

## **Aeration Holes**

In the general area, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be lifted without penalty, cleaned, and dropped in the relief area set forth in new USGA Rule 16.1(b), but not nearer the hole. The ball must be dropped and come to rest in the relief area.

On the putting green, a ball that comes to rest in or on an aeration hole may be placed at the nearest spot not nearer the hole that avoids the situation.

## **Immovable Obstructions Close to Putting Green**

Rule 16-1 provides relief, without penalty, from interference by an immovable obstruction, but also provides that, except on the putting green, intervention on the line of play is not, of itself, interference under this Rule. However, on some courses, the aprons of the putting greens are so closely mown that players may wish to putt from just off the green. In such conditions, immovable obstructions on the apron may interfere with the proper playing of the game.

Without penalty, relief from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken under Rule 16-1. In addition, if a ball lies off the putting green but not in a hazard and an immovable obstruction on or within two club-lengths of the putting green and within two club-lengths of the ball intervenes on the line of play between the ball and the hole, the player may take relief without penalty as follows:

The ball must be lifted and dropped in the relief area set forth in new USGA Rule 16.1(b), not on a putting green, in a bunker or in a penalty area, no closer to the hole. The ball may be cleaned when lifted.

## **Protection of Trees**

If a staked tree in the general area interferes with a player's stance or the area of his intended swing, the ball must be lifted, without penalty, and dropped in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 16-1a (Abnormal course Conditions including Immovable Obstructions).

If the staked tree and ball lies in a penalty area there is no free relief. The player must lift and drop the ball for one penalty stroke in accordance with Rule 17-1d (options for your ball in a penalty area).

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if (a) it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke because of interference by anything other than the tree or (b) interference by the tree would occur only through use of an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing, or direction of play.

**PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:**

Match play - Loss of hole; Stroke play - Two strokes.