

PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT

Overview

Rule 8.1 Action to Improve Conditions Affecting the Stroke

Rule 8.2 Deliberate Actions to Alter Other Physical Conditions

Rule 8.3 Deliberate Actions to Alter Physical Conditions Affecting Another Player

PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT

Principle Behind the Rule

Play the Course as You Find It.

“One of the great features of golf is that it tests the player’s ability to execute a great assortment of strokes under a perplexing variety of conditions.”

Richard Tufts



This Rule Covers

Play the Course
as You Find it

CDGA



This Rule Covers

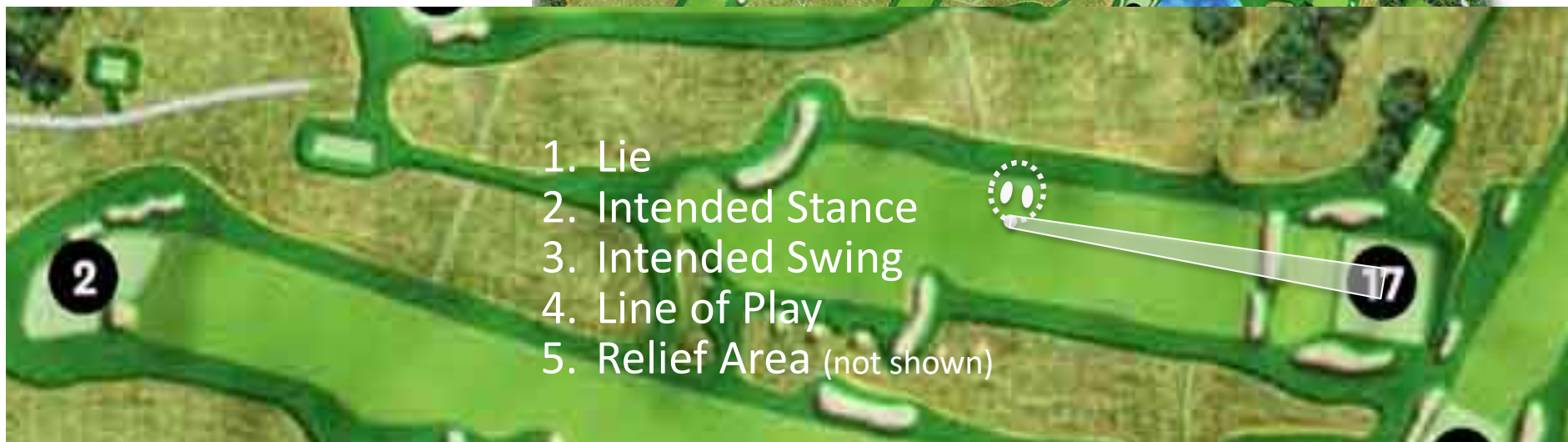
My Next Stroke

Rule 8.1 Player's Actions That
Improve Conditions Affecting
the Stroke (1,682 of 2,245 words)



This Rule Covers

Conditions Affecting the
Stroke (CATS)



This Rule Covers

Your Next Stroke

Rule 8.1 Player's Actions That Improve Conditions Affecting the Stroke (1,682 of 2,245 words)

- a. Actions That Are Not Allowed
- b. Actions That Are Allowed
- c. Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rule

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This Rule Covers

Your Next Stroke

Rule 8.1 Player's Actions That Improve Conditions Affecting the Stroke (1,682 of 2,245 words)

- a. Actions That Are Not Allowed
- b. Actions That Are Allowed
- c. Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rule
- d. Restoring Conditions Worsened After Ball Came to Rest

