



Inland Empire Senior's Golf Association IESGA

SUMMARY CHART: THE MAJOR CHANGES in the RULES of GOLF for 2019

CATEGORY	TOPIC	NEW 2019 RULE	OLD RULE
Ball @ Rest Moved	Player accidentally moves ball during search. (See how to replace below)	No Penalty	<i>1-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Player accidentally moves his ball or marker on putting green. Replace ball.	No Penalty	<i>1-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Standard for deciding player caused ball to move.	Virtually Certain (95%)	<i>More Likely Than Not</i>
	How to replace ball off the green when original spot isn't known.	Place Ball on It's Estimated Spot	<i>Drop ball near as possible</i>
Ball in Motion	Player's ball accidentally hits the player or outside influence, his caddie, person attending flagstick or the attended or removed flagstick.	No Penalty	<i>1-Stroke Penalty (except 2-Stroke if it hit flagstick or attendant)</i>
	Player accidentally hits ball more than once during stroke. Counts as 1 stroke	No Penalty	<i>1-Stroke Penalty</i>
Dropping Procedure	Where ball must be dropped.	Drop in Defined Relief Area	<i>Drop in specified area or on a spot or line</i>
	Where a dropped ball must come to rest.	Must Come to Rest in Relief Area, If 2nd Drop Rolls Outside then Place	<i>Must re-drop if rolls to any of 9 specified areas (such as more than 2 club-lengths)</i>
	Size of the relief area where ball must be dropped.	Relief Area is Measured by 1 or 2 Club-Lengths (Longest Club in Bag except Putter)	<i>1 or 2 Club-lengths (any club)</i>
	How to drop a ball.	Dropped Straight Down from Knee Height (Height of Player's Knee When Standing)	<i>Stand erect, hold ball at shoulder height and arm's length</i>
Taking Relief	Time allowed to search for lost ball.	3 Minutes	<i>5 Minutes</i>
	Substituting ball when taking relief	Player May Always Substitute a Ball When Taking Relief	<i>Player must use original ball, substituted ball allowed when taking penalty relief</i>
	Taking relief for ball embedded in its own pitch-mark	Player May Take Relief Without Penalty for Embedded Ball Anywhere in the "General Area"	<i>Relief allowed only in areas cut to fairway height or less</i>
	General Area is the new term for "Through the Green" which is all the area of the course except teeing area being played, penalty areas, bunkers and putting green being played		
Putting Green	Replacing a ball on the green when it moves after it was lifted and replaced.	Ball Must Always be Replaced on Its Original Spot, Even If Moved by Wind or for No Clear Reason	<i>Ball is replaced only if player or outside agent caused, otherwise ball is played from new location</i>
	Repair damage on the putting green	Player May Repair Almost Any Damage on Green	<i>Player may only repair ball-marks or old holes</i>

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CATEGORY	TOPIC	NEW 2019 RULE	OLD RULE
Putting Green (cont'd)	Player touches the line of putt or putting green.	No Penalty as Long as it Doesn't Improve Conditions	<i>2-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Putting with unattended flagstick left in hole	No Penalty if Ball Hits Flagstick	<i>2-Stroke Penalty</i>
Penalty Areas	Player moves loose impediments, touches ground with hand or club or grounds club in penalty area.	No Penalty	<i>2-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Elimination of the opposite side relief option for red penalty areas	Player No Longer Allowed to Take Opposite Side Relief, unless Local Rule Allows	<i>Player is allowed to take opposite side relief from a lateral hazard</i>
Bunkers	Player moves or touches a loose impediment in a bunker when ball is in bunker	No Penalty	<i>2-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Player touches sand in bunker with hand or club when ball is in bunker	No Penalty (except Testing Conditions, Practice Swing, Area in Front or Behind Ball or Backswing then 2-Stroke Penalty)	<i>2-Stroke Penalty</i>
	Unplayable ball relief options.	Player May Take Relief Outside Bunker Back on Line of Hole Through Ball for 2-Stroke Penalty	<i>No relief outside bunker other than playing from where last stroke was made</i>
Damaged Clubs	Use of clubs damaged during round	Player May Keep Using Any Damaged Club	<i>Player may only use club damaged in "normal course of play"</i>
	Adding clubs to replace a club damaged during round	Player May Not replace Damaged Club unless Player was Not Responsible	<i>Player may replace a damaged club "unfit for play" and was damaged in 'normal course of play"</i>
Pace of Play	Recommendation on how to play promptly	Recommends Players Make Each Stroke in No More Than 40 Seconds or Less	<i>No recommendations given</i>
	Playing out of turn in stroke play	No Penalty and "Ready Golf" is Encouraged	<i>No penalty, but current rule implies it's wrong or not allowed</i>
	New Maximum Score for stroke play. Rule 21.2	Maximum Score Posted per Hole is to be 10 Strokes. Holing Out is Not Required.	<i>Stroke players must hole out at every hole</i>
Local Rule	Lost or out of bounds ball.	Drop Ball @ Edge of Fairway. (See IESGA Website for More Details) 2-Stroke Penalty	<i>Stroke and distance. 1-Stroke Penalty</i>
Integrity	Eliminating announcement requirements before lifting a ball under certain Rules	When Player has Good Reason to Mark and Lift Ball Where Relief is Allowed He No Longer Needs to Announce	<i>Before lifting the player must announce to another player and allow them to observe</i>