

500 QUESTION QUIZ RULES OF GOLF 2023

TRUE FALSE – BASIC

1. A flagstick may be left in the hole unattended when the player makes a stroke from the putting green and there is no penalty if the player's ball hits the flagstick.
2. Information on matters such as the location of a penalty area or bunkers is advice.
3. When a player has holed out and their opponent has been left with a stroke for the tie, if the player thereafter breaches a Rule, the player gets the full penalty for that breach.
4. The teeing area of the hole being played is designated as the general area.
5. When the Rules refer to a ball at rest or in motion, this means a ball that is in play.
6. Any animal is an outside influence.
7. Players on a side may share clubs (no more than 14) in either Foursomes or Four-Ball play.
8. A player may hold a club on the ground right behind or right next to the ball to mark its spot when lifting a ball at rest that must be replaced on its original spot.
9. A player must not deliberately apply any substance to a ball to change its playing characteristics during the round. There is a penalty for doing so.

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10. In match play, Four-Ball is a form of play where sides of two partners compete, with each player playing their own ball.
11. In stroke play, after all players have started a hole, the ball farthest from the hole must be played first.
12. The line of play is the line on which the player intends their ball to go after a stroke, including an extension of that line up above and below the ground.
13. The course is the entire area of play within the edge of any boundaries set by the Committee; all areas inside the boundary edge are in bounds and part of the course.
14. If a player's ball at rest in a penalty area is moved by an outside influence, the player does not need to replace the ball before taking relief from the penalty area.
15. A player's ball at rest on the putting green is that player's equipment.
16. A player is allowed a short delay in play when seeking help from a referee.
17. A ball is lost if not found in three minutes after the player, partner or their caddies begin search for it; time spent playing a wrong ball does not count in this three-minute period.
18. Loose impediments are unattached natural objects such as stones and loose grass.
19. Stance is the position of a player's feet but not body in preparing for or making a stroke.
20. Any situation not covered by the Rules should be decided by considering all the circumstances and treating the situation in a way that is reasonable, fair and consistent with how similar situations are treated under the Rules.

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21. When a painted line on the ground defines the boundary edge of the course, the boundary edge is the outside edge of the line, and the line itself is in bounds.
22. Objects used for care of the course, such as rakes, are equipment only while they are being held or carried by the player or caddie.
23. Advice includes a deliberate action (such as showing what club was just used to make a stroke) that is intended to influence a player in choosing a club.
24. A ball remains in play until it is holed, except when it is lifted from the course, it is lost or out of bounds, or another ball has been substituted for it, even if not allowed by a Rule.
25. There is a penalty if during the round the player deliberately changes the playing characteristics of a club by physically adjusting a club.
26. The area on the hole that the player is playing that is specially prepared for putting is defined as the putting green.
27. If a player scores a two on a hole with two handicap strokes, their net score is zero.
28. The round must be played in the order set by the Committee.
29. There are two different types of penalty areas distinguished by the color used to mark them: yellow penalty areas and red penalty areas.

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30. Ground under repair does not include material piled for removal.

31. In using club-lengths to determine the size of a relief area, the player may measure directly across a ditch or similar thing, but not directly through a fence or tree.

32. A partner in a stroke-play competition is any person with whom the player is playing.

33. Foursomes is a form of play where each of four players play one ball in match or stroke play.

34. If a player's ball in motion in the general area accidentally hits a person, there is no penalty.

35. In match play, Best-Ball is a form of play where an individual player competes against a side of two or three partners, with each partner playing their own ball.

36. The player must hole out with the same ball played from the teeing area, except when that ball is lost or comes to rest out of bounds or the player substitutes another ball.

37. When a player drops a ball in taking relief, the ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

38. A wrong ball is any ball other than the player's ball in play, provisional ball or a second ball played in stroke play.

39. In stroke play, a player who gets a penalty must inform the marker as soon as possible; if they do not, there is the additional penalty of two strokes on the hole just played.

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40. A ball to be placed or replaced under the Rules must always be placed by the player themselves.
41. If a player decides their ball in a bunker is unplayable, there are two options that require the ball to be dropped in the bunker and only one option that allows relief outside the bunker.
42. The flagstick is a movable pole that is placed in the hole to show players where the hole is. As the term “flagstick” is used in the Rules, it includes any flag, if attached.
43. Sand and loose soil are loose impediments on the putting green but not elsewhere.
44. When a ball is at rest in the hole after a stroke and the entire ball is below the surface of the putting green, the ball is defined as being holed.
45. A person helping out the player’s caddie by moving the player’s bag out of the way or getting a club left behind by the player is also considered to be the player’s caddie.
46. The line of play is not necessarily a straight line between two points.
47. The edge of a penalty area extends up above but not down below the ground.
48. Manufactured ice is an obstruction.
49. Wind and water are not outside influences.

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50. After the result of a match is final, no later rulings may be made.
51. When the Committee has suspended play, the players must always immediately stop play.
52. If a player's ball lies in a bunker or penalty area, they may not mark it and lift it to determine if it is cut or cracked without penalty.
53. The edge of a penalty area should be defined by stakes, lines or physical features.
54. Artificial objects defining or showing out of bounds, such as walls, fences, stakes and railings are obstructions.
55. In stroke play, on the day of a competition, a player must not practise on the course after completing play of their final round for that day.
56. When starting a hole, a player must play a ball from inside the teeing area, which means that any part of the ball must touch or be above any part of the teeing area.
57. A player starts the round with more than 14 clubs; the penalty is loss of hole in match play.
58. The player is subject to penalty for failing to put an identifying mark on their ball.
59. An integral object is an artificial object defined by the Committee as part of the challenge of playing the course from which free relief is not allowed.
60. If a player unreasonably delays play between the play of two holes, they are delaying play of the next hole and any penalty applies to the next hole.

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61. Before making a stroke at a ball in a bunker, the player must not deliberately touch the sand with a hand, club, rake or other object to test the condition of the sand to learn information about the next stroke.
62. A ball is in play as soon as the player has teed a ball in the teeing area.
63. In making a stroke, the player must fairly strike at the ball with the head of the club and must not push, scrape or scoop the ball.
64. Dew, frost and water are loose impediments.
65. In stroke play, if a player plays a ball from a wrong place, the penalty is one stroke.
66. Any person (including another player), except the player or their caddie or the player's partner or opponent or any of their caddies is an outside influence.
67. If a Committee member is not available in a reasonable time to help with a Rules issue, the player must play on and must not unreasonably delay play.
68. Any defined ground under repair includes all ground inside the edge of the defined area.
69. A line defining the edge of a penalty area is not in the penalty area.
70. When a player's ball is farther from the hole than an opponent's ball, the player is said to have the honour.

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71. The player is treated as having authorized the flagstick to be attended if the player asks any other person to attend the flagstick and that person does so.
72. When the Committee has suspended play, a player who wishes to lift their ball does not have to mark the ball before lifting it.
73. The referee may seek the Committee's help before making a ruling or refer a ruling to the Committee for review but is not required to do so.
74. When out of bounds is defined by a line on the ground, the line itself is out of bounds.
75. With no Local Rule in effect, the penalty for the player not certifying the hole scores on a returned scorecard in stroke play is disqualification.
76. During the round except while play is stopped, a player's caddie, a partner or a partner's caddie are the only persons that a player may ask for advice (hint, see Rule 24.4a).
77. The number of holes in the round is 18 unless a larger number is authorized.
78. During the round, a player may wrap a towel around the grip to help with gripping a club.
79. Yellow penalty areas have two relief options; red penalty areas have three relief options.
80. A leaf sticking to the ball is a loose impediment.

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81. If a ball breaks into pieces after a stroke, there is no penalty and the stroke does not count.
82. In all forms of play, provided the competition is not delayed, the players may agree not to start at the time established by the Committee.
83. A ball is lost if not found after three minutes of search or earlier if it is declared lost.
84. Any temporary accumulation of water on the course that is not in a penalty area and can be seen before or after a player takes a stance is temporary water.
85. Damage to a club from before the round may be repaired during the round and used during the round.
86. A penalty area is one of the five defined areas of the course.
87. If a player has more than one caddie at any one time, the player gets the general penalty for each hole during which they are helped by more than one caddie.
88. The Committee must use stakes to define the edges of ground under repair, out of bounds and penalty areas.

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89. If a player starts the round with fewer than fourteen clubs, they may add any number provided their total does not exceed fourteen.
90. A worm in the ground that cannot be removed with ease is a loose impediment.
91. In the general area, if a player's ball in play has been lifted, it is again in play when replaced, dropped, or placed with the intent for it to be in play.
92. The result of a match becomes final in the way stated by the Committee, which should be in the Terms of the Competition.
93. A referee assigned to a match must rule on any issue that comes to their attention in time.
94. A wrong green is any green on the course other than the putting green of the hole being played and is part of the general area.
95. In stroke play, if a player returns a scorecard with a wrong score for any hole higher than the actual score, they are disqualified.
96. In stroke play, if a player makes a stroke at an incorrectly substituted ball, the mistake must be corrected.
97. Grass cuttings left on the course that have been abandoned and are not intended to be removed are not ground under repair unless defined by the Committee.
98. The original ball is no longer in play if a player has played a provisional ball from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be.

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99. When the edge of ground under repair is defined by lines or physical features, stakes may be used to show where the ground under repair is, but they have no other meaning.
100. In Foursomes play, the player's ball must be dropped only by the player who is to make the next stroke; no one else may do so, including a partner, even if authorized.
101. Player A and Player B share a cart; A's ball in motion accidentally strikes B sitting in the shared cart while it is being moved by B; B gets a one-stroke penalty and the stroke of A is canceled.
102. Any growing thing inside the edge of a bunker such as grass is not part of the bunker.
103. The Terms of the Competition may not say that a tied match will end in a tie rather than be extended.
104. Equipment of the player includes their golf cart whether or not it is motorized.
105. For a ball that lies in the general area, there is relief without penalty for interference from part of an immovable obstruction that is out of bounds.
106. Foursomes is a form of match play or stroke play.
107. A provisional ball is a ball played under the Rules for a ball that may be lost anywhere.
108. The Committee selects the location, width and depth of the teeing area.

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109. A ball lies in ground under repair when the ball touches ground under repair.
110. A marker is one who is appointed by the Committee to record a player's score and may include an opponent in match play.
111. In stroke play, players may play "ready golf" in a safe and responsible way.
112. In the general area, a ball lifted to determine if it is cut or cracked may be cleaned.
113. Four-Ball partners are not teammates; in a team competition, a team is a group of players who play as individuals or as sides to compete against other teams.
114. A practice swing made with no intent to strike a ball is not a practice stroke.
115. In match play, players must not agree to stop play because of bad weather.
116. A bunker is defined as all sand inside the edge of a specially prepared area, unless the Committee defines it as part of the general area.
117. A ball is dropped in the right way and in a wrong place but not yet played. The player may lift the ball without penalty and correct the mistake.
118. The player is treated as having authorized the flagstick to be attended if the player's caddie or another person is standing right next to the hole when the stroke is made, even if the player is not aware the caddie or other person is doing so.

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119. A player's ball lies off but near the putting green; the player is allowed relief from temporary water that exists on the putting green if it is on their line of play.
120. The dimensions of the hole are 4-1/4 inches in diameter and at least 4-1/2 inches deep.
121. Information on distance or on the Rules is not advice.
122. An animal hole includes any hole dug in the ground by an animal, except for holes dug by animals that are also defined as loose impediments, such as worms or insects.
123. A player may have a caddie carry their clubs and additional persons carry items other than clubs for the player; the additional persons are not considered to be caddies.
124. Stakes are inside ground under repair (GUR) when the edge of GUR is defined by stakes.
125. Stakes used to show the location of the boundary edge of the course are obstructions.

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MULTIPLE CHOICE - BASIC

126. Which is correct regarding a flagstick?
- A. It does not include any objects other than the flag.
 - B. It is a movable pole placed in the hole to show players where the hole is.
 - C. It must have a flag attached to it.
127. In match play, after the hole has begun, the players agree to consider the hole tied. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. They are disqualified.
 - C. The match must be replayed.
128. In stroke play, when starting play of a hole, a player's ball played from the teeing area strikes a tree and comes to rest within the teeing area of the hole being played. The player presses down some heavy grass that is growing in the teeing area and removes dew, frost and water in the teeing area before they play. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. There is a total penalty of four strokes.
129. Another player deliberately lifts or moves a player's ball overhanging the hole before the waiting time of ten seconds has ended. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the ball must be replaced on its original spot.
 - B. In match play, there is no penalty; the player's ball is treated as holed with the last stroke.
 - C. In stroke play, there is no penalty; the player's ball is replaced on its original spot.
130. A player's ball comes to rest between the trunk of a tree and a folding chair in the general area. What is the ruling?
- A. The ball may not be played as it lies.
 - B. The player must take relief by dropping a ball within one club-length of the estimated point right under where the ball was touching the chair, not nearer the hole.
 - C. The player may remove the chair; if the ball moves, it must be replaced on the spot where it touched the tree.

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131. Which does not result in the player getting a penalty?
- A. Swinging at and missing a wrong ball that lies at rest in an area of tall grass.
 - B. Making a stroke at their ball and dislodging a hidden stray ball that lay underneath it.
 - C. Making a stroke at a large piece of an abandoned ball, mistaking it for their ball.
132. In stroke play, a player lifts a ball on the putting green for identification without marking the ball, confirms that it is theirs, places another ball by mistake on the original spot, and plays it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is a one-stroke penalty for lifting the ball in play without marking it and an additional penalty of two strokes for playing an incorrectly substituted ball.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty for lifting the ball in play without marking it and an additional penalty of one stroke for incorrectly substituting a ball.
 - C. The player gets only one penalty stroke in total.
133. In stroke play and during search for their ball covered by sand in a bunker, a player moves some of the sand to find it and accidentally causes the ball to move. They replace the ball on the estimated original spot without re-creating the original lie and plays the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
134. In stroke play, a player gets a disqualification penalty in a play-off. Does the penalty also apply to the entire competition?
- A. No; the play-off is a new round.
 - B. Yes; the play-off is part of the competition.
 - C. The Committee must decide.
135. Which of the following is not ground under repair?
- A. A hole on a double green being used for play of another hole.
 - B. An aeration hole made by the maintenance staff.
 - C. A hole left by a removed stake that defines the edge of a penalty area.