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This Rule Covers

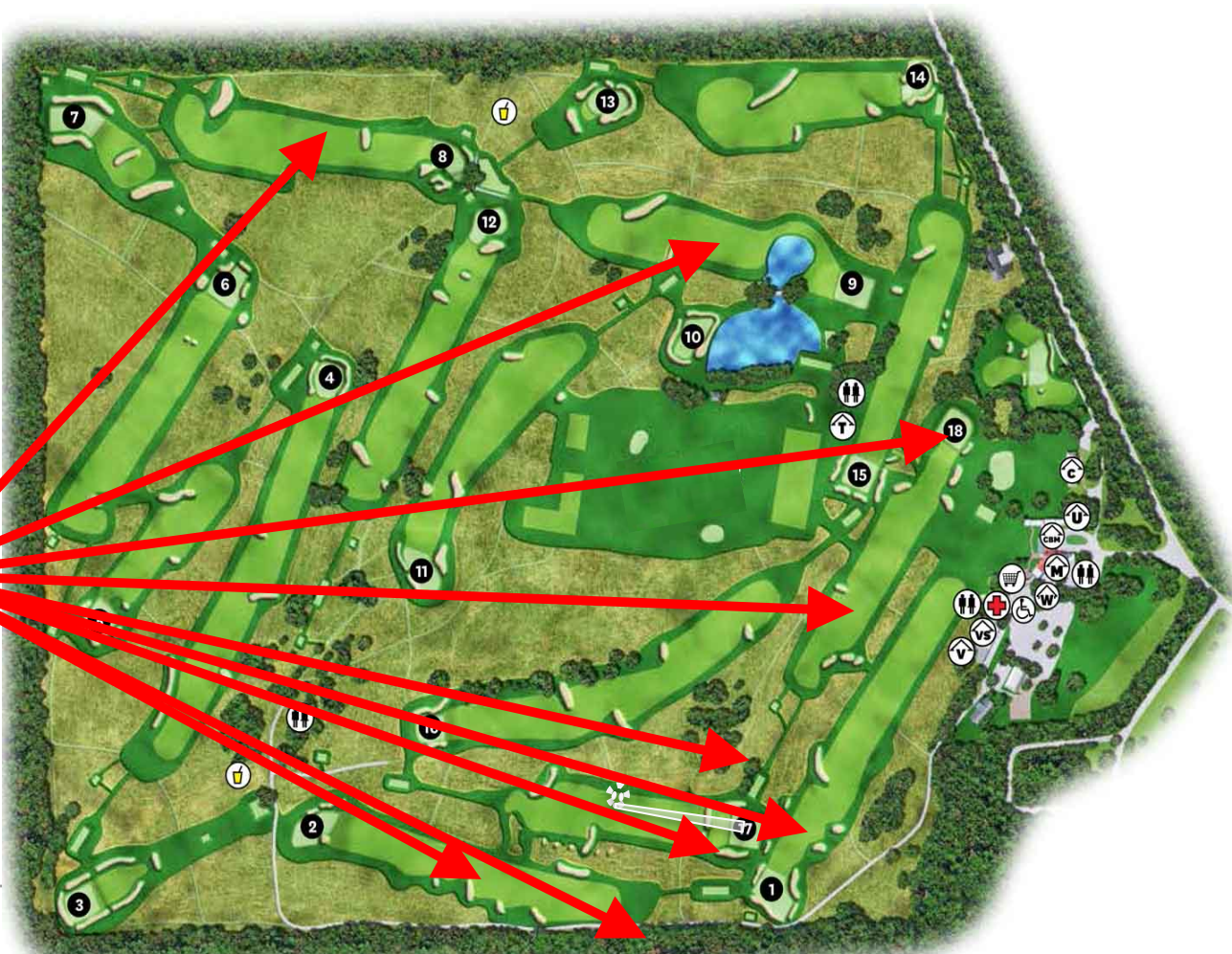
Your Next Stroke

Rule 8.1 Player's Actions That Improve Conditions Affecting the Stroke (1,682 words)

Your Next Stroke or a Later Stroke

Rule 8.2 Player's **Deliberate** Actions to Alter Other Physical Conditions to Affect the Player's Own Ball at Rest or Stroke to Be Made (292 words)

