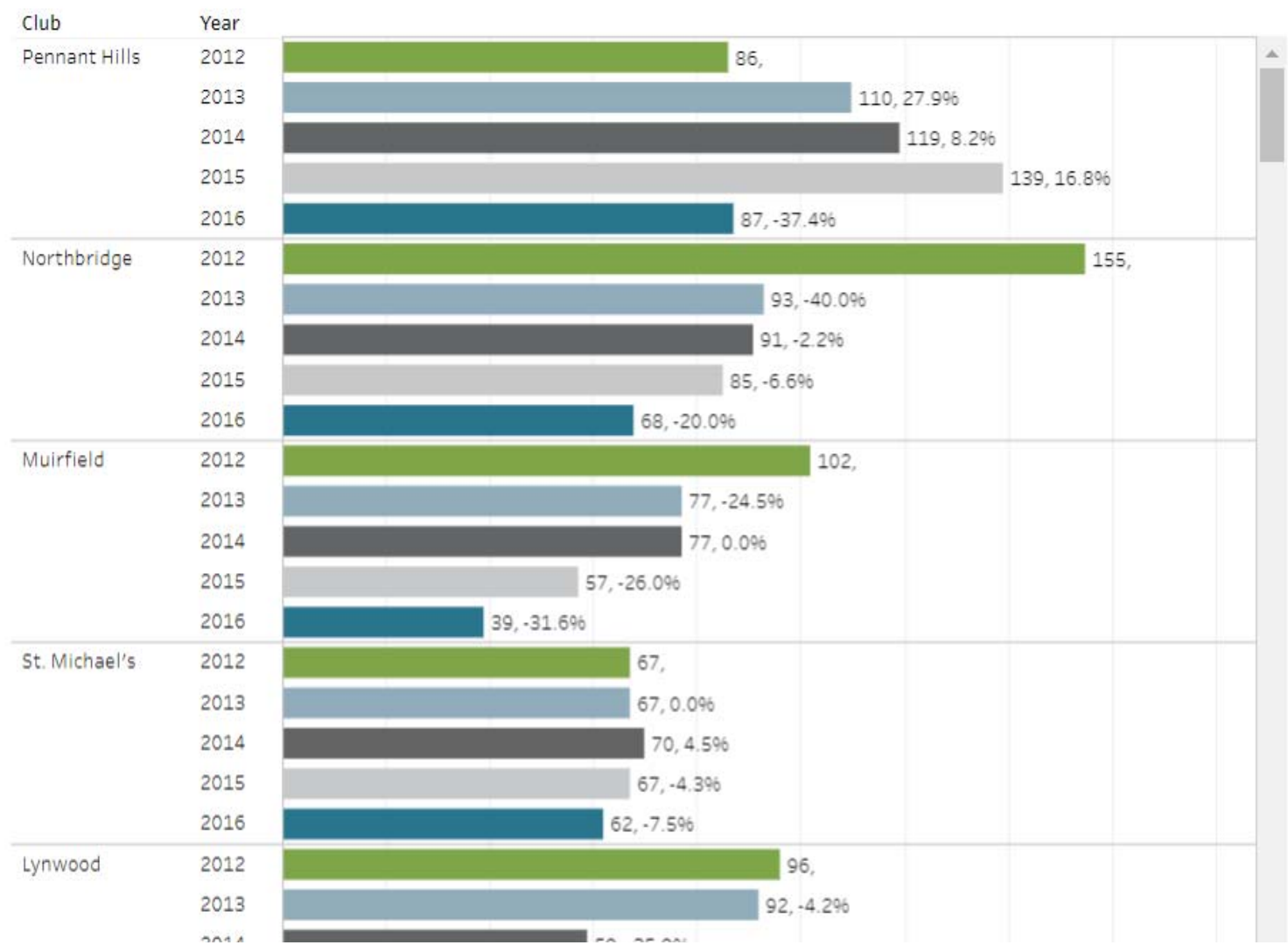
District
Metro NSW

Club Size
(Multiple values)

Club Search
Highlight Club

GENDER MIX





District

Gender

Adult / Juniors

Club Type

Club Size

JUNIORS





COURSE RATING

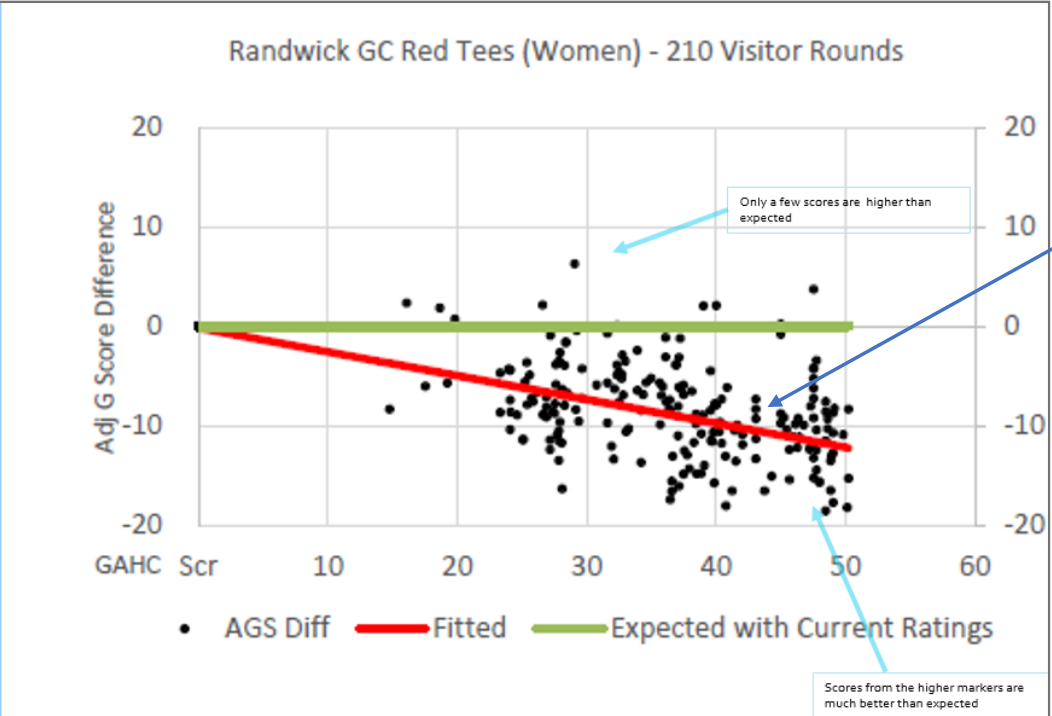
IMPROVEMENTS

- Golf NSW and Golf Australia are working towards statistical methodology
- Reviewing current USGA ratings that are currently being used



VISITORS
ROUNDS

COMPARING
EXPECTED
SCORES WITH
ACTUAL SCORES



Scores from higher markers much better than expected. Slope is likely too high.





NEXT PRESENTATION: CLUB SUPPORT