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136. In match play, before playing from the teeing area, a player breaks off a branch of a small bush growing outside of the teeing area that interferes with their swing at the teed ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is no penalty if they play from a different spot on the teeing area.
 - C. There is a loss-of-hole penalty for improving the area of their intended swing.
137. In stroke play, when required to drop a ball in a relief area under a Rule, a player placed the ball in the relief area and played it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty if the player retrieves the ball and drops it in the right way.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
138. Which is correct regarding a boundary fence?
- A. If a set of steps lies out of bounds and is attached to a boundary fence, the set of steps is not an obstruction.
 - B. If part of a boundary fence lies in bounds, the part in bounds is an obstruction.
 - C. If a boundary fence has an angled support, any part of the support in bounds is an obstruction.
139. In stroke play, a player makes a stroke from the putting green and another player deliberately deflects the player's ball in motion into the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. The stroke must be replayed by playing the original ball (or another ball) from the spot where the stroke was made. The player who deflected the ball is disqualified.
 - B. The stroke must be replayed by playing the original ball (or another ball) from the spot where the stroke was made. The player who deflected the ball gets the general penalty.
 - C. The Committee must decide in a reasonable and fair way.
140. In stroke play, during the round of eighteen holes, a player employs a caddie for the first nine holes. For the second nine holes, they replace the caddie with a different caddie, who just competed in the same event. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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141. In stroke play, a player's ball is embedded in its own pitch-mark after a stroke in the general area. The player takes relief under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b) but, before dropping a ball, they repair the pitch-mark and other indentations in the relief area. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
142. In Four-Ball play with side A-B, A accidentally stops B's ball in motion after a stroke in the general area that prevents the ball from going out of bounds. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty to anyone and B's ball is played as it lies.
 - B. A gets the general penalty and B's ball is played as it lies.
 - C. The side gets the general penalty and B's ball is played as it lies.
143. Which of the following is incorrect in Four-Ball play?
- A. In both match and stroke play, a side's round starts when one of the partners makes a stroke to start their first hole.
 - B. In match play, a side's round ends when either side has won the match.
 - C. In match play or stroke play, a partner absent at the start may join in playing for the side at any time.
144. In stroke play, before making a stroke in the general area, a player lifts a stone lying next to their ball. The stone has broken away from a nearby stone wall. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
145. Which is correct regarding the use of a non-calculating electronic device?
- A. It may not be used to obtain information about the Rules.
 - B. It may not be used to obtain information about the course.
 - C. It may be used to review information collected from previous rounds.

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146. In stroke play, a player thinks their tee shot has come to rest in a yellow penalty area but it is neither known nor virtually certain that the ball is in the area. The player drops another ball immediately behind the area under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d) and plays it; they then find the original ball in the area. Which is correct?
- A. The original ball is now a wrong ball.
 - B. The original ball is the ball in play and they must continue with the original ball.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
147. Which is incorrect regarding a player telling an opponent about the number of strokes taken in match play?
- A. When asked by the opponent for the number of strokes taken, the player must give the right number of strokes taken.
 - B. A player who fails to respond to the opponent's request is treated as giving the wrong number of strokes taken.
 - C. The player gets a penalty if they give the wrong number of strokes taken after a hole is completed, even if it does not affect the opponent's understanding of whether the hole was won or lost.
148. Which is correct regarding Player A and Player B in a situation where a ball is interfering with or helping play in the general area?
- A. A may require B to lift B's ball if A reasonably believes it might interfere with A's play.
 - B. A may lift A's ball if A reasonably believes it might interfere with the play of B.
 - C. A may require B's ball to be lifted if A reasonably believes it might help the play of another player.
149. A player's ball lies in the general area but a bunker is situated between the player's ball and the hole. Which one of the following is correct?
- A. The player may remove loose impediments from the bunker and test the condition of the bunker to determine if it is feasible to putt through it.
 - B. The player may not remove loose impediments from the bunker but they may test the condition of the bunker to determine if it is feasible to putt through it.
 - C. The player may not remove loose impediments from the bunker and they may not test the condition of the bunker to determine if it is feasible to putt through it.

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150. Which is correct regarding the defined area of ground under repair (GUR)?
- A. Stakes may not be used to define the edge of GUR.
 - B. Physical features may be used to define the edge of GUR.
 - C. A tree root below the ground outside the edge of the defined area is part of the GUR.
151. In stroke play, a player's ball lies in bounds in the general area. The player's swing has interference from a metal chain-link fence not defining out of bounds but all of which lies out of bounds. The player takes relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) and plays the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
152. In match play, a player's ball comes to rest on the putting green while their opponent's ball comes to rest in an adjacent bunker. The opponent plays a wrong ball from the bunker that knocks the player's ball into the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the player's ball is holed.
 - B. There is no penalty and the player's ball must be replaced.
 - C. The opponent gets the general penalty for playing a wrong ball.
153. Which is correct for a ball crossing an edge of a penalty area filled with water?
- A. A ball that last crossed the edge of a penalty area is considered in the penalty area even if the flow of water carried the ball out of bounds.
 - B. A ball that last crossed the boundary edge of the course is considered out of bounds even if the flow of water carried the ball into a penalty area all of which is in bounds.
 - C. A ball that last crossed the edge of a red penalty area lies in a red penalty area even if stakes adjacent to where it lies indicate a yellow penalty area.
154. In stroke play, a player searches for their ball for three minutes and does not find it. The player looks for another minute, finds the ball and plays it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty for playing a wrong ball, as well as the stroke-and-distance penalty for a lost ball.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty for unreasonable delay.

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155. In stroke play, during play of a hole, Player A asks Player B, a player that is not their partner, how to play a difficult chip shot and B responds. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. A gets the general penalty.
 - C. Each of the players gets the general penalty.
156. Which is correct regarding the lifting of a player's ball in the general area?
- A. Only the player himself may lift the ball.
 - B. A player's caddie may lift the ball without authorization from the player.
 - C. A player's partner or someone authorized by the player may lift the ball.
157. In which of the following competitions is the player required to hole out?
- A. Match play.
 - B. Individual stroke play.
 - C. Par/Bogey, and Stableford competitions.
158. In match play, a player discovers during the round that their ball in play is not a conforming ball as required by the Rules. The player's mistake is unintentional. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
159. A player marks their ball and lifts it. Then, they accidentally drop it, striking and moving their opponent's ball at rest and in play on the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets a penalty stroke and both balls must be replaced.
 - B. There is no penalty; both balls must be replaced.
 - C. There is no penalty; the opponent may replace their ball or play it as it lies.
160. Which of the following is incorrect in match play?
- A. Conceding the next stroke is allowed any time before the opponent's next stroke is made.
 - B. Conceding a hole is allowed any time before the completion of the hole, but not before the players start the hole.
 - C. Conceding a match is allowed any time before the match is decided, including before the players start the match.

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161. In stroke play, after a player marks, lifts and replaces their ball on the original spot on the putting green, the wind blows it into a bunker. The player replaces the ball, holes out and tees off on the next hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
162. A player places their ball on a tee within the teeing area of the hole being played. Before the player makes their first stroke from the teeing area, the player moves a tee-marker defining the teeing area to improve the conditions affecting the stroke. They then make a stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
163. Which is correct regarding a player taking unplayable ball relief?
- A. A player may never drop a ball nearer the hole than where the original ball lies.
 - B. A player may drop a ball outside a bunker, if the original ball lies within the bunker.
 - C. If the player's ball lies in the general area, they have a choice of three options but a ball must be dropped in the general area.
164. A player's ball is in a penalty area. Which of the following is incorrect?
- A. There are no specific Rules limiting how a ball may be played from a penalty area.
 - B. The player may play a ball from outside the penalty area as allowed by the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
 - C. If a player's ball lies in a penalty area but outside a no play zone in the penalty area and the no play zone interferes with their stance, the player may play the ball as it lies.
165. Which is correct regarding the player cleaning their ball?
- A. The player may not clean the ball when lifting it from temporary water.
 - B. The player may not remove cut grass adhering to the ball lying in the general area.
 - C. The player may clean the ball when it has been lifted because it interferes with play.

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166. Regarding playing a moving ball, which of the following is incorrect?
- A. If a ball begins to move only after a player begins the backswing for the stroke, there is no penalty for making a stroke at a moving ball.
 - B. If a player makes a stroke at a ball not in play that is falling off a tee there is no penalty, the stroke counts and the ball is in play.
 - C. In the general area, the player must not make a stroke at a ball moving in temporary water.
167. A player's tee shot comes to rest in a difficult lie in the general area. The player decides to take relief as allowed by the lateral relief option of the unplayable ball Rule (19.2c). In dropping the ball, it comes to rest in the same spot from which they took relief. Which one of the following is correct?
- A. The player may again take unplayable ball relief without penalty.
 - B. The player may again take unplayable ball relief, return to the teeing area, and make their fourth stroke.
 - C. The player may again take unplayable ball relief, but must drop a ball under the same option as before; they may not return to the teeing area.
168. If Player A reasonably believes that Player B's ball at rest might interfere with A's play, which of the following is incorrect?
- A. A may require B to mark and lift B's ball, which must not be cleaned except when lifted from the putting green.
 - B. In stroke play only, if B is required to mark and lift their ball, B may play first.
 - C. Interference exists when B's ball at rest might interfere with A's area of intended swing but not when B's ball is close enough to distract A in making a stroke.
169. In stroke play, a player's ball lies in the general area on a steep slope. The player makes a stroke at the ball, the ball goes up the hill but returns down the hill and is accidentally deflected by their foot. After the first deflection, the ball is again accidentally deflected by the other foot (a total of two deflections). What is the player's total penalty?
- A. No penalty.
 - B. One stroke.
 - C. Two strokes.

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170. Which of the following is incorrect regarding when a player has a caddie?
- A. A caddie may remove sand and loose soil on, and repair damage to, the putting green.
 - B. The player may change caddies during play of a hole but must not do so temporarily to get advice from the new caddie.
 - C. A caddie may drop or place a ball in a relief area if authorized to do so.
171. In stroke play in the general area, a player's caddie accidentally deflects the player's ball after a stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the ball is played as it lies.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty and the stroke does not count.
 - C. There is a one-stroke penalty and the ball is played as it lies.
172. In stroke play, the hole is located close to the edge of a greenside bunker that lies between a player's ball and the putting green. The player walks 100-yards from their ball into the bunker to assess their line of play. Before the player leaves the bunker, they rake their footprints. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
173. In match play, Player A and Player B share a motorized golf cart. In searching for A's ball in long grass, the moving cart, with A and B in it, accidentally strikes and moves A's ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty if B was driving the cart, otherwise A gets a penalty of one stroke.
 - B. There is no penalty regardless of who was driving the cart.
 - C. Both A and B get a penalty of one stroke.
174. In stroke play, a player starts their round with a non-conforming club and uses it during play of the 1st hole. The player discovers their mistake before playing from the 2nd tee and declares the club out of play. Before returning the scorecard, they consult with the Committee. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets the general penalty.
 - B. There is a total penalty of four strokes.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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175. In stroke play, before taking their stance, a player removes a stake defining out of bounds that interferes with their line of play. The player replaces the stake before their stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
176. In stroke play, a player has committed a serious breach when they have gained a significant advantage by playing from a wrong place, taking account of factors such as:
- A. (i) the difficulty of the stroke, (ii) the distance of the ball from the hole, (iii) the presence of obstacles on the line of play and (iv) the conditions affecting the stroke.
 - B. all the factors listed in A above except the difficulty of the stroke.
 - C. all the factors listed in A above except conditions affecting the stroke.
177. Which of the following is considered as “damage on the putting green”?
- A. Natural wear of the hole.
 - B. Ball-marks, shoe damage and scrapes caused by equipment or the flagstick.
 - C. Aeration holes or grooves from vertical mowing.
178. A player believes that their original ball behaved erratically in flight after being struck from the teeing area. Before the player’s next stroke, may a player state that the ball is cracked and play another ball without penalty?
- A. Yes. The player is the sole judge as to whether the original ball is cracked but they may not use the original ball at a following hole.
 - B. Yes. The player is the sole judge as to whether the ball is cracked and they may use the original ball at a following hole.
 - C. No. The player may only put another ball into play for the original ball if it can be clearly seen that the original ball is cut or cracked and this damage happened during the hole being played.
179. On the putting green, a player picks up an acorn on their line of play that was slightly pushed into the surface by another player’s shoe in their stepping on the acorn. The player also repairs the depression left by the acorn. What is the ruling?
- A. The player was not allowed to remove the acorn and repair the depression.
 - B. The player was allowed to remove the acorn and repair the depression.
 - C. The player was allowed to remove the acorn but not to repair the depression.