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This Rule Covers

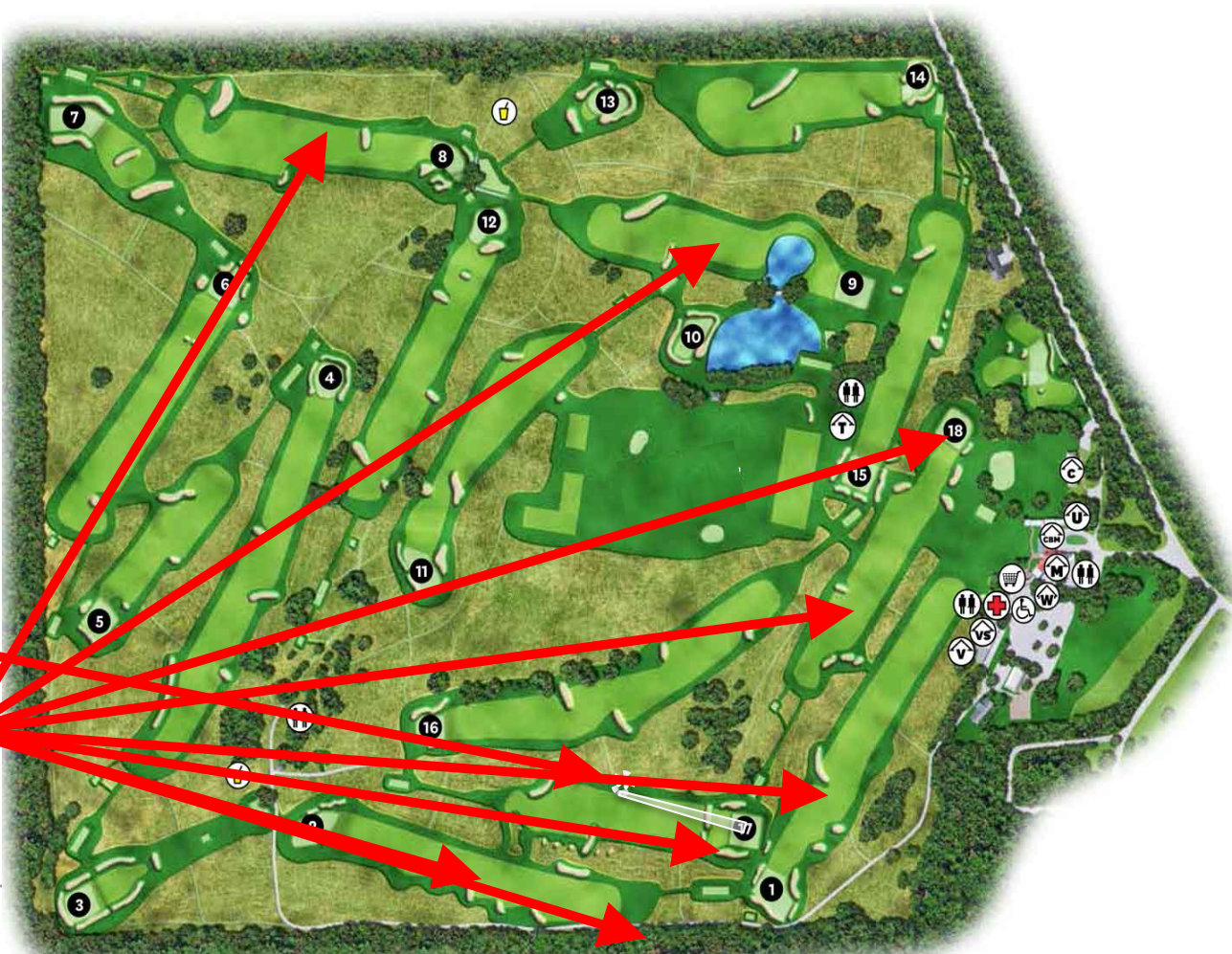
Another Player

Rule 8.3 Player's **Deliberate**

Actions to Alter Physical Conditions
to Affect Another Player's Ball at
Rest or Stroke to Be Made
(271 words)

1. Another Player's CATS
2. Another Player's Other Conditions

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Definitions: Improve

To alter one or more of the

- conditions affecting the stroke
or
- other physical conditions
affecting play

so that a player gains a potential
advantage for a *stroke*.



