

# GOLF AUSTRALIA RULES

NEWSLETTER: Winter 2017



GolfAustralia



## The Open Championship

By Robert Crosby, Chairman GA Rules of Golf & Amateur Status Sub-Committee

*I was fortunate to again be invited to referee at the Open Championship, held this year at Royal Birkdale, Southport, England from 20th – 23rd July 2017. Having been at Royal Troon the previous year I was feeling far more comfortable about the role this year.*

Arriving in Southport on Monday morning and checking in to our hotel for the week, it was then off to the course to pick up referees' paperwork from the R&A Rules Office and to check out the Championship Headquarters marquee, which would be our base for the week when not on course.

With the 2017 R&A Hard Card Local Rules, Additional Local Rules, Local Rules for Temporary Immovable Obstructions, Grandstands, Metal Fencing etc. and the Hole-by-Hole Rules Guide in hand, it was off to the course for a walk around the first nine holes.

The Hole-by-Hole Rules Guide is extremely useful as it provides a ready reference on everything that one might come across for each hole. For example location of out of bounds, water hazards, temporary immovable obstructions (TIOs) being primarily grandstands, leaderboards, TV towers, catering units, hospitality marquees, and whether relief is available on either side or not. Also where drop zones are located.

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There were about 70 referees from 25 countries for The Open and this included 25 from the R&A Championship Committee and Rules of Golf Committee. Every group had at least one walking referee, with the featured groups having a referee and an observer. Most of the referees arrived at various stages throughout Monday and by late afternoon the referees' marquee was abuzz with introductions and renewing acquaintances from previous years.

Tuesday was a relatively easy day with a late morning shuttle bus to the course and then a tour of the back nine holes, checking out the most likely areas where there might be a rules situation arise. I followed a group for the last couple of holes who were finishing up their practice round. It consisted of Phil Mickelson, Rickie Fowler, Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas and it was apparent there may have been a wager on the match as the putting on the 18th green was taken very seriously, unlike most other groups.

Wednesday started with an early referees' meeting at the nearby Southport & Birkdale Sports Club. This included a weather update by the on-site meteorologist, with a prediction of strengthening winds up to 35 mph and rain for Friday, which ultimately proved to be accurate. Following the meeting the referees were arranged into groups of seven for a course walk led by a member of the R&A Championship or Rules Committee, who covered as many scenarios as possible where a rules situation might arise.

Thursday – my 1st round assignment was with the group of Daniel Berger (USA), Pablo Larrazabal (Spain) and Yuta Ikeda (Japan) with the tee time of 2:26 pm. During our introductions on the 1st tee another Japanese gentleman introduced himself as the interpreter for Ikeda in case he had any issues during the round. Fortunately he was not required. The only major issue that arose came on the par-5 15th hole when Berger hooked his tee shot into a seriously unplayable lie in the middle of a large bush with sharp prickles, so much so that the ball could not be retrieved. After measuring out the 2 club-lengths relief, which was measured across the top of the bush and then marking the point vertically down to the ground, as it was not possible to measure along the ground due to the dangerous nature of the bush, Berger then decided to look at the option of going back on a line behind the bush keeping that point in line with the hole. The situation that now arose was that this line took him into the wall of a nearby hospitality marquee situated down the side of the 15th hole.

You may recall the Jordan Spieth situation on the 13th hole on the last day which caused much consternation and some considerable time to resolve; well Berger's situation was not dissimilar although easier to resolve as the green was visible from his position. With some assistance from John Paramor, the Chief Referee from the European Tour who was "roving" nearby, Berger's nearest point of relief was provided on the fairway side of the marquee. He proceeded to play his third shot to within 100m of the green, then his next onto the green to 20 feet of the hole and holed his putt for a par 5. These guys are good! Berger was the pick of the group shooting a 2-under 68.