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180. In match play, a player plays their ball that they found lying in the general area. Then, the player's caddie tells the player that they saw someone pick up the ball that was at rest out of bounds and throw it onto the course where they just played it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The Committee must decide.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
181. When two players take relief from a penalty area, the order of play is determined by:
- A. the relative locations of the balls before relief is taken.
 - B. the relative locations of the balls after relief is taken.
 - C. random method, unless the players mutually agree to the order of play.
182. A player's ball lies in the general area on a path that is covered with wood chips. The player removes some chips and then properly takes relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b). What is the ruling in stroke play?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
183. Which is correct regarding temporary water in the general area?
- A. Overflow from a red penalty area filled with water is not temporary water.
 - B. Soft, mushy earth with water visible on the surface is not temporary water.
 - C. A ball lying in a pitch-mark filled with water is in temporary water.
184. A player lifts their ball in play on the putting green, setting it aside without intent for it to be in play. By mistake they play it from there. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty since the ball was out of play.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty for playing a wrong ball.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty for playing from a wrong place.

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185. A player's ball lies in the general area underneath a detached large branch of a tree that was felled by a storm the previous day. What is the ruling?
- A. The ball lies in ground under repair even if the branch was not marked as ground under repair.
 - B. The branch is ground under repair if the branch was in the process of being removed or cut up for later removal.
 - C. The branch is ground under repair even if the branch was not marked as ground under repair but the greenkeeper intends to remove it.
186. In match play, which of the following is incorrect regarding handicaps?
- A. If a player starts a match having declared a handicap that is too high, the player is disqualified if this affects the number of strokes the player gives or gets.
 - B. If a player starts a match having declared a handicap that is too low, there is no penalty and the player must play off the declared lower handicap.
 - C. If a tied match is extended, handicap strokes are given by hole in the same way as in the round; the Committee is not authorized to provide for a different way.
187. Which of the following is not allowed by a player's caddie in pointing out the line of play when the ball will be played from the putting green?
- A. Put a water bottle off the putting green to show the line of play and removing it before the stroke.
 - B. Telling the player to aim at the edge of a sprinkler off the putting green.
 - C. Telling the player to aim at an unrepaired ball-mark on the putting green.
188. In stroke play, after the player's first stroke on the teeing area, a player's ball has come to rest within the teeing area. The player alters the surface of the ground in the teeing area because it interferes with their stance. The player then makes their stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
189. Which of the following is correct regarding a ball lying in two parts of the course?
- A. If a ball is in both a penalty area and a bunker, it is treated as lying in the bunker.
 - B. If a ball is in both the general area and one of the specific areas of the course, it is treated as lying in that specific area of the course.
 - C. If a ball is in both a bunker and the putting green, it is treated as lying on the putting green.

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190. Which of the following is incorrect regarding movement of the player's ball?
- A. There is no penalty when the player lifts the ball or causes it to move under a Rule that allows the ball to be lifted and then replaced on its original spot.
 - B. There is no penalty when the player accidentally causes the ball to move while trying to find or identify it.
 - C. The player gets a penalty for accidentally moving their ball in a bunker while taking reasonable actions to remove a rake from the bunker.
191. In match play during play of a hole, a player, whose turn it is to play, gives their opponent the wrong number of strokes taken. The player gets the general penalty if they do not correct the mistake:
- A. immediately.
 - B. before the player makes their next stroke.
 - C. before the opponent makes another stroke or takes a similar action.
192. In stroke play, a player returns their scorecard with a total score that is correct but with a score missing for one hole. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should allow the player to enter the missing score.
 - B. The Committee should enter the missing score.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
193. Which is correct regarding loose impediments?
- A. A half-eaten pear is not a loose impediment.
 - B. A small solidly embedded stone is a loose impediment.
 - C. A dead snake is both an outside influence and a loose impediment.
194. In match play in the general area, the opponent's ball after a stroke strikes the player's ball at rest and moves it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the player's ball must be replaced.
 - B. There is no penalty; the player has the option to play their ball as it lies or replace it.
 - C. The opponent gets a one-stroke penalty.

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195. In stroke play, a player is in the process of taking relief from ground under repair in the general area. Before the player drops a ball, they remove sand and loose soil from the area in which they are to drop the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
196. A player takes relief for a ball embedded after a stroke and drops a ball in the right way. After hitting the ground in the relief area, the ball is accidentally deflected by an opponent before coming to rest in the relief area. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the ball is played as it lies.
 - B. The opponent gets a penalty of one stroke and the player must drop the ball again.
 - C. The opponent gets a penalty of one stroke and the ball is played as it lies.
197. Which one of the following is incorrect?
- A. A ball is embedded only if it is in its own pitch-mark made as a result of the player's previous stroke and part of the ball is below the level of the ground.
 - B. A player is never allowed relief for an embedded ball when the ball is embedded in sand in the general area.
 - C. If a ball is embedded anywhere other than the general area, the player is not allowed relief under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b).
198. In stroke play, a stake supporting a small tree interferes with a player's swing. It cannot be readily removed, so they break it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty if a piece of the broken stake is put back and interference still exists.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty, even if a piece of the stake is not put back.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty, regardless of whether a piece of the stake is put back.
199. In stroke play, A concedes a short putt to B on the 7th hole. B picks up their ball and tees off on the 8th hole before holing out on the 7th hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty to either player.
 - B. A gets the general penalty; B is disqualified.
 - C. A gets no penalty; B is disqualified.

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200. A player's ball is embedded after a stroke in the lip at the edge of the prepared area of a bunker; the lip consists of soil, not sand. What is the ruling?
- A. The player may take relief without penalty under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b) but they must drop the original ball according to the Rule.
 - B. The player may take relief without penalty under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b) by dropping the original ball or another ball according to the Rule.
 - C. The player is not allowed relief under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b) since the vertical lip is a part of the bunker.
201. In stroke play, a marker enters the scores of a player in the wrong boxes on the scorecard. Before returning the card:
- A. The marker may change the hole numbers to agree with the proper scores.
 - B. The marker may not alter the card.
 - C. The Committee must decide.
202. In stroke play, it is not known or virtually certain that a player's tee shot is lost in water in a penalty area. The player plays a second ball from the teeing area under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d) and then they find their original ball outside the penalty area. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the original ball is in play.
 - B. The second ball played from the teeing area is in play under penalty of stroke and distance and the original ball is out of play.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty for playing under an inapplicable Rule; the original ball is in play.
203. After playing from the teeing area, a player briefly searches for their ball, declares it lost and tees another ball in the teeing area. The original ball is then found in a penalty area less than three minutes after search began. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must play the teed ball as the original ball is lost.
 - B. The player must play the original ball or take relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
 - C. The player must take relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).

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204. In match play without a referee, a player requests a ruling after the result of the match is final. In which of the following may the Committee give a ruling?
- A. The opponent breached the Rules by giving the player the wrong number of strokes taken and knew of the breach before the result of the match was final.
 - B. The opponent breached the Rules by failing to tell the player about a penalty before the result of the match was final.
 - C. The opponent breached the Rules by giving the player the wrong number of strokes taken before the result of the match was final.
205. In individual stroke play, a player leaves the course, watches television in the clubhouse for an hour, and then returns to the course. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
206. In match play, a player's approach shot comes to rest on an elevated putting green. After arriving at the putting green, the player plays a ball they think is theirs. Upon reaching the hole, the player finds the original ball in the hole together with the ball they just putted. What is the ruling?
- A. The player has played a wrong ball and the error must be corrected.
 - B. The player completed the hole when the original ball was holed, and there is no penalty.
 - C. The player must replay the hole without penalty.
207. Which is correct regarding loose impediments?
- A. A large tree not attached to its stump is a loose impediment.
 - B. Loose impediments not on the course may not be removed.
 - C. Loose lumps of earth or plugs of compacted soil such as aeration plugs are not loose impediments.
208. After a stroke, the player's ball appears to come to rest in a tree in the general area where a ball is visible but cannot be identified. Which is correct regarding taking relief under the unplayable ball Rule (19.2)?
- A. The player must identify the ball to take relief under any option of the Rule.
 - B. The player may take relief under the lateral relief option of the Rule.
 - C. The player may take relief under the stroke-and-distance relief option of the Rule.

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209. Which is incorrect regarding a ball-marker?
- A. A ball-marker is an artificial object that is used to mark the spot of a ball to be lifted, such as an object made to be a ball-marker or another item of equipment.
 - B. The spot of a ball to be lifted and replaced must be marked before lifting the ball.
 - C. The ball may be marked with a loose impediment.
210. Which use of equipment is allowed by the Rules to help play during a round?
- A. Processing or interpreting playing information from the round.
 - B. Using equipment to measure wind speed at the course.
 - C. Using powders or other moisturizing or drying agents to help in gripping the club.
211. In match play, a player's ball lies in a bunker. After the player's stroke at the ball that remains in the bunker, they kick the sand with their foot in frustration or anger. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player gets a total of four penalty strokes.
212. In stroke play, two players strike their balls into the same area of high grass. Two balls are found, but because there are no identifying marks on either ball, neither of the players can identify a ball as theirs. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and each must choose which of the balls to play using a random method.
 - B. Each player gets a penalty of stroke and distance because both balls are lost.
 - C. Each player gets a one-stroke penalty for not putting an identifying mark on their ball.
213. Which is incorrect regarding loose impediments?
- A. Worms and ants that can be removed with ease are loose impediments.
 - B. Loose impediments include the material removed from holes made by insects.
 - C. A dead bird in a penalty area near the player's ball in the same penalty area may not be removed without penalty.

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214. A player's ball lies on the putting green immediately behind a ball-mark on the putting green caused by the impact of their ball. In the process of repairing the ball-mark, the player accidentally causes the ball to move. The player replaces the ball before their next stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
215. Which is correct regarding a player who decides to take unplayable ball relief?
- A. The player may drop back-on-the-line outside the penalty area for two strokes if their ball is in a penalty area.
 - B. The player may drop a ball in a penalty area, if the original ball lies in the general area.
 - C. The player may decide to take unplayable ball relief when their ball lies anywhere on the course.
216. In which of the following situations has the player made a stroke?
- A. The player decides during the downswing not to strike the ball and avoids doing so by deliberately stopping the clubhead before it reaches the ball.
 - B. The player decides during the downswing not to strike the ball and avoids doing so by deliberately missing the ball.
 - C. The intentional forward movement of the club was discontinued involuntarily before it reaches the ball because the club was stopped by an outside influence.
217. In stroke play, a player authorizes their caddie to drop a ball in a wrong place; the player makes a stroke at the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets a penalty of one stroke.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty
 - C. The player gets a total penalty of three strokes.
218. In match play, a player removes an immovable obstruction affecting the line of play of their opponent who had requested that the player not do so. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The opponent gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.

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219. Which of the following actions results in a penalty?
- A. A player lifts their ball from the putting green before marking it to clean it.
 - B. A player's partner replaces a player's ball that had been lifted by an outside influence and the player plays the ball.
 - C. A player's caddie marks and lifts the player's ball on the putting green without authorization from the player.
220. Which is correct regarding a penalty area?
- A. A ball appears to lie in the general area but overhangs the edge of the penalty area; the ball is in the penalty area.
 - B. A ball, inside the vertical edge of the penalty area, lies off the ground in a small bush that is rooted in the penalty area; the ball is not in the penalty area.
 - C. A ball lies in a no play zone in a penalty area; the player may not play the ball as it lies but must either take relief inside the penalty area under the abnormal course condition Rule (16.1) or outside the penalty area under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
221. In match play, what is the penalty if the players fail to tell each other their handicaps before starting a match?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. Each player gets the general penalty applied to the first hole.
 - C. They are disqualified.
222. In a match between Player A and Player B, a caddie is carrying both players' bags. Before their stroke, A asks the caddie what club B just used from about the same location. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. A gets the general penalty.
223. In stroke play, during the round, a player applies a strip of black tape to the top of their wedge to prevent glare and makes a stroke with the club. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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224. In stroke play, a player substitutes a ball when dropping to take relief from temporary water. The original ball was immediately recoverable. What is the ruling if they have not yet made a stroke at the dropped ball?
- A. The player must mark the substituted ball, lift it and place the original ball on the spot where the substituted ball lay.
 - B. The player must lift the substituted ball and drop the original ball.
 - C. The player must play the substituted ball as it lies.
225. In stroke play, a player's caddie practises on the competition course before play on the day that competition is scheduled to begin. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
226. In stroke play, a player's ball in motion after a stroke from off the putting green strikes the hole-liner that is accidentally pulled out with the flagstick. What is the ruling?
- A. If the hole-liner was moving when the ball struck it, the stroke does not count; the ball is replaced and replayed without penalty.
 - B. If the hole-liner was not moving when the ball struck it, the stroke counts and the player gets the general penalty.
 - C. Whether or not the hole-liner was moving, the stroke counts and the ball is played as it lies without penalty.
227. A player's ball comes to rest on another part of the course and beyond a public road that is defined as out of bounds. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee must decide.
 - B. The ball lies out of bounds since it crossed a public road that is out of bounds.
 - C. The ball remains in play unless a Local Rule specifies otherwise.
228. In stroke play, which of the following is incorrect regarding a player stopping play?
- A. If the player does so for any reason not allowed by the Rules, they get the general penalty.
 - B. The player may do so if they believe there is danger from lightning.
 - C. If the player leaves the course, they have not automatically stopped play.

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229. With no Local Rule in effect, which is incorrect regarding a wrong green?
- A. Interference exists when a ball lies on a wrong green.
 - B. Interference exists when a wrong green interferes with the player's area of intended stance or swing.
 - C. A practice green for pitching or putting is not a wrong green.
230. In match play, a player's ball is in a bunker; they touch sand in the bunker with their club in making a practice swing. The opponent reminds the player of the Rule but says that they are overlooking the breach. They agree that there will be no penalty. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty as the player and the opponent have not agreed to apply the Rules.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. Both players are disqualified.
231. Which is correct regarding bunkers?
- A. Sand spilling over the edge of a bunker is part of the bunker.
 - B. A tree growing in a bunker is part of the bunker.
 - C. Grass covered ground within a bunker is not part of the bunker.
232. Which of the following is incorrect?
- A. The Committee may set its own standards of player conduct in a Code of Conduct adopted as a Local Rule.
 - B. Penalties other than disqualification must not be imposed for player misconduct covered in the Code of Conduct as adopted by the Committee.
 - C. The Committee may disqualify a player for serious misconduct in failing to meet the standards in the Code of Conduct as adopted by the Committee.
233. Which is incorrect regarding a player searching for a ball?
- A. The player may direct their caddie to delay search for their ball until they can assist.
 - B. If the player moves their ball while searching for it in a penalty area, they are penalized for having caused it to move.
 - C. The player may search for their original ball after they put another ball into play if play is not unreasonably delayed.