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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The lie of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Definition: Lie

- The spot on which a ball is at rest
- and
 - ✓ any growing or attached natural object,
 - ✓ immovable obstruction,
 - ✓ integral object, or
 - ✓ boundary objecttouching the ball or right next to it.
- Loose impediments and movable obstructions are not part of the lie of a ball.

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended stance, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Area of Intended Stance

The “area of intended stance” includes both

- where the player will place his or her feet and
- the entire area that might reasonably affect how and where the player's body is positioned

in preparing for and making the intended stroke.

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Area of Intended Swing

The “area of intended swing” includes the entire area that might reasonably affect any part of

- the backswing,
- the downswing or
- the completion of the swing

for the intended stroke.

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the line of play and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Definition: Line of Play

- The line where the player intends his or her ball to go after a stroke,
- including the area on that line that is a reasonable distance
 - ✓ up above the ground and
 - ✓ on either side of that line.

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the line of play and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Definition: Line of Play

- The line where the player intends his or her ball to go after a stroke,
- including the area on that line that is a reasonable distance
 - ✓ up above the ground and
 - ✓ on either side of that line.
- The line of play is not necessarily a straight line between two points (for example, it may be a curved line based on where the player intends the ball to go).

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at rest, the area of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the *relief area* where the player will *drop* or place a ball.

Definition: Relief Area

The area where a player must *drop* a ball when taking relief under a Rule....

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Conditions Affecting the Stroke

The *lie* of the player's ball at the time of intended *stance*, the area of intended swing, the *line of play* and the relief area where the player will drop or place a ball.

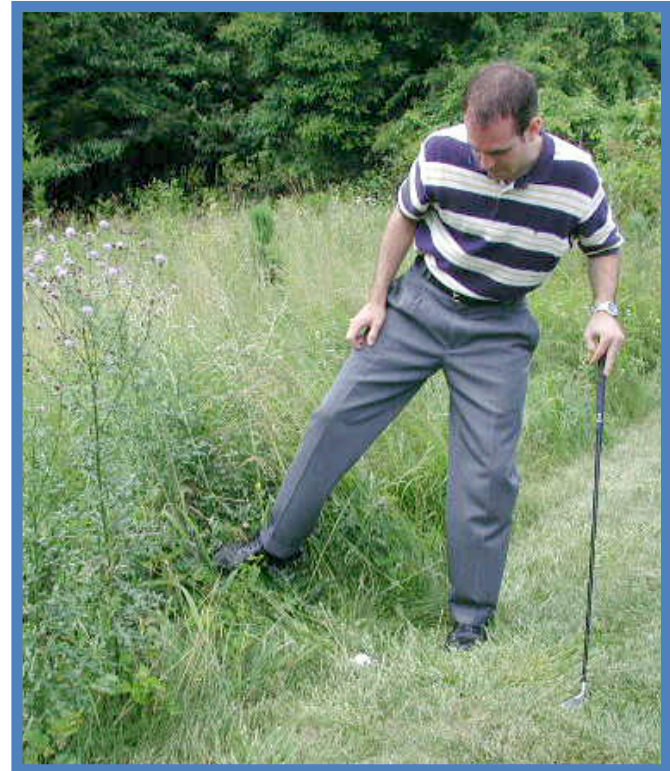
Definition: Relief Area

The area where a player must *drop* a ball when taking relief under a Rule....