Friday – the weather prediction from Wednesday proved accurate. Very strong winds with rain forecast later in the day. Fortunately, my group of Phil Mickelson (USA), Mark Leishman (Aus) and Francesco Molinari (Italy) had a tee time of 10:09 am and completed their round just before 3:00 pm when the rain hit the course. The only drama during the round came on the 3rd hole when Mickelson sprayed his tee shot way left and despite several hundred spectators searching for his ball it could not be located. He had wisely played a provisional ball which had found the fairway. Several loose tee shots from Phil found him struggling to recover and he missed the cut quite comfortably. This was disappointing for everyone considering his 'duel' with Henrik Stenson on the last day of The Open the previous year at Royal Troon. Leishman was the only one



of the group to make the cut, right on the number, 5-over, which did not seem likely on the completion of the round, but the afternoon conditions blew the cut line out.

Saturday – the weather had fined up from the previous afternoon much to everyone's, (including the referees) delight. My group of Matt Fitzpatrick (ENG) and Steve Stricker (USA) teed off at 1:20 pm on a fine afternoon and the overall scoring on the day reflected the much improved conditions, with an outstanding 8-under 62 from Brandon Grace one for the record books. It was a relatively quiet day on the rules front with only a couple of situations requiring the referee; a question about a pitch mark on the green and a request for relief from metal fencing along the side of the 18th fairway. A good pace of play was maintained throughout and kept close to the required time par of 3 hrs 50 mins for a 2-ball game.

Sunday – the final day of a Major tournament is always exciting and this one was no exception, despite the fact that there 'appeared' to be only four players that were really in the hunt. Fifth place after three rounds was seven strokes behind the leader, a huge gap to make up. My group for the day was Rickie Fowler (USA) and Alex Noren (SWE), teeing off at 1:20 pm. It was a relatively uneventful day for rules decisions. It was a pleasure to watch these two players close up and the manner they went about their business. Fowler in particular could never be accused of being slow and set a fine example of being ready to play when it was his turn. If all players adopted his example 'pace of play' would not be an issue, as it is a regular topic of discussion and a negative aspect of our game not only on the professional tours but club golf as well.

Once my group had completed its round I returned to the Rules Office to hand back the radio and found some 10 or so referees glued to the TV watching the Spieth saga unfold on the 13th hole. The way he overcame his slightly shaky start to the round after starting with a 3-stroke buffer, to allow Kuchar to close the gap and in fact take the lead by one after his bogey on 13, then finish the round over the closing five holes with birdie, eagle, birdie, birdie, par shows what a true champion he is.

Australia is very fortunate to again have Spieth returning for the Emirates Australian Open in November.

*Stay tuned: The Spring edition of the Rules Newsletter will include a blog from Michelle Hui after her experience at the Ricoh Women's British Open!*



# Rulings from The Open

*There were just under 350 rules incidents over the four days of the 146th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale, but there is one that is likely to stay in the memory for quite some time to come.*

For an explanation by David Rickman – R&A Executive Director, Governance, of the unplayable drop that Jordan Spieth took on the 13th hole of the final round after a wayward drive, [view](#) the after-the-event interview.

The following is a selection of other rulings that occurred during The Championship.

## Thursday 20 July 2017 – Round 1

KT Kim's opening round of The 146th Open didn't get off to the best of starts after his caddie inadvertently picked up his ball whilst playing the first hole.

The confusion arose when Kim's fellow-competitor David Duval played a provisional ball towards the green, however when Duval's first ball was found, Kim's caddie picked up what he thought was Duval's provisional ball, only to discover that the ball which he had lifted was in fact Kim's own ball.

A player and his caddie are not generally permitted to lift or move the ball when it lies off the putting green and because the caddie had moved his player's ball in play when not permitted to do so by the Rules, Kim incurred a penalty of one stroke under Rule 18-2.

Once the error had been discovered, Kim was required to replace his ball to its original position, but to add to the confusion, Kim's caddie had not paid attention to the spot where he had picked the ball up. As the exact spot was therefore not known, Kim was required to drop the ball as near as possible to where it was estimated to have been picked up, no nearer the hole (Rules 20-3c and 20-2b).

After successfully getting his ball back into play, Kim eventually walked to the 2nd tee with a 1st hole opening triple bogey on the scorecard. He showed his composure by steadying the ship and played the remaining 17 holes in level par, carding a three-over-par 73.