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234. A player's ball lies in the general area in a tree beyond the reach of a club; they make a swing with a club at a lower branch of the tree and their ball falls to the ground. What is the ruling?
- A. The player has made a stroke and the ball is in play.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty for not fairly striking at the ball.
 - C. The player gets a one-stroke penalty for causing their ball to move and must take relief under one of the applicable options of the unplayable ball Rule (19.2), getting an additional penalty of one stroke.
235. Which of the following is incorrect in both a Four-Ball match-play and a stroke-play competition?
- A. When a player breaches the 14-club limit Rule (4.1b) in match play, the side gets the penalty and, in stroke play, the partner gets the same penalty as the player.
 - B. In both Four-Ball match-play and stroke-play competitions, if a player's breach helps a partner's play, there is no penalty to the partner.
 - C. In match play, when a player's breach hurts an opponent's play, the partner gets the same penalty as the player.
236. Because a player's ball lies in a bunker and there is no nearest point of complete relief from temporary water, the player uses the point of maximum available relief. Which is incorrect about this point?
- A. It is the nearest point to where the ball came to rest, but not nearer the hole where the condition least interferes with the stroke the player would have made from the ball's original spot if the condition did not exist.
 - B. The point may be where the ball will be in shallower water than where the player will stand or where the player's intended swing will be affected less than the stance.
 - C. It may be based on the line of play where the ball will need to go through the shallowest or shortest stretch of temporary water.
237. In match play, a player holes a putt and, incorrectly thinking they have won the match, picks up the ball of their opponent on the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets no penalty because the ball was on the putting green.
 - B. The player gets a penalty of one stroke for picking up the opponent's ball.
 - C. The player has conceded the hole by picking up the opponent's ball.

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238. A player's ball is not found within three minutes of search in a tree that is rooted in an area marked as ground under repair. It is virtually certain that the ball is in the tree. Which is incorrect?
- A. The player may take relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1e).
 - B. The player must take relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1e).
 - C. The player may take relief under the lost ball Rule (18.2b).
239. A player's ball lies in the general area behind a tree near an area marked as ground under repair. The only reasonable play is to make a stroke to the side in a direction away from the hole but their stance for such a stroke is in ground under repair. The player asks a referee for relief for the stroke to the side. What is the ruling?
- A. The player is allowed relief for the stroke to the side under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) and after relief may play in any direction.
 - B. The player is allowed relief for the stroke to the side under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) but after dropping must maintain the same line of play that existed before they took relief.
 - C. The player is not allowed relief for the stroke to the side under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) but may take relief under any of the options of the unplayable ball Rule (19.2).
240. In stroke play, a player accidentally steps on and moves their ball-marker on the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
241. Posts supporting a chain-link fence lie out of bounds, whereas part of the fence itself leans onto the course over the white stakes that define out of bounds. Which is correct?
- A. The entire fence is an obstruction since the fence is an artificial object.
 - B. Only the part of the fence leaning onto the course is an obstruction.
 - C. The fence is not an obstruction since the posts lie out of bounds. However, the player may push the fence back into an upright position.

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242. Which of the following does not result in a player getting a penalty when doing so improves the conditions affecting the stroke?
- A. Scooping a small amount of temporary water from the hole with a paper cup without touching the hole.
 - B. Removing a small amount of dew from just in front of their ball in the general area on the line of play when using a putter for the next stroke.
 - C. Moving a natural object to see if it is loose.
243. Which of the following is correct regarding the player's clubs?
- A. The player gets the general penalty for making a stroke with a club after using an adjustable feature.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty for deliberately changing the playing characteristics of the club during the round.
 - C. A non-conforming club counts towards the 14-club limit in the Rules (4.1b(1)).
244. In stroke play, a player is required to make their next stroke from within the teeing area. The player places sand on the surface of the teeing area and places a ball on top of the sand, then making a stroke at the ball that is within the teeing area. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player must correct the error or get the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
245. Which of the following is correct regarding equipment?
- A. The Committee may not adopt a Local Rule prohibiting the use of audio and visual devices during the round.
 - B. Without a Local Rule permitting it to be used, a player must not use a device that gives distance information.
 - C. Rule 4.3 (Use of Equipment) does not limit the equipment that a player may have with them during a round.
246. In stroke play, without being aware of either breach, a player makes a stroke at an incorrectly substituted ball from the wrong place. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player gets a penalty of three strokes.

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247. In stroke play, a player makes a stroke at a wrong ball that is moving in temporary water or water in a penalty area. The player does not delay in making their stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
248. A player's caddie accidentally deflects their player's ball in motion after a stroke. It comes to rest in a penalty area on the player's golf bag. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty for the accidental deflection. The player may take relief under the movable obstruction relief Rule (15.2a(2)).
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty for the accidental deflection and the ball must be played as it lies on the golf bag.
 - C. There is no penalty for the accidental deflection. However, the player is not allowed relief from the movable obstruction as their ball lies in a penalty area. The player must take relief under the penalty area Rule (17.1d).
249. In stroke play, a player drops a ball under a relief Rule, striking the ground in the relief area. Before it comes to rest, it is accidentally stopped by the player's club that marks the outer limit of the relief area. The player removes the club but the ball does not move and remains in the relief area. The player plays the ball from where it was stopped by the club. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
250. A player uses a device to listen to a radio broadcast or any other type of broadcast such as video. Which is incorrect?
- A. There is no penalty for use of the device to obtain information unrelated to golf.
 - B. There is no penalty for use of device to listen to a broadcast of the competition being played.
 - C. There is a penalty for use of a device to listen to music to eliminate distractions.

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TRUE FALSE - ADVANCED

251. When the edge of a penalty area is defined by stakes, the stakes are inside the penalty area.
252. A player finds their ball in a tractor rut, takes unplayable ball relief with that ball, plays it and then discovers that the ball is not their original ball; there is a penalty for playing a wrong ball.
253. In the rain, a player holds an umbrella over their head with one hand while holing a short putt with their putter held in the other hand; there is no penalty.
254. If a player's ball in play is visible when play is suspended and not found when play is resumed, the player must estimate the spot where the ball lay and place a ball there.
255. A player lifted their ball that was out of bounds after a tee shot and played another ball from the teeing area; they now lie four.
256. In stroke play, there are only three kinds of penalties; a one-stroke penalty, a two-stroke penalty (general penalty) or a disqualification penalty.
257. In match play, a hole may be tied when, after the hole has begun, the player and opponent agree to consider the hole tied. There is no penalty for doing so.
258. A player may repair damage, such as animal hoof indentations, on the putting green.
259. If a player makes a stroke at a wrong ball in a Four-Ball match, their partner gets no penalty even if the wrong ball belongs to them.
260. Each hole starts with a stroke from the teeing area and ends when the ball is holed on the putting green (or when the Rules otherwise say the hole is completed).

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261. Boundary objects are artificial objects defining or showing out of bounds, such as walls, fences, stakes and railings, from which free relief is not allowed.
262. A player may not move a natural object to see if it is loose if in doing so the lie of the player's ball is improved.
263. In match play between Player A and Player B, A concedes a hole to B. A then immediately learns that B played a wrong ball not moving in water with their last stroke and requests a ruling; the Committee must award the hole to A.
264. Two players exchange balls in error after holing out, with each playing the other's ball from the next teeing area; they have each played a wrong ball.
265. If a tree basin has an artificial wall, the wall is an obstruction.
266. The player's practice swing near their ball is not a practice stroke.
267. In match play, there are only two ways that a player can win a match: the player leads the opponent by more holes than remain to be played or the opponent concedes the match.
268. A player concedes a hole, then learns that they were supposed to get a handicap stroke on the hole and requests a ruling; the Committee should revoke the concession.
269. In stroke play, before the competition has closed, it is discovered that a player returned a scorecard without including a penalty stroke that they didn't know about; they are disqualified.

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270. A concession is made only when clearly communicated, either verbally or by an action that clearly shows the player's intent to concede the stroke, hole or match.
271. If a ball has been played from and is no longer in a bunker, the player may not touch or smooth sand in the bunker if the spot of smoothing is on their line of play.
272. When stakes or fence posts define out of bounds, they are not out of bounds.
273. Based on information given by a spectator, a player identifies their ball within three minutes of search time; their ball is not lost in these circumstances.
274. A player's ball in a penalty area is accidentally moved by an opponent's caddie; if the caddie was searching for the player's ball, there is no penalty.
275. To identify a ball in the rough, without penalty, a player may rotate it in place without first marking it.
276. Obstructions include a player's equipment, flagsticks and rakes.
277. During the round, a player's clubs are transported in a motorized cart that is driven by a friend who performs no other functions of a caddie; they are not a caddie.
278. A player's provisional ball played from the teeing area strikes and moves their original ball in the rough; there is no penalty for moving the original ball.
279. If a provisional ball is abandoned, all strokes with that ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely gotten from playing that ball) do not count.

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280. A provisional ball may be abandoned when the original ball is found in a penalty area.
281. A player may fairly take a stance by doing what is reasonably necessary to get to the ball and take a stance but the player is not entitled to a normal stance or swing.
282. When it is necessary to decide questions of fact, a player is responsible for considering not only the player's knowledge of the facts, but also other information that is reasonably available.
283. A player may take reasonable actions to mark the spot of their ball even if doing so improves the conditions affecting the stroke.
284. When taking relief under any relief Rule, the player may use the original ball or another ball if they choose to do so.
285. In the general area, a player makes a practice swing and accidentally moves their ball in play with their club; the player has not made a stroke and gets no penalty.
286. If a player purposely alters the line of play of another player, they are disqualified.
287. During the round, the player must remain in the group set by the Committee, unless the Committee approves a change either before or after it happens.
288. In alternate shot play, the Committee may say in the Terms of the Competition which partner on a side must play from the first teeing area in both regular and mixed play.
289. The player's caddie may remove loose impediments and movable obstructions anywhere.

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290. A player may only change a hole score entered by the marker with the marker's consent or the Committee's approval.
291. The Committee may not make a Local Rule prohibiting, restricting or allowing practise before or between rounds.
292. In both match and stroke play, during a suspension of play or between rounds, a player may give or ask for advice from other players without penalty.
293. In mixed Foursomes in starting play of a hole, if on player hits a tee shot out of bounds from the back tee, the other player must play the next stroke from the forward tee.
294. If the player's ball in motion after a stroke on the putting green is deliberately deflected by a person attending the flagstick, the player must not play the ball from where the ball came to rest.
295. A ball enters an animal hole, the entrance to which is out of bounds, and comes to rest underground in bounds; the ball is considered to be out of bounds.
296. In a team competition, the advice giver may be the team captain, a team coach or other person, including a team member playing in the competition but the team member must not act as an advice giver while playing a round in the competition.
297. When dropping a ball in the relief area under a Rule, the player must let go of the ball from a location at knee height so that the ball does not touch any part of the player's body or equipment before it hits the ground.
298. In Four-Ball match play, a player practised putting after their side holed out, but before the opponents have completed play; the player is penalized.

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299. There is a penalty if a ball not in play on the teeing area is knocked off a tee with a practice swing.
300. If in stroke play, a player fails to record their handicap on their scorecard before returning it, they will not be eligible for a handicap prize, but may still be eligible for a gross prize.
301. In certain circumstances, players may play out of turn under the Rules to save time in both match play and stroke play.
302. If the color of a penalty area has not been marked or indicated by the Committee, it is treated as a yellow penalty area.
303. Three-Ball match play is a form of match play where each of three players plays an individual match against the other two players at the same time.
304. In the general area, a sprinkler head lies ten feet from a player's ball on their line of play; they are allowed relief for interference under the Rules (16.1b).
305. In stroke play, if a player misses a short putt and in anger holes the ball with the handle end of the club, the ball is holed with a penalty of two strokes.
306. If a player's ball-marker is moved in any way (including by natural forces) before the ball is replaced, the player must either replace the ball on its original spot or place a ball-marker to mark the original spot.
307. A player must not make a stroke at a ball whose performance characteristics have been intentionally altered, such as by scuffing or heating the ball (other than cleaning it). If the player does so, they get the general penalty.

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308. Unless the use of golf carts is specifically prohibited, a player may use a golf cart in the competition.
309. The Committee may not adopt a Local Rule denying relief from an immovable obstruction that only interferes with the area of intended stance.
310. A player starts with 14 clubs and breaks a club during the round as a result of leaning on it while waiting to play; they may not replace it.
311. If a ball-marker might help or interfere with play, a player may move the ball-marker out of the way if it is their own ball-marker.
312. If a player's ball has become cut during the hole being played, they may put another ball into play by dropping it as near as possible to where the original ball lay.
313. There is no penalty for repairing a materially damaged hole when the damage was created by the impact of a ball.
314. In stroke play, Player A and Player B deliberately and knowingly agree to ignore a Rule and waive the penalty. Both A and B must be disqualified even if this impermissible agreement is discovered after the competition has closed.
315. In stroke play, a player was doubtful of their rights and played a second ball; if the Rules do not permit the procedure used for both balls, the original ball must count.
316. The Committee may adopt a Local Rule allowing lateral relief on the opposite side of a red penalty area at an equal distance from the hole.
317. In individual stroke play, there is never a penalty if two players agree to play out of turn.

