

Category	Sub-category	Topic	Description of change
Ball at rest	Ball moved	Player accidentally moves his or her ball during search	New rule: No penalty. Current rule: 1-stroke penalty.
	Ball moved	Player accidentally moves his or her ball or ball-marker on the putting green	New rule: No penalty. Current rule: 1-stroke penalty (with exceptions).
	Ball moved	Standard for deciding whether the player caused his or her ball to move	New rule: The player will be found to be the cause only when it is known or virtually certain (meaning at least 95%) to be the cause. Current rule: Weight of the evidence/more likely than not.
Ball in motion	Ball replaced	How to replace a ball lying off the putting green when it moves and its exact original spot isn't known	New rule: Replace the ball on its estimated spot; if that spot was on, under or against attached natural objects, replace the ball on that spot on, under or against those objects. Current rule: Drop the ball as near as possible to the estimated spot.
	Accidental deflection	Player's ball in motion accidentally hits the player, his or her caddie, the person attending the flagstick or the attended or removed flagstick	New rule: No penalty. Current rule: 1-stroke penalty (expect it is a 2-stroke penalty when the accidental deflection relates to the flagstick or the attendant).
Taking relief	Double hit	Player accidentally hits the ball more than one during a stroke.	New rule: No penalty. Current rule: 1-stroke penalty.
	Dropping procedure	Where a ball must be dropped	New rule: Drop in a defined relief area. Current rule: Sometimes the drop is in a specified area, sometimes it is on or as near as possible to a spot or a line.
	Dropping procedure	Where a dropped ball must come to rest	New rule: The ball must come to rest in the relief area where it was dropped. If the ball comes to rest outside of the relief area, the player will drop a second time in the relief area. If the ball again comes to rest outside the relief area, the player will place it where the ball first touched the ground on the second drop. Current rule: The ball must be re-dropped if it rolls to any of the nine specified areas (Rule 20-2c), such as rolling more than 2 club-lengths from where the dropped ball struck the ground.



Time for Ball Search

Three minutes will be the maximum allotted time to search for a ball, rather than the current five minutes.

How to Drop a Ball

You will drop your ball from knee height into the relief area.

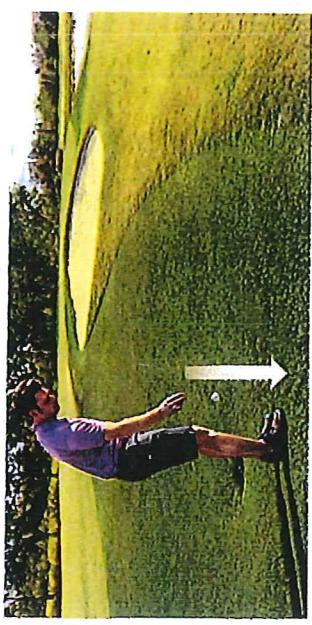
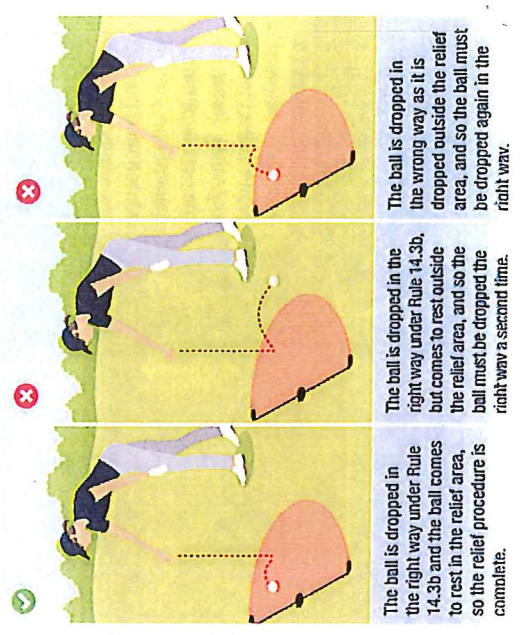


DIAGRAM 14.3c: BALL MUST BE DROPPED IN AND COME TO REST IN RELIEF AREA



The ball is dropped in the right way under Rule 14.3b and the ball comes to rest in the relief area, and so the relief procedure is complete.

The ball is dropped in the right way under Rule 14.3b, but comes to rest outside the relief area, and so the ball must be dropped again in the right way a second time.

The ball is dropped in the wrong way as it is dropped outside the relief area, and so the ball must be dropped again in the right way.

Category	Sub-category	Topic	Description of change
Taking relief (continued)	Dropping procedure	Measuring the size of the relief area where a ball must be dropped and played	New rule: The relief area is measured by measuring 1 or 2 club lengths (which is defined as the longest club the player has during the round, other than a putter). Current rule: Measured by using 1 or 2 club-lengths (with any club the player selects).
	Dropping procedure	How to drop a ball	New rule: The ball must be dropped straight down from knee height (the height of the player's knee when in a standing position). Current rule: Stand erect, hold the ball at shoulder height and arm's length.
	Lost ball	Time allowed for a ball search	New rule: A ball is lost if not found in three minutes. Current rule: A ball is lost if not found in five minutes.
	Substituting ball	Substituting ball when taking relief	New rule: A player may always substitute a ball when taking relief. Current rule: The player must use the original ball when taking free relief (with exceptions); a substituted ball is allowed only when taking penalty relief.
	Embedded ball	Taking relief for a ball embedded in its own pitch-mark	New rule: A player may take relief without penalty for an embedded ball anywhere in the "general area" (new term for "through the green"), unless a Local Rule has been adopted restricting relief only to areas cut to fairway height or less. The general area is the new term for "through the green". Current rule: Relief is allowed only in areas cut to fairway height or less, unless a Local Rule has been adopted allowing relief anywhere (except in sand) through the green.
Areas of the course	Putting green	Replacing a ball on the putting green when it moves from its spot after it already had been lifted and replaced	New rule: The ball must always be replaced on its original spot, even if it was blown by the wind or moved for no clear reason. Current rule: The ball is replaced only if a player or outside agency caused it to move; otherwise, the ball is played from its new location.