

TOP TEN TIPS FOR THE “RULES” OF GOLF

1. When you are marking someone's card you have a responsibility to ALL the players in the competition to ensure it is fair and accurate. If you see something you are not sure about then bring it into the open and discuss it amongst yourselves. If in doubt ask the pros after the game.
2. You should not touch your ball whilst it is in play anywhere on the course, except on the putting green, without checking with your playing partner first.
3. Before lifting a ball for dropping you should mark its position and also mark the nearest point of relief. You should drop the ball at arms length from shoulder height.
4. If a ball is unplayable in a hazard then you have some choices as follows:

If it is Yellow stakes then you have 3 choices...

play it as it lies, play a new shot from the original position under a one shot penalty, drop a ball under a one shot penalty any distance from the hazard keeping a straight line from the point of entry and the flag
5. If it is a Red stake then the following applies:

You can do all of the options associated with a yellow stake plus you can drop a ball, under a one shot penalty, within 2 club lengths of the point where the ball crossed the hazard or on the other side of the hazard, equidistant from the flag, but not nearer the hole
6. If you are playing a ball in a hazard you may not touch any part of the hazard or remove anything from the hazard and you cannot touch the ground or the water before the downswing. In a bunker however you can remove stones, and any man made objects can be removed.
7. You should not improve your lie or swing path during practice swings
8. Loose impediments can be moved outside a hazard
9. Read the local rules on your scorecard
10. Don't be scared to question your playing partner, remember rule 1..