

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK 2022-2023

True or False. Regarding ready golf...

If you miss your putt by 1 or 2 feet, should you continue putting or mark your ball and wait for your next turn? Answer: True. Ready golf means putting continuously if your stance are not in someone else's line, and the player does not have to spend a lot of time surveying the putt.

How long do players have to search for a lost ball? Answer: Players can search up to 3 minutes before their ball is deemed lost. A penalty stroke is applied.

Where on the golf course can you pick up and clean your golf ball? Golfers are allowed to clean their ball in four situations. Answer:

1. When a golf ball is on the putting surface, a golfer is allowed to clean the ball. The golfer must first mark their ball, pick it up off the ground and then clean it before replacing it to hit the next shot. If a golfer doesn't mark their ball before cleaning, it's a penalty. A golfer cannot mark and then clean their ball if it's on the fringe.
2. When a golf ball is about to be put into play, a golfer can clean the ball. If a golfer is putting a new ball into play after losing their previous ball or hitting it out of bounds, they can clean a ball before putting it into play.
3. Before a golfer is about to take relief, a golfer can clean the ball. This includes any situation where you are taking relief: from a hazard, from an unplayable lie, from a plugged lie.
4. Before a golfer starts a new hole, a golfer can clean their ball. Once a golfer completes a hole and before they tee off on the next hole, a golfer is able to clean their ball.

A golfer cannot clean their ball in any other situation, including when the ball is in the fairway, when the ball is in the rough, or when the ball is in a bunker.

Golfers are not allowed to clean their ball to see if it is cut or cracked (and therefore can be removed from play), to identify it or see if the ball is in a position where relief is allowed.

The penalty for cleaning a lifted ball when not allowed is one stroke.

If you have any questions about any rules or situation, contact your rules committee or Tim Anderson

If your ball is lost after you drive (thinking of hole #2), should you go back and hit from the tee? Answer: Golf rule.....If a ball is lost after a drive, the player must take a stroke and distance relief by adding one penalty stroke and playing another ball from where the previous stroke was made (going back to the tee box).

Our league rule.....In the interest of the pace of play, our league will not go back to re-hit from the tee box. If you think your ball is lost after your drive, you can hit a provisional ball, and add one stroke. If you cannot find your ball, and you haven't hit a provisional ball, you have up to 3 minutes to search, then you can drop a ball in the assumed area of the lost ball. This is also one penalty stroke.

If your ball lands on a slope against a twig, how do you proceed? Hit it where it lies or move the twig? Answer: You may hit it where it lies. If you move the twig, and your ball moves, you take a one stroke penalty.

If a ball hits a rock on a drive, and bounces into the water, where is the ball placed? Is the ball placed from where the shot was taken, where it hit the rock or where it went into the water? Answer: It sounds like with a lateral water hazard, these are treated with a 2 club length relief from the **point where the ball last crossed the water**. The golfer will incur a one stroke penalty.

On hole #7, 2 balls were hit within an inch of each other, on the hill in front of the green.

What do you do? Answer: Rule 15.3b. For this group, one golfer must mark their ball to make room for the other one to hit. Do not touch or move the ball that is not yours.

What does "tending the flag" mean? Answer: Tending the flag means that someone stands by the flagstick in order to remove it from the cup after you have struck your putt.

What is the strangest rule in golf? Answer: If your ball comes to rest next to a cactus, you may wrap your arm or leg in a towel to protect yourself from the needles when you play your shot. But you can't cover the cactus with a towel!
USHS decision 1-2/10

On a second shot from an adjacent fairway, a ball hits a cart careening into a bunker. Is the ball played as is or is there a free re-hit, lift or drop because it hit an object not part of the course? Answer: There is no penalty to the golfer but the ball must be played as is. There is no re-hit, drop or lift allowed.

While waiting my turn to putt, I mark my ball while another ball is in motion, rolling toward my ball. Is this considered a violation? Answer:

You can mark, lift and clean your ball on the green, but it's a violation to do so when another ball is in motion, as your ball might influence the outcome of that stroke.

Can you carry 2 putters in your golf bag? Answer: Yes, you can carry 2 putters in your golf bag, as long as you do not exceed more than 14 clubs total.

What happens if two balls end up in a bunker touching each other at rest? Can one of the players move the ball slightly in order to hit? Answer: A ball cannot be moved. It must be played as it lies.

What happens when you hit the wrong ball, on the fairway or on the green?

Answer: The penalty for playing a wrong ball is two strokes and the correction must be made before the player tees off on the next hole. If it is not corrected and the player starts play on the next hole, he/she is disqualified.

Note—our questions and answers are for official, regulated golf play. We feel it is important that you know the rules, but we are not a sanctioned league and common sense and courtesy are just as important. We don't disqualify players, we are a social league.

True or False: If you hit a shot and fluff it, and the follow through catches the ball again by mistake, is it penalized as a double hit? False: An unintentional double hit is not a penalty, but an intentional one is.
(How can you intentionally have a double hit?)

A member of our rules committee told me that if a player loses her balance and falls into a bunker, she incurs a two stroke penalty. Say it isn't so! Answer: Your rules committee is in trouble if they are dispensing misinformation such as this. The only pain a player should experience if she falls into a bunker is a bruised ego. There is no penalty under the Rules of Golf. If you need a reference, see Exception 1 under Rule 13-4.

What about rainouts/rainchecks?

Show up ready to golf. The golf club does not close. 25 women are needed to qualify for the weekly event.

What is the proper way to putt out this year? Your ball **must stay in the cup** to be counted as a putt. If it hits the flag and rolls out, or rings the cup and rolls out, it is not a putt. You must putt again and count all your putts. There are no gimmees! If you have any questions, ask.

If, after a shot, a player's ball is picked up by an eagle and moved, is the ball placed where it was originally hit or where it currently sits currently? Where it sits currently, whether good or bad. This actually happened in our league play!

Can a golfer place a club on the ground during the stroke to aid in alignment? A player must not take a stance using any object that was set down for the player to help line up his/her feet or body.