## Friday 21 July 2017 – Round 2

With winds gusting up to 40 mph it was no surprise that there were several instances of balls moving on putting greens during Friday's play at Royal Birkdale.

For the most part, dealing with situations where a ball has moved on the green is relatively straightforward as at the Open, the Local Rule for a ball moving on the putting green is in effect. This Local Rule



eliminates the penalty for a golfer who accidentally causes their ball in play to move when it is on the putting green.

However, it is still important to determine whether the player caused the ball to move as where that is the case, he must replace it, whereas, if wind causes the ball to move, then it must be played from its new position.

One such ruling occurred with Daniel Berger on the 18th green whilst playing during a particularly windy spell of weather. Having marked his ball on the green, Berger was just about to remove his ball marker when a gust of wind caused it to move a couple of inches from where it was marked.

Despite the position of the ball being marked, the ball is considered to be in play under the Rules and the position of the marker is effectively irrelevant. As a result, because it was the wind that caused the ball to move and 'wind' is not an outside agency, Berger was required to play his ball from its new position.

## Saturday 22nd July 2017 – Round 3

They say timing is everything in golf, and that was certainly the case for Scotland's Richie Ramsay as he finished off his Saturday round of The Open in front of the packed grandstands adjoining Royal Birkdale's iconic clubhouse.

Putting out on the 18th green, having played his second shot to 12 feet from the hole, Ramsay's putt seemed destined for the hole before it stopped agonisingly short and came to rest on the lip of the hole. However, after a brief hesitation of around 4-5 seconds, Ramsay's ball dropped into the cup for a birdie, much to the delight of both the player and the gallery.

Had the ball stayed at rest for slightly longer, however, things may have been slightly different as, under Rule 16-2, when a ball overhangs the lip of the hole the player is allowed enough time to reach the hole without unreasonable delay. The player is then allowed an additional ten seconds to determine whether the ball is at rest.

If the ball has not fallen into the hole by the time the additional ten seconds has elapsed, the ball is judged to be at rest on the lip meaning that if the ball was then to subsequently fall into the hole, the player is deemed to have holed out with his last stroke, but is required to add a penalty of one stroke to his score for the hole (Rule 16-2).



# Rules on Tour

Courtesy [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org).

*The start to 2017 has seen a number of high profile Rules incidents from across golf's major tours, and in this article, we take a look at some of the more unusual incidents.*

Phil Mickelson certainly kept referees busy during the third round of the WGC-Mexico where he encountered a number of rulings over consecutive holes. One of the more notable incidents of his round came at the par-four 10th during the third round after Mickelson hit his drive left of the fairway.

After arriving at the area where he believed the ball to be, and following a brief search, Mickelson was unable to find his ball. He was then told by a spectator that he had seen a ball picked up by another - now absent - person from the area being searched.

After determining, through the testimony of a number of other spectators in the crowd, that he had the necessary knowledge or virtual certainty that his ball had been moved by an outside agency, Mickelson was able to proceed under Rule 18-1. He was able to substitute another ball, and drop it without penalty at the spot where his original ball had come to rest.

Over the course of the next two holes, Mickelson also received two further rulings following wayward drives. On both occasions Mickelson's ball came to rest amongst some fairly dense bushes, and bizarrely on both occasions he had interference from immovable obstructions (irrigation pipes) to both lies.

A decision then had to be made as to whether or not it was reasonable for Phil to make a stroke at the ball as otherwise he would not have been entitled to free relief under Rule 24-2 if it was clearly impracticable for him to make a stroke because of the bushes. Despite encountering some problems with the foliage, Phil was indeed able to get into a position where he was able to demonstrate that he could make a stroke at the ball and after consulting with the referee, he was able to take relief under Rule 24-2. This allowed him to drop the ball within one club-length of the nearest point of relief which in turn took him away from the bush and into a more playable area. Sometimes the Rules can give you a good break!