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318. A player may repair damage to the putting green such as old hole plugs, ball-marks, and spike marks provided that it is done without unreasonable delay of play.
319. In a team competition, the Committee may adopt a Local Rule allowing each team to name two advice givers.
320. If more than one player plays a provisional ball or another ball from the teeing area, the order of play is the same order as before.
321. In Four-Ball stroke play, there is no penalty for entering more than one partner's score on the scorecard.
322. On a Four-Ball stroke-play scorecard, if the score to count for the side is lower than actually made or is not clearly attributed to the individual partner who made the score, the side gets the general penalty.
323. A player gets the general penalty if they deliberately lift, deflect or stop any ball in motion, including the player's own ball or that of any other player.
324. If a player starts the round with 14 clubs and loses a club during the round, they may add one club to their total.
325. Shortly before starting the round, a player discovers that they accidentally have 15 clubs in their golf bag; they may declare to their marker one of the clubs out of play, place it on the floor of their cart and the club does not count towards the 14-club limit.
326. In Foursomes match play, any penalty strokes that the side gets do not affect the partner's alternating order of play.

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327. In Four-Ball match play, a player must not continue play of a hole after the player's next stroke has been conceded if this would help their partner.
328. A spectator removed a movable gallery control rope without the player's authority that altered the conditions affecting their stroke; the player may not re-install the rope.
329. A player's ball at rest is treated as having moved only if it is known or virtually certain that it did.
330. A player is not allowed to back into a branch of a tree causing it to move out of the way even if that is the only way that they can take their stance.
331. If it is not known or virtually certain that at least one of either the player, opponent or outside influence caused the ball to move, the ball is treated as moved by natural forces.
332. A player's ball, played from the putting green, is deflected into the hole by another player's caddie, who accidentally walked across the line of play. The original ball, or another ball, must be replaced on its original spot and the stroke must be replayed.
333. In making a stroke, a player must not use equipment in a way that is fundamentally different than its intended use and is not normally recognized as part of playing the game.
334. Before a player's ball is marked and lifted, it is at rest on the putting green; as the player approaches the ball, it moves for no apparent reason to another spot; the ball must be replaced.
335. If a player's ball is in a penalty area, there is no relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1), the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3) or the unplayable ball Rule (19).

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336. When a player's ball lies in a no play zone in a penalty area, the player must take relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d or 17.2) with a penalty of one stroke.
337. A river borders the course. The Committee must define it as a red penalty area.
338. When a ball must be replaced after it was moved by the player, another ball may be used when the original ball cannot be recovered with reasonable effort and in a few seconds, so long as the player did not deliberately cause the ball to become unrecoverable.
339. A player properly plays a provisional ball and it goes into a penalty area. That ball is found in that penalty area along with their original ball. The player takes correct relief with the original ball under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d), getting a one-stroke penalty, and plays the ball. There is no additional penalty.
340. In an 18-hole Stableford competition, a player failed to finish a hole of a round and returned a scorecard for only the 17 holes they completed; the player must be disqualified.
341. A player concedes a hole because the opponent gave wrong information on the Rules; when it is discovered that the opponent was wrong, the concession may not be withdrawn.
342. A player's ball is not found after the three-minute period of search and they believe that it was played by another player after coming to rest on the course. Unless this fact is known or virtually certain, the player must take relief under the ball lost Rule (18.2b).
343. Before the stroke with the unattended flagstick in the hole, the player may leave the flagstick as they find it in the hole or center the flagstick in the hole.
344. In repairing an old hole plug, the player presses down several spike marks near the hole plug; the player gets a penalty.

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345. In Foursomes match play, a player plays from the teeing area of the 2nd hole while their partner was practicing putting on the putting green of the 1st hole; there is no penalty.
346. A player lifts their ball using the Rule for ball interfering with play (Rule 15.3b); their opponent alters the lie of the lifted ball; the player must replace the ball using the Rule for altered lies (Rule 14.2d).
347. A player may move, bend or break any part of a fixed or movable artificial object that is out of bounds that affects the area of their intended swing without any penalty.
348. “Practising on the course” means playing a ball or testing the surface of the putting green of any hole by rolling a ball or rubbing the surface.
349. In stroke play, the Committee is responsible for the addition of the player’s scores.
350. If a ball when initially dropped fails to come to rest in the relief area on which it was dropped, it must be placed in the relief area without penalty.
351. A player’s ball-marker was moved off the putting green by temporary water while play was suspended; when play resumes, they must place a ball or ball-marker on the original spot.
352. In a Four-Ball match with side A-B, A and B share a caddie who accidentally moves an opponent’s ball on the fringe of the putting green. Each of A and B gets a one-stroke penalty.
353. A player’s ball lies in the general area and temporary water on the putting green intervenes between the ball and the hole; the player is allowed relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b).
354. When not authorized by the player, an opponent must not deliberately remove the flagstick to affect where the player’s ball might come to rest.

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355. A ball resting on any obstruction, a loose impediment or an integral part of the course in a bunker is not considered to lie in the bunker since the ball does not touch the sand.
356. The player's ball is in overflow onto the general area from a penalty area and the overflow is seen only after the player takes their stance. Relief from temporary water is not available.
357. In Four-Ball play, either partner may take any allowed action for the side, such as to mark, lift, replace or drop a ball.
358. If for a ball to be replaced, the player lifts the ball without first marking its spot or, after replacing the ball, makes a stroke with a ball-marker left in place, the player must add one penalty stroke.
359. A ball is knocked off a tee on the teeing area with a stroke; if it still lies within the teeing area, it may not be re-teed without penalty.
360. A player's ball lies in a small depression in the general area; the player may mark and lift it to determine whether it is in a hole made by an animal.
361. When a Rule refers to a ball-marker being moved, this means a ball-marker in place on the course to mark the spot of a ball that has been lifted and not yet replaced.
362. If a player makes a stroke at their ball that lies out of bounds, they have made a stroke at a wrong ball and gets the general penalty in both match and stroke play.
363. If a ruling by a referee is found to be wrong, the ruling will be corrected if possible under the Rules; if too late to do so, the wrong ruling stands.

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364. A ball is inside the edge of the bunker and rests on ground where sand would normally be; the ball is in the bunker.
365. A player removes a broken tee touching their ball in the general area causing the ball to move; there is a penalty of one stroke and the ball must be replaced on its original spot.
366. A player accidentally moves their ball, not on the putting green, while marking, lifting or replacing a ball under the Rules, there is a penalty of one stroke.
367. A referee is someone the Committee has named to decide questions of fact and apply the Rules.
368. In stroke play, the Committee has made the round 16 holes since the 11th and 12th holes are under construction. Once the players arrive at the 11th hole, they decide to play both holes to improve their tee shots for holes 13-18. If the players play holes 11 and 12, there is no penalty.
369. In a stroke-play play-off, Player A by mistake gives a wrong score to Player B causing B to lift their ball from the putting green without marking it; A gets a penalty.
370. In stroke play, a player plays out of turn from the teeing area, abandons the ball, then plays a second ball in proper order; the second ball is in play under penalty of stroke and distance.
371. A ball that has moved downward has not moved as defined by the Rules.
372. During the round, a player may access local weather information, including wind, temperature and humidity, through an application or internet browser on a multi-functional device.
373. A player's original ball is not in play when a player has put another ball into play under penalty of stroke and distance.

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374. A player is not allowed to use their hand to bend a branch obscuring their view of the ball after taking their stance; if they do and don't return the branch to the original position, they get the general penalty.
375. A ball might have moved from point A to point B but the movement cannot be seen by the naked eye and it is not known or virtually certain that it moved. There is no penalty if the player makes a stroke at the ball at point B.

MULTIPLE CHOICE – ADVANCED

376. In match play, a player's ball lies in a fairway bunker. The player makes a stroke at the ball that comes to rest in the same bunker but much closer to the hole. Before the player's next stroke, their caddie rakes the area of the previous stroke and other areas nearby to care for the course. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player gets a total penalty of four strokes.
377. In stroke play, which of the following is incorrect regarding a player's scorecard?
- A. After each hole, the marker should confirm the player's score for that hole with the player and enter it on the scorecard.
 - B. When the round has ended, the marker must certify the hole scores on the scorecard.
 - C. The player must certify the scorecard and promptly return it to the Committee, after which they may still make changes if there is an obvious error.
378. In stroke play, a player begins taking their stance while their caddie stood on the fringe of the putting green on an extension of the line of play behind the ball; the player then plays. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty since the caddie was not standing on the putting green.
 - B. There is no penalty if the caddie inadvertently stood on an extension of the player's line of play behind the ball.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty regardless of the circumstances.
379. In stroke play, at the starting time for a group of three players, only two players are present at the starting point and ready to play. One minute after the scheduled time to begin play, the third player arrives in sufficient time to play in the correct order. There were no exceptional circumstances preventing the third player being present at the scheduled starting time. What penalty does the third player get?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player must add the general penalty to their score for the 1st hole.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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380. In stroke play, a player practises putting on the 18th putting green immediately after finishing the first round of a 54-hole event scheduled over consecutive days on a single course. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player is disqualified.
 - C. The Committee should modify the disqualification penalty to two strokes.
381. A player's ball lies on a folding chair in the general area. Which is the correct action if they take relief under the movable obstruction relief Rule (15.2a)?
- A. The player may lift the ball, remove the chair and must drop the original ball within one club-length of the point right under where the ball was at rest on the movable obstruction, not nearer the hole.
 - B. The player may lift the ball, remove the chair and drop a ball within one club-length of the point right under where the ball was at rest on the movable obstruction, not nearer the hole.
 - C. The player may lift the ball, remove the chair and place a ball on the spot right under where it lay on the obstruction, not nearer the hole.
382. Which is correct regarding a player's ball that is in the ground?
- A. A player's ball at rest is moved downward by someone accidentally stepping on it; they must replace it according to the altered lie Rule (14.2d).
 - B. If the player makes a stroke at their ball that lies on a steep bank in the general area and it is driven straight into the bank without ever being airborne, they are allowed relief without penalty under the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b).
 - C. If the player's ball is embedded after a stroke in ground under repair in the general area, they must take relief under the abnormal course condition relief Rule (16.1b) not the embedded ball relief Rule (16.3b).
383. In stroke play, after the competition closed, the Committee discovered that the winner of the event added several strips of lead tape to their driver during the round, which they then used during the round. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets two penalty strokes for each stroke made with the club after it was altered.
 - C. If the player knew before the competition had closed that they were in breach of Rule 4.1a in changing the weight of their driver during the round, they must be disqualified.

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384. Which is correct with respect to a player's round in individual stroke play?
- A. It begins when the player arrives at the teeing area of the first hole of that round.
 - B. It ends when the player holes out at the final hole of that round excluding correction of a mistake.
 - C. It ends when the player holes out at the final hole of that round including correction of a mistake.
385. In Four-Ball match play with side A-B, A holes out. Before B holes out, A practises putting on the fringe of the putting green without helping B's play or hurting the opponent's play. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. A gets the general penalty.
 - C. A and B each get the general penalty.
386. In match play, as a result of a stroke, a player's divot comes to rest affecting the lie of their opponent's ball that lies in a penalty area. What is the ruling?
- A. The opponent may not remove the divot.
 - B. The opponent may remove the divot without penalty.
 - C. The player must remove the divot without penalty.
387. In match play, as the player is preparing to make a stroke at their ball in the general area, the ball moves backward. Before the player can remove their club, it stops the moving ball that comes to rest against the club. It is virtually certain that no player or outside influence caused the ball to move. What is the ruling?
- A. There is a one-stroke penalty and the ball must be replaced.
 - B. There is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies.
 - C. There are two one-stroke penalties and the ball must be replaced.
388. In match play, which is incorrect about Rules issues during the round?
- A. The players in a match may agree how to decide a Rules issue even if it turns out to have been wrong under the Rules, so long as the players did not deliberately agree to ignore the Rules.
 - B. Any agreement between the players on how to decide a Rules issue can be overturned if it turns out to have been wrong under the Rules.
 - C. A player may get a ruling from a referee or the Committee only if the player both tells the opponent about the ruling request and makes the request in time.

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389. In stroke play, a player's ball lies in a bunker. Before playing the ball, they make two practice swings, each time touching sand in the bunker. A player in their group tells them they have incurred a penalty. The player then breaks an attached branch with their hand, improving the area of their backswing. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets the general penalty.
 - B. There is a total penalty of four strokes.
 - C. There is a total penalty of six strokes.
390. In stroke play, a player takes their stance in a bunker to play the ball lying in a bunker. The player changes their mind regarding club selection, leaves the bunker and returns with a different club. Before making the stroke, the player rakes the bunker where they first took their stance because they want to make a different type of stroke with a firmer stance. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
391. A player's caddie accidentally moves an opponent's ball-marker on the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. There is a loss-of-hole penalty.
392. Which is incorrect about team competitions?
- A. A team is a group of players who play as individuals or as sides to compete against other teams.
 - B. The Committee decides the order of play and who will play together as partners in Four-Ball competitions.
 - C. The Committee may allow a team's advice giver to change during a round or during the competition.