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Prohibited Means of Improvement

- Moving, bending or breaking any
 - ✓ growing or attached natural object
 - ✓ immovable obstruction
 - ✓ integral object
 - ✓ boundary object
 - ✓ tee-marker



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Prohibited Means of Improvement

- Moving, bending or breaking...
- Altering the surface of the ground by
 - ✓ replacing divots
 - ✓ removing or pressing down replaced divots
 - ✓ creating or eliminating holes, indentations or uneven surfaces



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Prohibited Means of Improvement

- Moving, bending or breaking...
- Altering the surface of the ground
- Removing or pressing down sand or loose soil



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Prohibited Means of Improvement

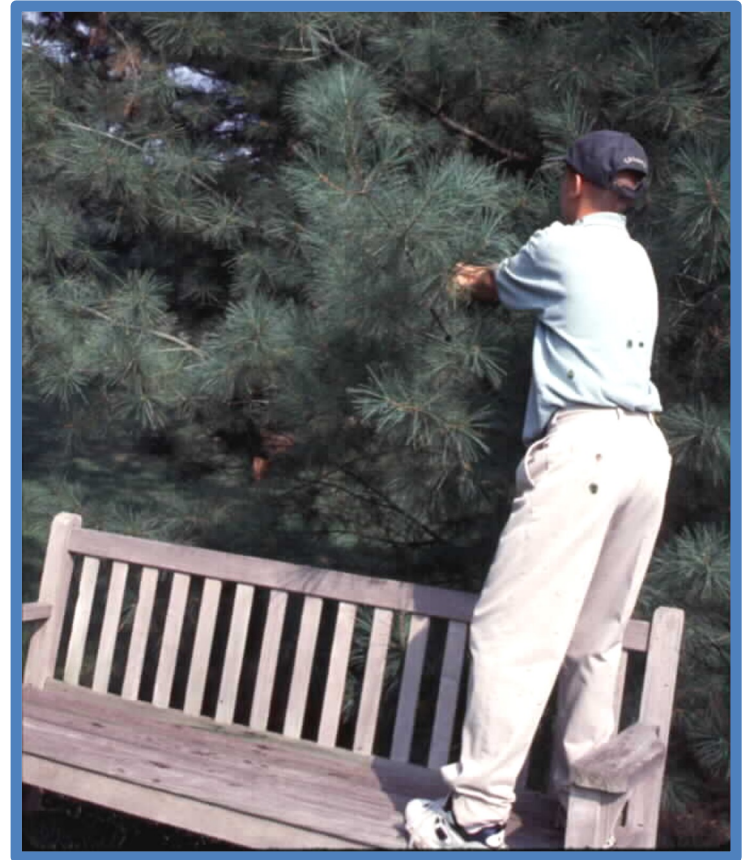
- Moving, bending or breaking...
- Altering the surface of the ground
- Removing or pressing down sand or loose soil
- Removing dew, frost or water



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Prohibited Means of Improvement

