

THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE RULES OF GOLF 2019 - PLAYERS EDITION



- 1 - **SEARCH TIME** - reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes **Rule 18.2(1)** page 111
 - 2 - **BALL MOVED DURING SEARCH** - replace, no penalty **Rule 7.4** page 48
 - 3 - **EMBEDDED BALL** - free relief anywhere through the green **Rule 16.3a, 16.3b** page 100-101
 - 4 - **MEASURING A DROP** - use longest club (except putter) **DEF Club-length** page 137
 - 5 - **DROPPING** - drop from knee height rather than shoulder **Rule 14.3b(2)** page 79-81
 - 6 - **TAKING STANCE ON WRONG GREEN** - is not permitted **Rule 13.1f** page 70-71
 - 7 - **BALL UNINTENTIONALLY HITS PLAYER OR EQUIPMENT** - no penalty **Rule 11.1a** page 62
 - 8 - **DOUBLE HIT** - no penalty, now only counts as the 1 stroke **Rule 10.1a** page 56
 - 9 - **TOUCHING SAND IN A BUNKER INCIDENTALLY** - is permitted **Rule 12.2b** page 67
 - 10 - **LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS** - can be moved anywhere, including penalty areas/bunkers **Rule 17.1b** page 104, **Rule 12.2a** page 66
 - 11 - **DROPPING A BALL OUT OF THE BUNKER** - 2 penalty strokes **Rule 19.3** page 119
 - 12 - **WATER HAZARDS** - now called “penalty areas” **DEF Penalty Area** page 145
 - 13 - **TOUCHING GROUND IN PENALTY AREA** - no penalty **Rule 17.1b** see full rules page 104
 - 14 - **BALL MOVES ON GREEN AFTER BEING MARKED** - replace without penalty **Rule 13.1** page 70
 - 15 - **BALL ACCIDENTALLY MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN** - replace, no penalty **Rule 13.1d** page 70
 - 16 - **ALL DAMAGE TO GREEN** - can now be repaired **Rule 13.1c** page 68-69
 - 17 - **POSITIONING A CLUB FOR ALIGNMENT** - is not permitted **Rule 10.2b(3)** page 59
 - 18 - **CADDIE ASSISTING WITH ALIGNMENT** - is now not permitted **Rule 10.2b(4)** page 59
 - 19 - **PUTTING WITH FLAG STICK IN THE HOLE** - is now permitted **Rule 13.2a** page 72
 - 20 - **BALL WEDGED AGAINST FLAG STICK AND SIDE OF HOLE** - is deemed as holed **Rule 13.2c** Page 73
- PACE OF PLAY** - **Rule 5.6b** page 37