In a slightly less fortunate example which highlights the importance of checking the local rules, Tyrrell Hatton had a moment that he will want to forget, during a play-off to get to the last 16 of the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play.

Hatton had ended the week's group match play stage with two wins and a loss to force a play-off against Rafa Cabrera Bello and Charles Howell III to determine who would proceed to the next round.

Although the week's format was match play, the play-off between the three players was played under stroke play rules. Things started to



go wrong for Hatton as he went to tap in a short par putt on the first play-off hole. After lining up his short par putt, he placed his putter behind the ball and accidentally nudged it slightly, moving the ball about a centimetre in the process. After stopping to inform Cabrera-Bello of the ball's movement and thinking his chance had gone on the assumption that he would incur a penalty, Hatton then proceeded to tap in the 2-foot putt.

Unfortunately for Hatton, he was unaware that the Local Rule eliminating the penalty for a player who accidentally causes a ball to move on the putting green was in effect. Had he been aware of this, he would have been able to replace his ball without penalty and would have had another opportunity to convert his par putt. However, by tapping in the putt without replacing the ball, he had played from a wrong place and therefore incurred a two-stroke penalty under Rule 20-7, turning his par 4 into a double-bogey 6, and eliminating himself from the play-off in the process.

Alligators have also had their fair share of on-course coverage during the opening months of the 2017 season after making several prominent appearances during PGA tour events. Probably the most notable incident came during the first round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational when America's Cody Gribble casually gave an alligator a playful 'tap', causing it to quickly retreat into a nearby water hazard – something sensibly not attempted by Smylie Kaufman who took a slightly more cautious approach by giving the same alligator a wide berth a few holes later.

For those not as keen in attempting to move alligators, they can certainly raise an interesting scenario on how to proceed under the Rules, especially when they are close to where a player's ball comes to rest. Fortunately for players, Rule 1-4 provides some safer options to simply playing the ball as it lies.

As it would be unreasonable to expect a player to play from such a dangerous position and unfair to require the player to incur a penalty in order to avoid it, in equity, the Rules provide free relief for a player whose ball comes to rest in a situation which is considered to be dangerous to the player.

If a player's ball lies through the green, and the player has interference from a dangerous situation such as an alligator, they may, without penalty, drop a ball within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest spot not nearer the hole that is not dangerous and is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

Furthermore, if the player's ball lay in a hazard and was close to a dangerous situation, the player may drop a ball, without penalty, within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest spot that is not dangerous. If possible, the ball must be dropped in the same hazard and, if not possible, in a similar nearby hazard, but in either case not nearer the hole. If the ball lay on the putting green, the player may, without penalty, place a ball at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that is not dangerous and that is not in a hazard.

Whilst for most golfers, the fairway is usually the safest place to be, this was not the case for one referee during the Hero Indian Open in March. An unusual incident occurred during the final round when David Horsey hit his tee shot straight down the middle of the fairway on the 9th hole, only to see his ball bounce once before landing in the golf cart of a referee who unfortunately happened to be driving up the hole at the time.

The ball, after bouncing around in the foot-well of the buggy, bobbed out after its brief journey and fortunately remained in the fairway. Under Rule 19-1, as the player's ball in motion was accidentally deflected by any outside agency, it is simply considered to be a rub of the green, there was no penalty, and the ball is played as it lies, in this case, allowing Horsey to play from a nice lie in the fairway en route to making par.

## Rules Quiz

By Brian Nesbitt (Victorian Level 2 Referee)

Level 1, No Rule Book Quiz – Rule Headings Please.

The key here is to try to learn Pages 3 and 4 in the Rule Book.

1. Rule 8 Heading is....
2. Rule 10
3. Rule 12
4. Rule 14
5. Rule 16
6. Rule 18
7. Rule 20
8. Rule 22
9. Rule 24
10. Rule 26

Level 1, you may use the Rule Book if necessary here, but I want the Rule number and sub-paragraph as well please.