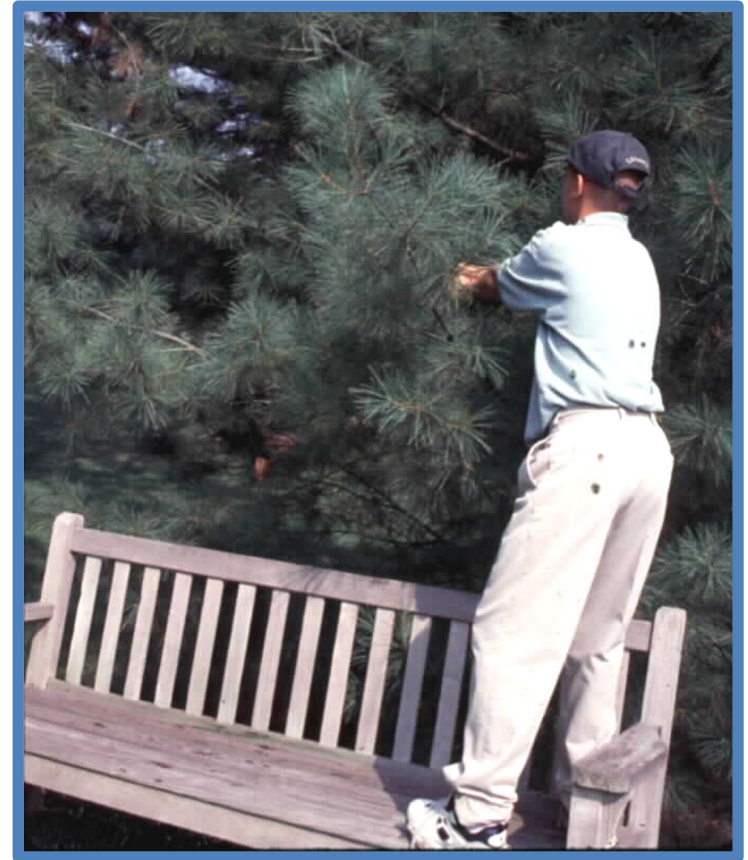
- Building a stance by
 - ✓ moving loose impediments or movable obstructions into place
 - ✓ altering the surface of the ground



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Prohibited Means of Improvement (New)

- Building a stance by
 - ✓ moving loose impediments or movable obstructions into place
 - ✓ altering the surface of the ground



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Exceptions

- Fairly search

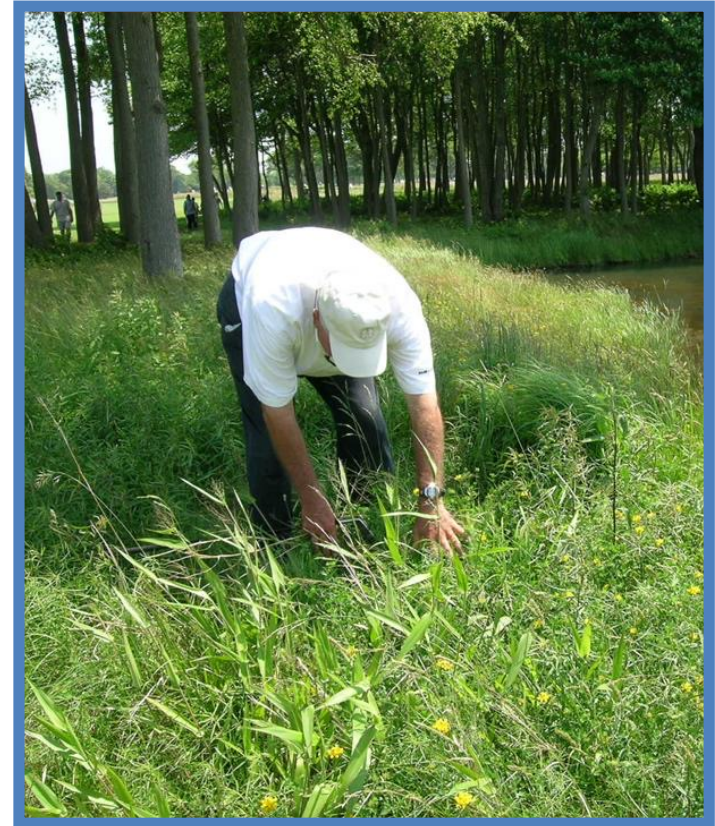


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Fairly Search

Reasonable actions to find and identify your ball:

- Moving sand and water, and
- Moving or bending
 - ✓ grass,
 - ✓ bushes,
 - ✓ branches, etc.