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393. In stroke play, to free their hands while attending the flagstick, a player's caddie casually places the player's sand wedge on the putting green but not to indicate the line of play. After the player putts and the ball nears the hole, the caddie removes the flagstick. The caddie also removes the wedge from the putting green, fearing that the player's ball will strike it. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
394. In Foursomes match play with side A-B, A, whose turn it is to play, plays first from the teeing area. Then, B plays from the teeing area as though it is a Four-Ball event. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty and B's ball is in play, lying three.
 - C. B gets the general penalty.
395. Which is incorrect regarding a marker in stroke play?
- A. The Committee may choose the player's marker or tell the players how they may choose a marker.
 - B. If a player had more than one marker, each marker must always certify the scorecard.
 - C. The player must use the same marker for the entire round, unless the Committee approves a change either before or after it happens.
396. In stroke play, a player lifts their ball to take relief from temporary water in the general area. The player tosses the ball to their caddie for cleaning. The caddie is distracted and the ball comes to rest in a deep-water yellow penalty area, where it cannot be retrieved. The player puts another ball into play by dropping it under the abnormal course condition relief Rule (16.1b) and plays out the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player must correct their error by taking relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
 - C. The player gets the general penalty for incorrect substitution.
397. When their ball lies in a bunker and during the backward movement of the club for the stroke, a player must not allow their club to:
- A. touch a bush growing in the bunker.
 - B. touch part of a bridge extending over the bunker.
 - C. brush the sand in the bunker.

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398. In Four-Ball stroke play, side A-B returns a scorecard with the scores of both A and B individually recorded as four for the 3rd hole. After the scorecard was returned to the Committee, the Committee counted A's score for the side. Then, it was discovered that the score of A was actually five because they had failed to include a penalty stroke that was unknown by the side at the time. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should assess the general penalty to the side resulting in a score of six counting for the side at the third hole.
 - B. The Committee will count the score of four for B as the side's score for the hole.
 - C. The side is disqualified for returning an incorrect scorecard.
399. In stroke play, a player thinks that their tee shot may be out of bounds and plays a provisional ball. On reaching the place where their original ball lies, they are still in doubt about the status of the original ball and announces that they will play a second ball under the Rules. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must treat the provisional ball as the second ball under Rule 20.1c(3).
 - B. The player must play a second ball from the tee since the Rules provide that a provisional ball may never be a second ball.
 - C. The player is not allowed to play another ball and must decide by random method which of the two balls is their ball in play.
400. In match play, a player's ball lies in a bunker, while their opponent's ball lies on the putting green, but farther from the hole; the player plays out of turn and the ball comes to rest on the putting green. The player then rakes the bunker. After the player has raked the bunker, the opponent recalls the stroke and requires the player to replay. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
401. In stroke play, a player strikes their ball into an area of temporary water that is adjacent to a yellow penalty area. The player mistakenly thinks that the temporary water is a part of the yellow penalty area. Abandoning the original ball that the player could have easily retrieved, they put another ball into play by dropping it 10-yards behind the temporary water under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d) and plays it. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets the general penalty.
 - B. There is a total penalty of four strokes.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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402. In stroke play, a player makes their first stroke from the teeing area of a par-3 hole and the ball comes to rest in a yellow penalty area. The player plays their original ball further into the penalty area where it is lost. The player drops a second ball to play under stroke-and-distance relief, but it rolls into deep water in the relief area. The player abandons that ball, plays a third ball from the teeing area that comes to rest on the putting green, takes two putts to hole out, and tees off on the next hole. What is the player's score for the hole?
- A. Six.
 - B. Seven.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
403. In stroke-play qualifying for match play, a player returned a scorecard in which the player unintentionally failed to include in the score for a hole a penalty of one stroke that the player knew they got. The error is discovered after the player began match play. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should take no action since the error was unintentional.
 - B. The Committee has no authority to take action at this time since the qualifying competition was closed when the error was discovered.
 - C. The Committee should disqualify the player since the player knew of the penalty before they returned the scorecard.
404. A player strikes their ball from a bunker onto the next teeing area. Another player, who is making a practice swing, accidentally strikes the moving ball. The ball comes to rest in a yellow penalty area. What is the ruling?
- A. The ball must be placed on the spot where it was struck on the tee.
 - B. The player must play the ball as it lies in the yellow penalty area or take relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
 - C. The player must replay the stroke from the bunker.
405. It is virtually certain that a player's tee shot is lost in a red penalty area. The player uses reasonable judgment to determine the estimated point where their original ball (ball A) last crossed the edge of the penalty area and drops a second ball (ball B) within two club-lengths of the reference point for the lateral relief option, not nearer the hole. After playing ball B, they find ball A outside the penalty area. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must continue play with ball A, without penalty.
 - B. The player must continue play with ball B, getting only the penalty of one stroke under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
 - C. The player must return to the teeing area and play a ball, under penalty of stroke and distance.

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406. In stroke play in groups of two players, A suggests to B, whose ball lies in very difficult conditions in the general area, that they should take unplayable ball relief Rule (19.2). What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty to A regardless of the eventual play of B.
 - B. There is no penalty to A if B plays their ball as it lies.
 - C. A gets the general penalty regardless of the eventual play of B.
407. A player's ball on a par-3 hole, played from the teeing area across water marked as a yellow penalty area, lies in a bunker behind the putting green. The player makes a stroke from the bunker and the ball comes to rest in the penalty area in front of the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. The player may drop a ball in the bunker under penalty of stroke and distance.
 - B. The player may drop a ball within two club-lengths of where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area, not nearer the hole.
 - C. The player must drop a ball on the teeing area side of the water, taking relief under the yellow penalty area relief Rule (17.1d).
408. Which is correct regarding the responsibilities of the Committee?
- A. In match play, it may by Local Rule allow a player to complete the play of a hole with two balls when they are doubtful of their rights.
 - B. In a stroke-play team competition where a player's score for the round counts only as part of the team's score, the Committee may adopt a Local Rule allowing team members playing in the same group to give each other advice even if they are not partners.
 - C. It may not in a Code of Conduct tell players to stay out of a no play zone entirely.
409. In Four-Ball match play with side A-B, both the ball of A and the ball of B lie in the same bunker. A lifts some loose impediments lying in the bunker affecting their play. What is the ruling?
- A. A is disqualified for the hole, but B does not get a penalty even if the lifting assisted B's play of the hole.
 - B. A is disqualified for the hole; B also gets the same penalty, if the lifting assisted B's play of the hole, in which case side A-B loses the hole.
 - C. There is no penalty to anyone.

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410. In Foursomes stroke play with side A-B, A, whose turn it is to play, plays a ball from outside the teeing area. B makes the next stroke from within the teeing area. What is the penalty and which player makes the next stroke?
- A. There is no penalty if A puts a ball into play from within the teeing area.
 - B. The side gets the general penalty and A must play from within the teeing area.
 - C. There is a total penalty of four strokes and A must play from within the teeing area.
411. A player's ball is embedded after a stroke in the general area. The player lifts the ball, cleans it and drops it in the general area on a spot right behind where the ball was embedded. It does not come to rest there but rolls into and comes to rest in a nearby bunker, not nearer the hole. The distance the ball rolled before coming to rest in the bunker was less than one club-length. What is the ruling?
- A. The player took relief correctly and must play the ball as it lies.
 - B. The player must again drop a ball in the relief area without penalty.
 - C. The player must place the ball as near as possible to where it first struck the spot in the general area before coming to rest in the bunker.
412. In stroke play in the general area, a player is unaware that their ball lies in ground under repair and decides to take relief under the unplayable ball Rule (19.2). Before the player lifts the ball and unknown to the player, the wind causes it to move from point A to point B still within the ground under repair. Then realizing that the ball lies in ground under repair at B, the player lifts the ball, does not replace it at A, takes relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) for a ball at rest at B and completes the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
413. A referee is in the player's view near the putting green where the player's ball lies. The area surrounding the hole on the putting green is covered with temporary water and the hole itself is filled with water. Which is incorrect?
- A. The player may not remove any of the temporary water.
 - B. The player may remove any temporary water from the putting green, except the temporary water in the hole.
 - C. The player may consult with the referee on how to continue.

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414. In Four-Ball stroke play in groups of four with side A-B and side C-D playing together, after A plays from the 2nd teeing area, but before any other player plays, B discovers that they have mistakenly carried fifteen clubs from the start due to a club that they failed to remove at the range before the round. What is the ruling?
- A. B gets the general penalty; A gets no penalty.
 - B. Both A and B get the general penalty applied to the first hole.
 - C. There is a total penalty of four strokes to each of A and B.
415. In stroke play during play of the next to last hole of a round, a player announces that they will play a second ball under Rule 20.1c(3) and selects the second ball to count. Then, the player plays both balls from a wrong place and has committed a serious breach with the procedure used for both balls. The player plays from the teeing area of the last hole, completes the round and reports to the Committee before returning their scorecard. What is the ruling?
- A. The score with the original ball counts.
 - B. The score with the second ball counts.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
416. A player's ball lies in the general area outside an area on the course that is marked as ground under repair (GUR). High grass growing within the GUR interferes with the player's swing, but not with the lie of the ball, or with their stance. What is the ruling?
- A. The player is not allowed relief since their ball does not lie in the GUR.
 - B. The player is not allowed relief since their stance is not in the GUR.
 - C. The player is allowed relief because the high grass within the GUR is part of the GUR and the grass interferes with their swing.
417. A player's club strikes the ground behind the ball, not making contact with the ball; however, the ground is struck with sufficient force to move the ball and the player's club continues, then striking the moving ball. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must count the stroke at the ball that struck the ground and caused the ball to move. There is not a penalty for striking the ball more than once in making a stroke.
 - B. The player must not count the stroke at the ball that struck the ground and caused the ball to move; there is a one-stroke penalty for striking the ball more than once in making a stroke.
 - C. The player must not count the stroke at the ball that struck the ground and caused the ball to move; there is not a penalty for striking the ball more than once in making a stroke; the ball must be replaced.

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418. In Four-Ball match play, a player improves conditions affecting the stroke to be made by their partner but the action is of no help to the player. What is the ruling?
- A. The partner is disqualified for the hole; the player gets no penalty.
 - B. The player is disqualified for the hole; the partner gets no penalty.
 - C. The side gets the general penalty.
419. In stroke play, a player's ball lies in a bunker. The ball is accidentally moved as a direct result of their removal of a small acorn, lying in the bunker. The player replaces the ball before their stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
420. Which is incorrect regarding practise?
- A. In match play, a player may practise on the course before their match begins.
 - B. Between the play of two holes, a player may practise putting or chipping on or near any practice green and the putting green of the hole just completed.
 - C. The Committee may not adopt a Local Rule prohibiting, restricting or allowing practise on the course before or between rounds, in either form of play.
421. Which actions by a player are not allowed before the stroke when a player's ball lies in a bunker?
- A. Placing or throwing clubs, equipment or other objects in the bunker several yards in back of the ball.
 - B. Smoothing the bunker to care for the course that improves the conditions affecting the stroke.
 - C. Removing a pine cone several yards in front of the ball that fell from a tree after the player's ball came to rest in the bunker.
422. In stroke play with the player's ball on the putting green, a player's caddie touches the putting green with the player's club in pointing out the line of play without improving the conditions affecting the stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.

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423. A player's ball lies in a bunker that is completely covered by temporary water. In some places, the water is several inches deep. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must play the ball as it lies.
 - B. If there is no nearest point of complete relief in the bunker, the player may take relief by using the point of maximum available relief in the bunker as the reference point for the relief area.
 - C. The player may drop a ball, with a one-stroke penalty, outside the bunker on a line from the hole and the spot where the ball last crossed the edge of the bunker.
424. A player's ball after a stroke comes to rest against the unattended flagstick in the hole but no part of the ball is below the surface of the putting green. The player removes the flagstick and the ball moves. What is the ruling?
- A. If the ball falls into the hole, there is no penalty and the ball is holed.
 - B. If the ball moves away from the hole, there is no penalty and the ball must be played from where it came to rest.
 - C. If the ball moves away from the hole, there is no penalty and the ball must be replaced on the lip of the hole.
425. Which is correct regarding loose impediments?
- A. When moving or removing a loose impediment as allowed, a player may do so in any way (such as by using a hand or foot or a club).
 - B. When moving or removing a loose impediment as allowed, a player may do so in any way (such as by using a hand or foot or a club) but not by using other equipment.
 - C. Without penalty, a player may remove a loose impediment anywhere on or off the course but not in a penalty area.
426. A player makes a stroke at their ball that lies in a greenside bunker. The ball comes to rest over the green and out of bounds. The player is now required to take stroke-and-distance relief by dropping a ball in the bunker. Which of the following is incorrect before the player drops a ball?
- A. The player may touch sand in the bunker with their hand.
 - B. The player's caddie may not smooth sand in the bunker to care for the course.
 - C. The player may touch sand with their club.

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427. Which of the following is incorrect regarding relief under the abnormal course condition relief Rule (16.1b)?
- A. If the Committee has defined an artificial object as an integral object, the player is not allowed free relief from interference by the object.
 - B. If the player's ball is on the putting green and an abnormal course condition on or off the putting green intervenes on the line of play, the player is allowed relief.
 - C. If the abnormal course condition is close enough to distract the player, the player is allowed relief.
428. In stroke play, by mistake, Player A plays Player B's ball in play and as a result B plays A's ball in play. What is the ruling?
- A. Only A gets the general penalty.
 - B. Only B gets the general penalty.
 - C. Both A and B get the general penalty.
429. A player's ball lies on the fringe of the putting green and their line of play is affected by a pitch-mark also on the fringe made by another player's ball. What is the ruling?
- A. If the pitch-mark was created before or after the player's ball came to rest, they may repair the pitch-mark without penalty.
 - B. If the pitch-mark was created after the player's ball came to rest, they may repair the pitch-mark without penalty.
 - C. The player may only repair damage that is on the putting green.
430. In stroke play, a player takes lateral relief from a red penalty area. The player properly drops a ball, but it rolls and comes to rest more than two club-lengths from the reference point. The player plays the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. There is a total penalty of three strokes.
431. In stroke play, during play of a hole, a player puts another ball into play for the original ball that they say is cut or cracked. The player's marker disagrees but the player makes a stroke at the new ball. The marker asks the Committee for a ruling before completion of the hole and the Committee determines that the ball taken out of play was not cut or cracked. What penalty does the player get?
- A. There is no penalty and the player must continue with the new ball.
 - B. The player gets a one-stroke penalty and must continue with the new ball.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty and must continue with the new ball.

