

Rules of Golf Exam

1. A player makes a practice swing and accidentally moves his/her ball in play with his/her club; he has not made a stroke and acquires no penalty. (true or false)
Explanation: Decision 18-2a/20
2. A player is not permitted to use their hand to bend a branch in the way of their ball after his/her stance has been taken. (true or false)
Explanation: Decision 13-2/1
3. Stones, leaves, twigs and branches are considered loose impediments. (true or false)
4. A wrong ball includes:
 - a. Another player's ball
 - b. An abandoned ball
 - c. The player's original ball when it is no longer in play
 - d. All of the above**Explanation: Definition of "wrong ball"**
5. Obstructions on the golf course are considered stakes, walls, or fences defining boundaries. (true or false)
6. Casual water is soft, mushy earth, whether water is visible or not. (true or false)
7. While searching for a ball covered by loose impediments in a hazard, there is no penalty for moving a ball. (true or false)
8. A player's ball has landed on a path covered in wood chips. The player moves some of the chips and properly takes relief under the obstruction rule. What is the ruling in stroke play?
 - a. There is a two stroke penalty
 - b. There is no penalty
 - c. There is a one stroke penalty**Explanation: Decision 23/14**

9. Which of the following statements is true regarding bunkers?
- a. A tree growing in the bunker is considered a part of the bunker
 - b. Grass covered ground within a bunker is not part of the bunker
 - c. Sand spilling over the margin of a bunker is part of the bunker.

Explanation: Definition of "Bunker"

10. A player plays a provisional ball from the tee. The player discovers the original ball is out of bounds and the player can't find the provisional ball. What is the ruling?
- a. The player must return to the tee where the player will be playing his/her third stroke
 - b. The player must return to the tee where the player will be playing his/her fifth stroke.
 - c. The player must return to the tee where the player will be starting fresh with no strokes.

Explanation: Decision 27-2c/4

11. Prior to a player's shot, a competitor lifts a towel covering a fellow-competitor's bag to find out what club he/she used for his/her shot. What is the ruling?
- a. There is no penalty for lifting the towel.
 - b. There is no penalty for lifting the towel providing it is replaced before the stroke.
 - c. There is a 2-stroke penalty for obtaining information in this act.

12. Before a player plays his/her first stroke with any ball from the tee, the tee-markers are considered:
- a. Movable objects
 - b. Immovable obstructions
 - c. Fixed.

Explanation: Rule 11-2

13. While a player is removing a broken tee from the putting green, he/she touches his ball accidentally causing the ball to move; there is a penalty of one stroke and the ball must be replaced. (true or false)

Explanation: Rule 24-1

14. A spectator deliberately deflects a player's ball into an unplayable position. What is the ruling?
- The player must play the ball as it lies.
 - The player has the option of replaying the stroke.
 - A rules official must make a judgment where the ball would have come to rest if the spectator hadn't interfered with the play.
- Explanation: Decision 19-1/4.1**
15. A player may not begin play with more than 14 clubs to avoid penalty. (true or false)
- Explanation: Rule 4-4a**
16. What is the correct ruling regarding a ball lying in a water hazard?
- A ball that last crossed the margin of a lateral water hazard lies in a lateral water hazard even if stakes adjacent to where it lies indicate it as a water hazard.
 - A ball that last crossed the out of bounds line is considered out of bounds even if the flow of the water carried the ball into a water hazard all of which is in bounds.
 - A ball that last crossed the margin of a water hazard is considered in the water hazard even if the flow of water carried the ball out of bounds.
- Explanation: Decision 26-1/12**
17. What is the correct ruling regarding the marking of the position of a player's ball?
- The player may not mark it with a tee.
 - The player may mark it with the toe of his putter
 - The player may not mark it in front of the ball towards the hole.
- Explanation: Decision 20-1/16**
18. A sprinkler head does not interfere with the lies of the ball, stance, or area of swing; a player may not take relief under the obstruction Rule for mental interference. (true or false)
- Explanation: Decision 24-2a/1**
19. A player may move, bend, or break any part of a fixed or artificial object that is out of bounds that affects the area of the intended swing without a penalty. (true or false)

Explanation: Decision 13-2/20

20. Information on matter such as hole location on the putting green is not considered advice. (true or false)

Explanation: Definition of "advice"

21. A provisional ball is a ball played under the Rules for a ball which may be lost outside a water hazard or out of bounds. (true or false)

Explanation: Definition of "provisional ball"

22. Which of the following statements is correct regarding ground under repair?

- a. Deep cracks in the earth are not automatically ground under repair.
- b. A tree stump is automatically ground under repair
- c. Grass cuttings piled for removal are not automatically ground under repair.

Explanation: Decision 25/12

23. A player strikes their ball from a bunker and it comes to rest against the flagstick. The ball is not holed. Without the player's authority, an opponent/fellow-cometitor moves the flagstick and causes the ball to move away from the hole. What is the ruling?

- a. In match play, if an opponent moves the flagstick, the player incurs a one stroke penalty and the ball must be replaced against the flagstick.
- b. In stroke play, if a fellow-competitor moves the flagstick, the player incurs a two stroke penalty and the ball must be replaced against the flagstick.
- c. In all forms of play, there is no penalty to anyone and the ball must be replaced against the flagstick.

Explanation: Decision 17-4/3

24. Taking the stance consists in a player placing their feet in position and preparing to make a stroke. (true or false)

Explanation: Definition of "stance"

25. A player is preparing to drop a ball or place a ball when he/she removes loose impediments from the area that would affect the lie or the ball. What is the ruling?

- a. There is no penalty

- b. There is a penalty in the base of both placing and dropping.
- c. There is a penalty in the case of placing but not in the case of dropping.

Explanation: Decision 23-1/6

TIE BREAKER:

Name the five options a player has when their ball enters a (red stake) lateral water hazard.

1. Play the ball as it lies. (no penalty)
2. Play another ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was lost and played. (one stroke penalty)
3. Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point that the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard directly between the hole and the spot that the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped. (one stroke penalty)
4. Drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club lengths from the point that the original ball last crossed the hazard line and no closer to the hole. (one stroke penalty)
5. Drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club lengths of and no closer to the hole than a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole as the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard.