

The Classy Niners 2026/2027 Golf Rules

Common Rule Situations

#	Situation	Classy Niners Rule
1	Ball goes past a white stake (Out of Bounds)	1-Stroke Penalty: Play another ball from where the previous stroke was made. If the original shot was from the teeing area, re-tee and play again.
2	Ball goes past a red stake (Hazard)	1-Stroke Penalty: Drop within 2 club lengths of where the ball crossed into the hazard, no closer to the hole.
3	Ball goes into water	1-Stroke Penalty: Play another ball from the original location (tee or previous spot), OR 1-Stroke Penalty: Play from the designated drop area.
4	Ball comes to rest on a cart path	No Penalty: Take nearest relief and drop within 1 club length, no closer to the hole.
5	Ball hits a sign or stake	No Penalty: Play the ball as it lies.
6	Ball Hits Another Ball on the Fairway or Putting Green	From the fairway: No penalty. Play your ball from where it comes to rest. Replace the ball that was moved. From the putting green: If both balls were on the putting green before the stroke, the player who made the stroke receives a two-stroke penalty . Play the striking ball from where it comes to rest and replace the ball that was moved.
7	Lost Ball (Maximum 3-minute search)	1-Stroke Penalty: Declare and play a provisional ball, OR 1-Stroke Penalty: Drop a ball from where it was last played.
8	Unplayable Lie (Natural Condition)	1-Stroke Penalty: Drop within 2 club lengths, no closer to the hole.
9	Immovable object interferes with your swing	No Penalty: Take a free drop, no closer to the hole.
10	Swing at the ball and miss ("Woof")	1-Stroke Penalty: The attempted stroke counts.
11	Play another player's ball	2-Stroke Penalty: Two-stroke penalty.
12	Bunker	1-Stroke Penalty: Touching the sand with a practice swing or testing the sand. No Penalty: You may remove loose impediments such as rocks, leaves, and sticks.

Important Reminders

- Use your COURSE HANDICAP, not your Handicap Index.
- If you think your ball may be lost, declare and hit a provisional ball.
- Place a ball marker behind your ball and replace the ball as close as possible to its original position.

Play Ready Golf • Remember Pace of Play • PUTT OUT • No Gimmes • No Mulligans