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432. In stroke play, a player holes a putt with a club in one hand, while holding the removed flagstick with their other hand. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
433. In Four-Ball match play, a player is disqualified for the hole for playing a wrong ball. The player continues to play the hole along with their partner. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The side gets the general penalty if any of the player's strokes assisted the partner in their play of the hole.
 - C. The side gets the general penalty as a consequence of the player's actions.
434. At the 18th teeing area, a match is tied. After play on the 18th putting green where A scored five, B tells A that they also scored five when B knew that their score was actually six. They played extra holes with B winning the match. The next day after the match is final, A learns that B gave the wrong number of strokes on the 18th hole and requests a ruling. What is the ruling?
- A. The match stands as played as the request was made after the match was final.
 - B. The Committee must award the match to A.
 - C. In fairness, the match must be replayed.
435. In stroke play, a marker mistakenly certifies an incorrect score for a hole and gives it to the player. Before returning the scorecard to the Committee, the player notices the mistake, corrects it without consulting with the marker or informing the Committee, certifies the hole scores and returns the corrected scorecard. After the competition is closed, the Committee discovers that the player had corrected the hole score on scorecard without consulting with the marker or informing the Committee. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. The player is disqualified if it is determined that the player knew before the competition had closed that they were in breach of the Rules (3.3b(2)).

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436. In stroke play, which is incorrect regarding Rules issues during the round?
- A. The players are encouraged to help each other with how to apply the Rules, but they have no right to decide a Rules issue by agreement.
 - B. Any such agreement the players may reach must be followed by the players and must be honored by a referee or the Committee.
 - C. A player should raise any Rules issue with the Committee before returning their scorecard.
437. In Four-Ball match play, a player's ball is farthest from the hole, while their partner's ball is closest to the hole. The partner decides to putt first, but they will be standing on the line of play of one of the opponents. The opponents object to this procedure, because they say it will adversely affect their play. What is the ruling?
- A. If the player whose ball is farthest from the hole does not putt first, the side will lose the hole for not playing in turn.
 - B. If the partner whose ball is closest to the hole putts first and in doing so stands on the line of play of one of the opponents, they will be disqualified from the hole.
 - C. In this situation, the side may play in any order they choose, without penalty.
438. In a singles match, Player A and Player B share a motorized golf cart that is parked with A sitting in it. B makes a stroke and their moving ball is deflected by A's golf bag carried on the cart. What is the ruling?
- A. A gets a penalty of one stroke and the ball is played as it lies.
 - B. A gets a penalty of one stroke and B has the option of replaying their stroke.
 - C. There is no penalty to A or B.
439. In match play, Player A mistakenly lifts their ball from the putting green without marking it. The opponent, Player B, lifts their ball without marking it and says they have won the hole, because they think that A gets the general penalty. What is the ruling?
- A. B is correct and A gets the general penalty.
 - B. B is not correct that A gets the general penalty and both A and B get a one-stroke penalty for lifting without marking and must replace their balls.
 - C. There is no penalty to either player and the hole is tied.

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440. In stroke play, a player's ball lay in the general area in a flowerbed and the player was uncertain if they were allowed relief. The player decided that they would play a second ball under Rule 20.1c. The player played the original ball as it lay and then the second ball, taking relief under the abnormal course condition relief Rule (16.1b). However, the player failed to choose which ball should count before making a stroke. The player reported to the Committee who confirmed that play from the flowerbed was prohibited by a Local Rule that declared it to be a no play zone from which relief without penalty was mandatory. What is the ruling?
- A. Since the player did not choose the ball to count, the first ball played must count if played by the Rules. The Rules did not permit the procedure used for that ball thus the second ball counts without penalty.
 - B. Since the Rules did not permit the procedure used for the original ball, the second ball counts with a two-stroke penalty.
 - C. Since they did not choose in advance which ball they wished to count, the ball played first is treated as the ball chosen by default and they get the general penalty.
441. In stroke play, a player uses equipment (such as a brace on their wrist) to help with a medical condition. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty because of the player's medical condition.
 - B. There is no penalty if the player has a medical reason to use the equipment and the Committee finds that this use does not give the player an unfair advantage over other players.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
442. In match play, at the conclusion of the 18th hole, a player, by mistake, tells their opponent the wrong number of strokes taken that causes the opponent to concede the match. The right number of strokes would result in a tied match. After the result is final the player realizes their mistake and tells their opponent the right number of strokes. Then, the opponent requests a ruling. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should award the match to the opponent.
 - B. The Committee should require that the match be continued at the 19th hole.
 - C. The Committee should determine that the match stands as played.

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443. Player A and Player B played into a penalty area at about the same spot in shallow water. At the direction of A, as agreed to by B, A's caddie recovers both balls and the balls are exchanged by mistake. A and B take relief under the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d) and play out the hole with the balls exchanged. What is the ruling?
- A. Each of A and B gets the penalty of one stroke under the penalty area relief Rule with no additional penalty for exchanging the balls before taking relief.
 - B. Since A's caddie caused the incorrect substitution, A gets a penalty of two strokes; B gets no penalty.
 - C. Each of A and B gets the general penalty for incorrect substitution.
444. In match play, a player's ball lies in a bunker. In the bunker is a loose impediment next to the ball such that if the loose impediment is moved, it would likely cause the ball at rest to move. The player properly follows the lifting a ball for identification Rule (7.3) and when the ball is lifted, they remove the loose impediment. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty and the removed loose impediment does not need to be replaced.
 - C. There is a one-stroke penalty and the removed loose impediment must be replaced.
445. Which is correct regarding the use of a caddie?
- A. The Committee may not impose in a Local Rule a requirement that a player employ a caddie.
 - B. The Committee may impose restrictions in a Local Rule as to whom a player may employ as their caddie.
 - C. The Committee may not in a Local Rule prohibit the use of caddies.
446. A spectator deliberately deflects a player's ball in motion after a stroke from the general area. The ball would have come to rest in a bunker. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must play the ball as it lies.
 - B. The player has the option of replaying the stroke.
 - C. The player must estimate the spot (reference point) where the ball would have come to rest if the spectator had not deflected it. A ball must be dropped within one club-length of that spot, not nearer the hole and in the same area of the course as the reference point.

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447. Which is correct regarding obstructions?
- A. An artificially-surfaced road is not an obstruction.
 - B. A paved car park or parking lot is not an obstruction.
 - C. Wooden steps that have been constructed on a steep bank within and exiting a bunker are obstructions.
448. In match play, which of the following is incorrect?
- A. If the opponent knew that the player had a penalty, such as when seeing the player obviously take relief under penalty, there is no penalty for the player failing to tell the opponent about it.
 - B. If the player makes a timely request for a ruling, and it is found that the opponent gave the wrong number of strokes taken, the wrong match score must be corrected.
 - C. If the player gives the wrong number of strokes taken after a hole has been completed and this does not affect the opponent's understanding of whether the hole was won or lost, there is still a penalty.
449. In stroke play, a player's ball lies in a bunker. While entering the bunker, the player accidentally kicks a small stone into the bunker. Before the player takes their stance, the player removes the stone that affects the conditions near their ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
450. Which of the following is correct regarding when Player A reasonably believes that the ball of Player B at rest might interfere with A's own play?
- A. If B refuses to lift their ball when required to do so and a stroke is made by A with B's ball in place, B is disqualified.
 - B. In both match play and stroke play, if A requests B to lift their ball, B may either lift their ball before the play of A or play first instead.
 - C. If B refuses to lift their ball when required to do so and a stroke is made by A with B's ball in place, B gets the general penalty.

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451. In match play, a player starts their round with fourteen clubs, accidentally bends the shaft of their putter on the 18th hole putting green, and, as the match was tied, replaces it at the start of the 19th hole. In a separate stroke-play event at another course, a player starts with fourteen clubs, accidentally bends the shaft of their putter on the 18th putting green and replaces it at the start of the 19th hole for a hole-by-hole play-off. In each of these separate situations, the players are on the putting green of the 19th hole when other players question their procedures. What is the ruling?
- A. Neither player gets a penalty.
 - B. The player in match play gets no penalty but the player in stroke play does.
 - C. The player in stroke play gets no penalty but the player in match play does.
452. A player's stroke at their ball results in it overhanging the hole apparently at rest. Which is incorrect?
- A. The player is allowed a reasonable time to reach the hole and ten more seconds to wait to see whether the ball will fall into the hole.
 - B. If the ball falls into the hole within the allowed ten extra seconds, the player has holed out with the previous stroke without penalty.
 - C. The player must wait the allowed ten seconds before making a stroke or there will be a penalty for playing a moving ball.
453. In stroke play, a player's ball lies on a paved cart path in the general area and they drop a ball in taking relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b). Which is incorrect?
- A. If the dropped ball accidentally touches the player's foot before hitting the ground, comes to rest in the relief area and is played from there, the player gets the general penalty.
 - B. If the dropped ball accidentally touches the player's foot before hitting the ground, comes to rest in the relief area and is played from there, there is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. If the dropped ball was dropped in the right way but came to rest outside the relief area and the ball is played from there, the player gets the general penalty.
454. In stroke play on the putting green without the authority of the player, their caddie marks the player's ball and lifts it. By mistake, the caddie replaces the lifted ball with a new ball. Unaware of this, the player then makes a stroke at the new ball. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets a one-stroke penalty and must correct the error by replacing the original ball.
 - B. The player gets a one-stroke penalty and must continue with the new ball.
 - C. The player gets a total of three penalty strokes and must continue with the new ball.

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455. After the player's ball came to rest, conditions affecting the stroke are worsened by an animal, or by any person other than the player or anyone acting for the player. Which of the following is incorrect?
- A. The player may restore the original conditions as nearly as possible.
 - B. If material ended up on the ball when the conditions were worsened, the player may mark the spot of the ball and lift, clean and replace the ball on its original spot.
 - C. If the worsened conditions cannot be easily restored, the player must place the ball in the nearest spot with similar conditions to the original conditions, not nearer the hole.
456. A player's ball lies in a bunker in an unplayable situation. The player takes relief by dropping a ball under the lateral relief option of the unplayable ball Rule (19.3a) in the bunker but mistakenly drops it in the bunker closer to the hole than where the original ball lay. To correct the player's mistake, they lift the ball and takes relief under the back-on-the-line option, dropping the ball in the bunker. What is the ruling?
- A. The player is allowed to correct their mistake of dropping the ball nearer the hole. However, the player must also correct their mistake of changing options by continuing with the unplayable ball option initially selected.
 - B. By taking relief under the back-on-the-line option when correcting the player's mistake of dropping the ball nearer the hole, the player took relief correctly.
 - C. The Committee must decide which correction procedure the player may use.
457. A player has knowledge or virtual certainty that their ball is in a red penalty area but is not found. The player decides to take relief under the lateral relief option of the penalty area relief Rule (17.1d(3)), speculates where the original ball last crossed the edge of the area and drops a ball within two club-lengths from that point. After the ball is dropped, but before the player makes their next stroke, another player says that the original ball last crossed the edge 20-yards closer to the hole than where the ball was dropped. The player finds the original ball in the area where the other player said it would be. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must continue play with the dropped ball.
 - B. The player must lift the dropped ball and correcting take relief using the same Rule and relief option with respect to the correct reference point.
 - C. The player must correct the mistake of dropping in a wrong place by taking relief using the same Rule and any allowed relief option with respect to the correct reference point.

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458. In stroke play, after resuming play that was suspended due to a rainstorm, a player's ball comes to rest near a large bush. In making several practice swings, the player causes water on a branch of the bush to be removed, thus eliminating the distraction from the water during their stroke. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
459. Which is correct regarding a player's stance in a bunker?
- A. The player may kneel on a towel to take their stance in the bunker.
 - B. The player may place their feet firmly in taking their stance but they must not build a stance.
 - C. The player may knock down the side of the bunker with their foot to get a level stance while playing their ball that lies in the general area.
460. In Four-Ball match play not during search, a player by mistake lifted an opponent's ball in a penalty area without authority. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets a one-stroke penalty but there is no penalty to the partner.
 - C. The player and their partner each get a one-stroke penalty.
461. In match play, during search for the ball of Player A, Player B kicks a ball in deep rough that is identified as the ball of A. B replaces the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. B gets a penalty of one stroke and only B may replace the ball of A.
 - C. B gets a penalty of one stroke and either A or B may replace the ball.
462. In stroke play, a player picks up their ball that is overhanging the hole without holing out and plays from the next teeing area. After return of the scorecard and before the close of competition, a spectator brings this to the attention of the Committee. What is the ruling?
- A. The scorecard stands as returned.
 - B. The Committee must add the general penalty of two strokes to the player's score.
 - C. The player is disqualified.

