

YOU MAKE THE CALL

Rule 9 – Ball Played as It Lies; Ball at Rest Lifted or Moved

Rule 10 – Preparing for and Making a Stroke; Advice and Help; Caddies

1. A player must not lay his or her golf bag parallel to the line of play on the putting green to shield the line from the wind during a stroke; however, there is no penalty if the object is removed before the stroke is made.

True or False?

Answer: True: Rule 10.2b(5)

Note: There is no penalty since the bag was removed before the player made a stroke. The player would have received the General Penalty if the bag was set down to help the player take a stance 10.2b(3).

2. A player who reminds another player in their group that they are not allowed to ground their club behind their ball in a bunker gets the general penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False. Definition of Advice.

Note: Information on the Rules is not advice.

3. In match play, A has holed out. As B is preparing to putt for a half, A gives advice to B as to B's line of putt. A is in breach of the Rules but the hole is halved because A had already gained a half.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 10.2a

Note: 2018's Halved Hole Rule which states "When a player has holed out and his opponent has been left with a stroke for the half, if the player subsequently incurs a penalty, the hole is halved" has been eliminated in the 2019 Rules.

4. A player presses down the grass behind his or her ball in play, improving the lie of the ball and accidentally moving the ball as well. The ball is replaced before the stroke. The player gets a total of three penalty strokes.

True or False?

Answer: False Rules. 1.3c(4), 8.1a and 9.4b

Note: The penalty for moving a ball at rest under 9.4b is one stroke and the penalty for improving the lie under 8.1a is two penalty strokes. The player gets two penalty strokes under 1.3c(4) (See 2nd Bullet Point).

5. In stroke play, a player completes play of the first four holes of his or her round using two caddies. Walking to the teeing area of the fifth hole, he or she is told that this is not allowed and discontinues employment of one of the caddies. The player gets the general penalty added to his or her score at the each of the first five holes.

True or False?

Answer: True. Rule 10.3a

Note: In 2018 the general penalty in stroke play was 2 penalty strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; with a maximum of 4 penalty strokes per round. There is no maximum in 2019 and if the breach continues between two holes the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.

6. In pointing out the line of play, a caddie removed an insect from the edge of the hole and touched the inside of the hole. The player gets the general penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 10.2b(2)

Note: There is no penalty for touching the players line of play, on the putting green, provided this is not done while the stroke is being made.

7. A player's towel accidentally fell from the player's golf bag onto the player's ball in play and caused the ball to move. As the towel was an outside influence, there is no penalty and the ball must be replaced.

True or False?

Answer: True. Definition of Equipment, Definition of Outside Influence and Rules 9.4b and 9.6

Note: It is known or virtually the player did not caused the ball to move. It is known or virtually certain the towel caused the ball to move. The towel is an outside influence because it was not in the players possession when it caused the ball to move. Therefore, Rule 9.4b does not apply. Rule 9.6 states there is no penalty when an outside influence causes the ball to move.

8. In the general area and startled by the signal indicating a suspension of play, a player kicks his or her ball that was in play before the suspension. There is no penalty because the ball is not in play during a suspension.

True or False?

Answer: False. Definition of In Play, Rule 9 Introduction and Rule 9.4

Note: The definition of In Play does not state that a ball is not In Play during a suspension of play. It is known or virtually certain that the player caused the ball to move.

9. If a player deliberately touches his ball in play at address, there is no penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 9.4

Note: There is no penalty if the player accidentally touches his ball at address.

10. In making a stroke from a bunker a player knows that they struck their ball twice and it then rebounds off the lip of the bunker onto the shaft of their club. They get a general penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 10.1a and Rule 11.1a.

Note: If the player's club accidentally hits the ball more than once, there has been only one stroke made and there is no penalty. Neither is there a penalty if a ball in motion accidentally hits their equipment.

11. Information such as the position of bunkers or the flagstick on a putting green is advice.

True or False?

Answer: False. Definition of Advice.

Note: Advice does not include public information, which includes: the Rules, the distance from one point to another or the location of things on the course.

12. A player may ask a spectator to walk forward to a position where they can act as a marker showing the line of play to the putting green, which cannot be seen from where their ball lies, providing the spectator moves away before the stroke is made.

True or False?

Answer: True. Rule 10.2b(1).

Note: If the person does not move away before the stroke is made the player gets a general penalty

13. There are four circumstances where a player may make a stroke at a moving ball without getting a penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False.

Note: There are three exceptions where there is no penalty: when the ball moves only after the player begins their backswing for a stroke, Rule 9.1b; when a ball falls off a tee as a stroke is being made, Rule 6.2b(5); when a ball is moving in water, Exception 3 to Rule 10.1d

14. In match play, a player marks and lifts their opponent's ball on the putting green, because it is close to their line of play and they do not want to wait while the opponent rakes the bunker they have just played from. There is no penalty.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 9.5b.

Note: If a player lifts or deliberately touches an opponent's ball at rest without getting authorization they get one penalty stroke.

15. A player accidentally touches their ball at rest with their club, but is not sure whether it moved off its spot. The other players in the group were standing too far away to see what happened. In this circumstance, the players should be penalized one stroke for causing their ball to move and replace the ball.

True or False?

Answer: False. Rule 9.2a.

Note: When a ball might have moved, but this is not known or virtually certain, it is treated as not having moved and must be played as it lies.