1. Undue Delay
2. Positioning of Caddie or Partner behind the Ball
3. Embedded Ball
4. Playing from Wrong Place
5. Flagstick, Attended, Removed or Held Up
6. Immovable Obstruction
7. Wrong Putting Green
8. Improving Lie, Area of Intended Stance or Swing, or Line of Play
9. Ball Unplayable
10. Ball in Hazard; Prohibited Actions

This next Section will require the use of the Decisions Book and is aimed at Level 2 Referees. Please give the Decision number, but you should be able to give the Rule number and possibly the sub-paragraph from memory! Ideally we want a decision within 3 minutes.

1. In a match, player A was playing his second shot from under the overhanging limbs of a tree. As he started his downswing his clubhead was stopped by one of the limbs. Is he deemed to have made a stroke at the ball?
2. A player uses a compass during a stipulated round to help determine the direction of the wind or the direction of the grain in the greens. Is the player in breach of Rule 14-3?
3. A player swings at and misses a wrong ball. His opponent immediately calls for the referee.
4. A player marks the position of his ball on the putting green, lifts the ball and sets it aside. By mistake, he putts the ball from the spot at which he set it aside. What is the ruling?
5. In a stroke play play-off, B picks up A's ball, conceding A a 4. B then holed a putt for a 3 to win the play-off. Is B subject to penalty for conceding a putt in stroke play?
6. Player A was in the process of removing a loose impediment on the putting green and accidentally moved his ball with his foot. Player B immediately called for the referee.
7. Player A struck his ball way left of the fairway into impenetrable jungle. Two Committee members were watching the play of the hole and the ball landed in a bush just beside them, where it could be clearly seen to be unplayable. The player walked past the Committee members as he did not want to find his original ball, having hit a splendid provisional ball down the fairway. Were the Committee members obliged to inform the player that his ball had been found?
8. At a short hole, A's tee shot may be out of bounds or lost, so he plays a provisional ball which he holes. A does not wish to look for his original ball. B, A's opponent or a fellow-competitor, goes to look for the original ball. When does the provisional ball become the ball in play?
9. In stroke play, after finishing the 10th hole, A and B played from the teeing ground of the 15th hole instead of the 11th hole. They realised their error before completing the 15th hole, returned to the 11th tee and completed the round. What is the ruling?
10. A's ball is on the apron between the green and a bunker. A's partner, opponent or fellow-competitor (B) subsequently plays from the bunker and deposits sand on and around A's ball. Is A entitled to any relief?

## Anchoring and Other Matters: Simon Says

Golf Australia's Director - Rules & Handicapping, Simon Magdulski, speaks on a number of interesting and current topics such as anchoring, the level of penalties and marking the ball on the green, in response to questions from the panel on Inside The Ropes - Australian golf podcast.

Tune into the discussion [here!](#)





# Proposed New Relief Procedure

By Craig Winter and Jamie Wallace, USGA

*On March 1 of this year, the USGA and The R&A released a set of proposed changes to the Rules of Golf designed to make them easier to understand and apply and to bring them up to date to meet the needs of today's global game.*

If there is one single proposed change that will most affect you when you play (as well as provide the largest optical change), it would likely be the new relief procedure. As part of the proposed changes to how you take relief, not only would the physical requirements for how you drop a ball be altered, but the area into which your ball must be dropped into and played from would be adjusted as well. Let's take a deeper look into these proposed changes and the reasons behind them.

Most golfers today are very familiar with the current arm's-length, shoulder-height dropping method. There is no dispute that this is a simple and easy-to-follow process. However, there are numerous other complexities that are part of the current relief procedure that the proposed procedure seeks to simplify. Today, the Rules require that your ball land on either a specific spot or line, in a one club-length dropping area, or in a two club-length dropping area. However, your ball does not need to stay within that defined area and, as you know, it often rolls outside of it (in large part because the Rules require that you drop from shoulder height). To account for this, there is a provision in Rule 20-2c that says your ball can roll up to two club-lengths from where it first struck the course. And this is just one of the seven different re-drop provisions (detailed further in Rule 20-2c) that would require your ball to be re-dropped. If your ball is correctly dropped twice without successfully getting it to come to rest in the right location, you must then place the ball where it struck the course the second time.