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463. A player touches their ball with a hand in removing loose impediments when the ball lies in the general area. The ball does not move. What is the ruling?
- A. If the ball was touched accidentally, there is no penalty.
 - B. If the ball was touched either accidentally or on purpose, there is no penalty.
 - C. If the ball was touched either accidentally or on purpose, there is a penalty.
464. In match play, because of predicted bad weather, a player concedes a match to their opponent on the day before a match was to be played. The Committee then postpones all matches to the following week because the course is unplayable. Just before the day the rescheduled matches were to start, the player who conceded requested that they be reinstated. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee may not reinstate the player, as the concession is irrevocable.
 - B. The Committee must reinstate the player.
 - C. The Committee may reinstate the player, but only with the agreement of their opponent.
465. A player intends to take relief for a ball that lies in ground under repair on a steep slope. There is a large bush near the relief area in which the player must drop a ball. It is likely that after the drop the ball will come to rest in the relief area. However, it is also likely that the ball might move from the relief area before the stroke is made and come to rest near the bush. The player breaks off a small part of the bush that might interfere with their stance after relief if the ball should move. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty. The player has not improved the relief area into which they are to drop a ball.
 - B. There is no penalty if the player plays their ball as it lies in the ground under repair.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty for altering physical conditions to affect where the player's ball might go or come to rest if it moves before the stroke is made.
466. Which of the following is correct regarding actions by the Committee?
- A. All woods adjacent to all fairways throughout the course may be defined by the Committee as red penalty areas to save time.
 - B. The Committee may not disqualify a player for acting contrary to the spirit of the game if it finds that the player has committed serious misconduct.
 - C. The Committee may not set its own standards of player conduct in a Code of Conduct adopted as a Local Rule.

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467. In stroke play, a player has breached the Rules by playing from a wrong place. Which is incorrect?
- A. If the player has not gained a significant advantage, they must play out the hole with the ball played from the wrong place without correction.
 - B. If the breach was serious and happened during play of other than the final hole, before making a stroke from the next teeing area, the player must play out the hole with a ball played from a right place.
 - C. If it is the final hole of the round, then before leaving the putting green, the player must announce that they will play out the hole with a ball played from a right place under the Rules.
468. A player wishes to compete in a Stableford competition and a stroke-play event at the same time. What is the ruling?
- A. This is allowed.
 - B. This is not allowed.
 - C. The Committee must decide, as this is not covered by the Rules.
469. In stroke play, a player plays a wrong ball from deep rough onto the putting green. When the player reaches the putting green, the mistake is discovered. The player returns to the rough and plays another ball that they believe to be theirs. Then, the player discovers that they have played a second wrong ball. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets the general penalty.
 - B. There is a total penalty of four strokes.
 - C. The player is disqualified.
470. Which is incorrect regarding improving conditions affecting a player's play?
- A. In a penalty area, the player may improve the area of their intended swing in fairly taking their stance in the least intrusive way.
 - B. In the general area, the player may improve the lie of their ball in pressing down a replaced divot.
 - C. Within the teeing area, the player may break a branch of a bush growing in the teeing area to prevent it from interfering with their backswing.

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471. Which is correct?
- A. Another ball may be played without penalty from the estimated spot where the original ball lay when it is virtually certain that the original ball that was not found had been taken by an outside influence.
 - B. A ball is put into play under penalty of stroke and distance but a stroke is not made at the ball. If the original ball is found within the three-minute search period, the original ball may be played.
 - C. A provisional ball is played from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be. The original ball, if then found, may be played.
472. In Foursomes match play with the side A-B, A, whose turn it is to play, plays from outside the teeing area. The opponents immediately require the side to cancel the stroke so played and play correctly from within the teeing area. What is the ruling?
- A. A must make the next stroke.
 - B. B must make the next stroke.
 - C. Either A or B may make the next stroke.
473. In stroke play, a player is in the process of marking their ball on the putting green. As the player reaches into their pocket to remove a coin to use as a marker, the coin accidentally falls on the ball and causes it to move. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. The player gets a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
474. A ball in motion after a stroke from the putting green accidentally hits an animal. Which is correct?
- A. If the ball accidentally hits an animal on the putting green, the stroke does not count and the original ball must be replaced on its original spot.
 - B. If the ball accidentally hits an animal off the putting green, the stroke does not count and the original ball must be replaced on its original spot.
 - C. If the ball accidentally hits an animal other than those defined as a loose impediment on the putting green, the stroke does not count and the original ball or another ball must be replaced on its original spot.

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475. In Four-Ball stroke play with side A-B, A picks up while B completes the hole. The marker attributes the score for the hole to A and records no score for B. The better ball score is correct. The hole scores on the scorecard are certified and the scorecard is returned to the Committee. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should accept without penalty the scorecard as returned, since the better ball score of the side was correct.
 - B. The Committee should correct the error by entering the correct score for B into the proper box on the scorecard and waive the disqualification penalty.
 - C. The Committee must disqualify the side, since there was no score recorded for B whose score was to count.
476. In Four-Ball stroke play with side A-B on the putting green, A requests B to leave B's ball in place to help A in their play as they believe such an action is allowed. A makes their stroke with the helping ball left in place. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty as partners may help each other in their play.
 - B. Both A and B must add two penalty strokes.
 - C. The side is disqualified.
477. In match play between Player A and Player B, during play of the 10th hole, A whose turn it is to play suggests to B, that B play first to save time because A must return to the 9th putting green to recover their wedge that they had left there. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty; such a procedure is allowed in these circumstances.
 - B. Both players must be disqualified for agreeing to ignore the Rules.
 - C. Although the players are subject to disqualification for agreeing to ignore the Rules, the Committee would be justified in waiving the penalty.
478. A player takes proper relief from a permanent ball-washer that interferes with their stance. After relief, a fixed bench interferes with the player's swing. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must take further relief without penalty because of interference by the bench.
 - B. The player should have taken relief from both obstructions with a one-step procedure and is not allowed further relief without penalty.
 - C. The player took relief correctly and they are now allowed relief from the bench.

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479. A player believes their ball lies in a bunker that is completely covered by leaves. Without touching sand, the player uses a club to remove enough leaves to enable them to see a small part of a ball that is identified as the player's ball. As the player takes a stance for the next stroke, they touch some of the leaves with their club. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty for using the club to remove leaves to see part of the ball or for touching leaves with the club after taking a stance for the stroke.
 - B. There is a penalty for using the club to remove leaves to see part of the ball but not for touching leaves with the club after taking a stance for the stroke.
 - C. There is a penalty for touching leaves with the club after taking a stance for the stroke but not for using the club to remove leaves to identify the ball.
480. In Four-Ball match play with side A-B opposing side C-D, A and B both play out of turn from the teeing area in the order A first then B second when it was the turn of side C and D to play. At that point, side C-D decides to recall either one or both strokes played out of turn but are unsure of how to continue. Which stroke or strokes may be recalled?
- A. The stroke of A only.
 - B. The stroke of B only.
 - C. Either or both of the strokes of A and B.
481. Which is incorrect regarding a wrong ball or a substituted ball?
- A. In Four-Ball stroke play with side A-B, if both A and B play a wrong ball not moving in water on a hole and do not correct the mistake, the side is disqualified.
 - B. A player finds a stray ball that they lift under the lifting ball for identification Rule (7.3), mistakenly identifies it as theirs, replaces it and makes a stroke at it. The player has played a wrong ball with penalty.
 - C. In individual match play, both player and opponent play each other's ball during play of a hole, the first to make a stroke at a wrong ball not moving in water gets the general penalty.
482. A player's ball is believed to be covered by sand to the extent that they cannot find it. The player may, without penalty, touch or move sand to find or identify the ball in which of the following situations?
- A. Only if the ball is believed to lie in a bunker.
 - B. Anywhere except in a penalty area.
 - C. If the ball lies anywhere on the course.

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483. Which is correct in match play?
- A. If a player voluntarily gives the wrong number of strokes they have taken, it does not need to be corrected before the opponent's next stroke is made.
 - B. If it is a player's turn to play and they withhold information from an opponent regarding strokes taken until after the player has played, they get a penalty.
 - C. If an opponent knew that a player got a penalty, there is no penalty for the player's failing to tell the opponent about it.
484. Which of the following is incorrect?
- A. Using non-golf swing related equipment for the purpose of stretching is allowed.
 - B. Training aids and other similar golf swing related devices, including any piece of stretching equipment designed for use in a golf swing, are allowed for a practice swing.
 - C. Using a golf glove or other equipment that provides undue help with hand position or grip pressure is not allowed.
485. During the round, a player makes a stroke while holding a golf ball in their hand against the grip to help with the stroke. Which of the following is correct?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. First breach during the round, the player gets the general penalty.
 - C. First breach during the round, the player is disqualified.
486. In match play, a player decides to request a ruling on a point where they and the opponent disagree. The players agree to refer the matter to the Committee and continue the match. Before conclusion of play, they consult with a marshal on the course (not a member of the Committee). Although the marshal incorrectly advises the players, they agree with their ruling and continue. The losing player consults with the Committee after conclusion of the match, learns of the mistake and requests a ruling. What is the ruling?
- A. The Committee should reverse the incorrect ruling by the marshal.
 - B. The Committee should disqualify the players for consulting with the marshal.
 - C. The Committee should rule that the player's agreement after consulting with the marshal is conclusive and the match stands as played.

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487. Which is incorrect?
- A. A dangerous animal condition exists when a dangerous animal near a ball could seriously endanger the player if the ball were played as it lies.
 - B. A player may take relief without penalty from a dangerous animal condition even if playing the ball would be clearly unreasonable for a reason other than the dangerous animal.
 - C. Relief is allowed for a dangerous animal condition for a ball in a penalty area.
488. In stroke play, a player accidentally steps on and moves their ball in the fairway, altering the original lie that was known. The player lifts the ball, cleans it, places it on the nearest spot with a lie most similar to the original lie within one club-length from its original spot, and plays. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.
489. A player plays a provisional ball from the teeing area that appears to come to rest in the same general location as the original ball. The player discovers the original ball out of bounds and cannot find the provisional ball. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must return to the teeing area where they will be making their third stroke.
 - B. The player must return to the teeing area where they will be making their fifth stroke.
 - C. The Committee must decide since this situation is not covered by the Rules.
490. In stroke play on the putting green, a player marks their ball with a coin to the side of where it lies, lifts the ball and carelessly replaces it in front of the coin, which is approximately a two-inch distance away from the ball's original spot. The player plays the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty.
 - C. There is no penalty.

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491. A player plays a provisional ball into the same general location as the original ball and both balls are found. The player is unable to identify either ball. What is the ruling?
- A. If both balls are found on the course, the Committee must decide.
 - B. If one of the balls is found on the course and the other is found out of bounds, the ball found on the course is treated as the provisional ball that is now in play. The other ball is out of play.
 - C. The player must return to the spot of the previous stroke and play a ball under penalty of stroke and distance.
492. Which of the following is correct?
- A. During a round, an outside influence accidentally breaks the shaft of a player's driver by driving a golf cart over it; the player may repair the driver but not replace it.
 - B. During a round and between the play of two holes, a player discovers an excess club not allowed by the Rules. The penalty applies to the next hole.
 - C. In the case of an allowed repair of a damaged club, a player may not build a club from parts carried by anyone for the player during the round.
493. Which of the following is correct?
- A. An animal is any living member of the animal kingdom (other than humans), including mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, except invertebrates (such as insects, spiders, and worms).
 - B. A ball on the putting green that is marked by a coin but not lifted is not in play.
 - C. In a relief situation, if a player lets go of a ball without intending it to be in play, the ball has not been dropped and is not in play.
494. In stroke play, Player A plays the ball of Player B that was lying in the general area not in sand and the lie of B's ball is altered. Which is correct?
- A. If B knows that the original lie was altered but does not know what the lie was, B must estimate the original lie in applying the altered lie Rule (14.2d).
 - B. B must replace the ball by placing it on the nearest spot (not nearer the hole) with a lie most similar to the original lie in the same area of the course as that spot.
 - C. If B does not know what the original lie was, they are not allowed relief under the altered lie Rule (14.2d).

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495. Which is correct regarding the unreasonable delay of play Rule (5.6a)?
- A. A player must not unreasonably delay play when playing a hole or between holes.
 - B. When a player unreasonably delays play between holes, the penalty applies to the previous hole.
 - C. The penalty for a first breach of the Rule is disqualification.
496. In match play on the putting green of the 1st hole, the referee by mistake advises one of the players that they get the general penalty and both players lift their balls. The referee then learns of their mistake. Which is correct?
- A. The referee's decision is final and may not be corrected.
 - B. If neither player has made a stroke from the teeing area of the 2nd hole, the ruling will be corrected under the Rules.
 - C. The Committee must decide.
497. In stroke play, a player plays a second ball in a situation where they are uncertain what to do. Which of the following is correct?
- A. "Rules allow the procedure used" means that either: (a) the original ball was played as it lies and play was allowed from there, or (b) the ball that was played was put into play under the right procedure, in the right way and in the right place under the Rules.
 - B. The player must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning the scorecard, unless the player scored the same with both balls.
 - C. Strokes made with the ball ruled not to count and any penalty strokes the player got when playing two balls are disregarded.
498. Which is correct regarding relief from an abnormal course condition when a player's ball lies on the putting green?
- A. The player is not allowed relief from intervention on their line of play by the condition.
 - B. The nearest point of complete relief must be on the putting green if there is a nearest point of complete relief.
 - C. If there is no such nearest point of complete relief, the player may still take relief by using the point of maximum available relief that is either on the putting green or in the general area.

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499. In stroke play, a player starts their round with two caddies. Between the play of the 3rd and 4th holes, the player learns that they are in violation of the Rules and immediately stops using the second caddie. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets the general penalty at each of the first and second holes.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty at each of the first three holes.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty at each of the first four holes.
500. A player's ball lies in a bunker. A rake has been left in another part of the same bunker. Before making a stroke at the ball in the bunker, the player retrieves the rake. The player also smooths the footprints that they have just created and some other existing footprints in caring for the course. What is the ruling?
- A. The player does not get a penalty as they are allowed to smooth the bunker without restriction in caring for the course.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty. The player is not allowed to smooth any footprints until after making their stroke at the ball in the bunker.
 - C. There is no penalty provided the smoothing was done to care for the course, such that nothing was done to improve the conditions affecting the player's next stroke and the raking was not to test the condition of the sand to learn more information about the next stroke.