Under the proposed new Rules, your ball could be dropped in any manner and from any height with the only requirement being that the ball is let go from above the ground, without it touching any natural or artificial object, so that it falls through the air before coming to rest. This means that you could drop your ball in the fairway from just above the grass, from shoulder-height, or from any other height. If you are taking a drop in longer grass, you will be required to drop from higher off the ground to avoid touching the grass when you let go of your ball.

The two key requirements of the new relief procedure (which are first dropping your ball from any height and second ensuring that it is dropped in and comes to rest in the relief area) would eliminate the need to know the seven specific scenarios under the current Rules that require a re-drop. Under the proposed new Rules, if your ball rolled outside of the relief area, you would always re-drop it, and there would be no set number of re-drop attempts. You would need to make every reasonable effort so that your dropped ball stays in the relief area (such as dropping from a lower height or in a different place, even if that is somewhat undesirable). In the very rare case that this is impossible, you would place your ball anywhere within the relief area. And, just like today, if your ball won't stay at rest where you try to place it, you would then find the nearest spot where it will stay at rest, no closer to the hole, even if outside the relief area.

In contrast with today's relief procedure, which uses the inconsistent standard of club-lengths, the proposed new Rules would require that your ball is dropped in and comes to rest in a specified relief area that is the same size for all golfers. Today, a shorter player using a 42-inch driver will have a smaller relief area than a taller player using a 46-inch driver (not to mention a player who uses a 55-inch long putter). The relief area under the proposed new Rules would be determined by using a simple and consistent standard length of either 20 inches (50.8 cm) or 80 inches (203.2 cm) from the reference point. The 80-inch measure would apply



only in two scenarios – taking lateral relief from a red penalty area (formerly a lateral water hazard) and taking lateral relief for an unplayable ball. The 20-inch measure would apply to ALL other relief situations, such as relief from a cart path or casual water, and would even be used when proceeding under stroke and distance or taking relief for an embedded ball.

Since March 1, we have received a number of questions about how players will measure the 20 or 80 inches. All it takes is a simple mark on your shaft or an alignment rod if you carry one. Additionally, should this proposed change be approved, every indication points to these measurements becoming a standard marking that will be an integral part of golf shafts in the future.

The proposed changes to how you take relief follow a long line of revisions to relief procedures in the Rules of Golf that are closely intertwined and that are designed to complement each other. Requiring that a dropped ball land and come to rest in a relatively small 20-inch area would be difficult if done using the current shoulder-height and arm's-length procedure (not to mention some of the previous dropping procedures required by the Rules, with the most recent example being the over-the-shoulder dropping method).

Now that we have a better understanding of both the current relief procedure and the proposed new one, let's take a look at some more reasons behind these proposed changes:

- As mentioned above, using a standard measurement of either 20 or 80 inches, rather than the varying club-length measurement, is simple, consistent, and fair for all golfers.
- The new dropping procedure would remove the technical/mechanical requirements of how you drop the ball and instead focus on the location from which it is dropped and played. Penalties for things like dropping with your arm too low or too high would be eliminated.
- The new dropping procedure discussed above (as opposed to the alternative of placing the ball) would retain a degree of randomness in where the ball comes to rest. When you drop in the fairway, you should expect a near perfect lie because you can drop very near the ground. However, when dropping in longer grass, you will be dropping from above it and will never know quite what lie you will get.
- Nearly every time you take relief, you would be able to do so more quickly because you would nearly always be assured that your ball would be successfully put into play after only a single drop.
- The new procedure would avoid giving a player more relief than necessary. For example, if a player is taking relief from a cart path under the current Rules and drops within one club-length of the nearest point of relief, the ball may then roll up to two additional club-lengths. This means the player may end up nearly three club-lengths from the nearest point of relief. With

the intent of the Rule being only to provide relief from the cart path, this is more relief than is necessary. The proposed new procedure would ensure that all players play their next stroke from within 20 inches of their nearest point of relief from the cart path, thus more closely adhering to the intent of the Rule.

- The new procedure would also prevent players from undermining the purpose of dropping, which can occur today when players deliberately try to drop a ball in a position where they know it will need to be re-dropped, and then do it a second time so that they ensure their ball will be placed. This would not be possible in the proposed relief procedure because all players would need to accept whatever the situation gives them and make all reasonable efforts to successfully drop their ball in the relief area.
- The new relief procedure would help avoid the unfortunate circumstance where you are required to drop a ball in a bunker and end up with your ball embedded in the sand.

*Editor's Notes: The new Rules of Golf will take effect on 1 January 2019. By previewing the proposed changes and creating a period of feedback and evaluation The R&A and USGA hope to create an open forum that allows all who are interested to give their perspective on the proposed new Rules. They will then finalise work on the new Rules code in 2018 and allow for a substantial period for education so that golfers and golf officials will have considerable time to learn the new Rules before they take effect. There will also be significant additional work to complete before 1 January 2019, such as finishing and producing many publications and supporting digital products.*

## Rules Quiz Answers

### Answers to Level 1 Quiz - Rule Numbers

1. Advice; Indicating Line of Play
2. Order of Play
3. Searching for and Identifying Ball
4. Striking the Ball
5. The Putting Green
6. Ball at Rest Moved
7. Lifting Dropping and Placing; Playing from Wrong Place
8. Ball Assisting or Interfering with Play
9. Obstructions
10. Water Hazards (Including Lateral Water Hazards)

### Answers to Level 1 Quiz using Rule Book

1. Rule 6-7
2. Rule 14-2b
3. Rule 25-2
4. Rule 20-7
5. Rule 17-1
6. Rule 24-2
7. Rule 25-3
8. Rule 13-2
9. Rule 28
10. Rule 13-4

### Decision Book Answers

1. Decision 14/1. If a player starts his downswing and his clubhead is deflected or stopped by an agency other than himself, e.g. the branch of a tree, he is deemed to have made a stroke.
2. Decision 14-3/4. No. A compass only provides directional information and does not gauge or measure variable conditions or assist the player in his play.
3. Decision 15/1. Since the player made a stroke with a wrong ball, he lost the hole in match play (Rule 15-3a) or incurred a two-stroke penalty in stroke play (Rule 15-3b)

4. Decision 15/4. When a ball is lifted under Rule 20-1, it is out of play – see Definition of “Ball in Play”. When the player played a stroke with his ball while it was out of play, he played a wrong ball (Rule 15-3). In match play, the player lost the hole (Rule 15-3a). In stroke play, he incurred a penalty of two strokes and was required to correct the error before playing from the next tee; otherwise he would be disqualified.
5. Decision 18-4/3. B incurs no penalty (Rule 18-4). If B had not holed in 3 to win the play-off, A would have been obliged to replace his ball and hole out (Rule 18-4).
6. Decision 23-1/11. Player A incurs a penalty stroke under Rule 18-2, and the ball must be replaced. (This decision assumes that the Local Rule modifying Rule 18-2 for a ball accidentally moved on the putting green is not in force). Rule 23-1 provides that a player incurs no penalty if, on the putting green, his ball is accidentally moved in the process of removing a loose impediment. However, this Rule applies only where the moving of a ball is directly attributable to removal of a loose impediment. In this case, removal of the loose impediment did not cause the ball to move.
7. Decision 27-2/2. Yes. A Committee member is obliged to inform the player that his original ball has been found.
8. Decision 27-2b/2. In Equity (Rule 1-4) the provisional ball becomes the ball in play as soon as A picks it out of the hole, provided his original ball has not already been found in bounds within five minutes of B starting to search for it.
9. Decision 11-5/4. A and B each incurred a penalty of two strokes under Rule 11-4b. They were correct in discontinuing play at the 15th hole and returning to the 11th hole. Strokes played at the 15th hole, when it was played out of order, did not count.
10. Decision 13-2/8.5. Yes. A is entitled to the lie and line of play he had when his ball came to rest. Accordingly in equity (Rule 1-4), he is entitled to remove the sand deposited by B's stroke and lift his ball and clean it, without penalty.