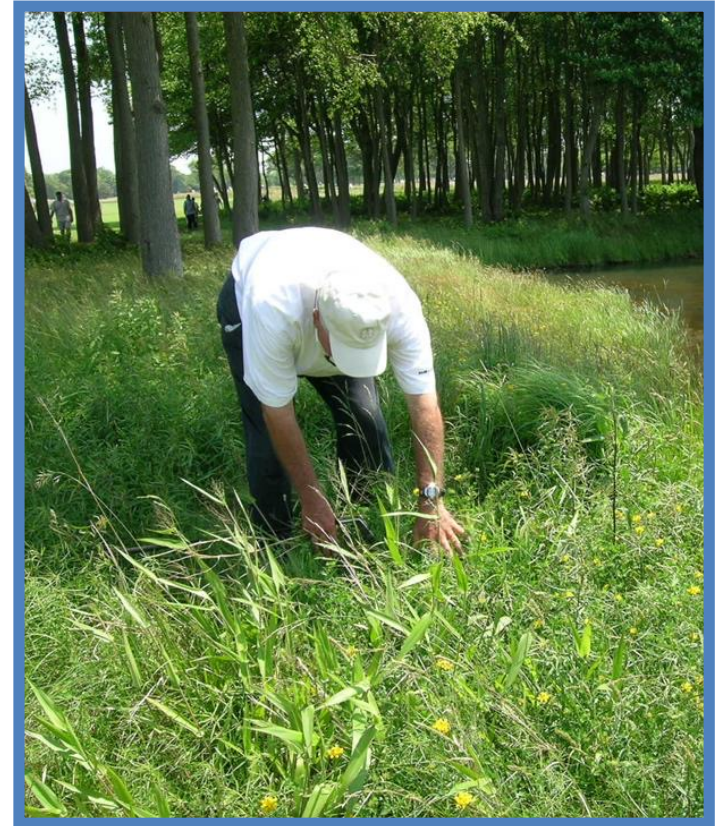


PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT

Fairly Search

Reasonable actions to find and identify your ball:

- Moving sand and water, and
- Moving or bending
 - ✓ grass,
 - ✓ bushes,
 - ✓ branches, etc.
- Even breaking when reasonable



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Exceptions

- Fairly search
- Reasonable actions to
 - ✓ remove loose impediments and movable obstructions
 - ✓ mark the spot of a ball and lift and replace a ball



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance



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Fairly Take a Stance

Taking reasonable actions to get to the ball and take a *stance*.

The player:

- Is not entitled to a normal
 - ✓ *stance*
 - ✓ swing

PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT

Fairly Take a Stance

Taking reasonable actions to get to the ball and take a *stance*.

The player:

- Is not entitled to a normal
 - ✓ *stance*
 - ✓ swing
- Must use the least intrusive course of action

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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
 - ✓ including, firmly placing feet



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
- Teeing area permissions
 - ✓ use a tee
 - ✓ move, bend or break growing or attached natural objects
 - ✓ alter the surface of the ground
 - ✓ remove dew, frost or water



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
- Teeing area permissions
- Putting green permissions
 - ✓ remove sand and loose soil
 - ✓ repair damage



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
- Teeing area permissions
- Putting green permissions
- Bunker permissions



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Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
- Teeing area permissions
- Putting green permissions
- Bunker permissions
- Moving natural object to see if it is loose



PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT

Exceptions

- Grounding the club lightly
- Fairly take a stance
- Making a stroke
- Teeing area permissions
- Putting green permissions
- Bunker permissions
- Moving natural object to see if it is loose



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Rule 8.1c: Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rules 8.1a(1) or 8.1a(2)

- Restoration concept
- Limited to improvements covered in Rules 8.1a(1) and (2)



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Rule 8.1c: Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rules 8.1a(1) or 8.1a(2)

- Restoration
- Limited to improvements covered in Rule 8.1a(2)

May Be Restored	May Not Be Restored
Moving, bending or breaking things growing or attached...	Altering the surface of the ground
Moving, bending or breaking immovable obstructions, integral objects or boundary objects...	Removing or pressing down sand or loose soil
Moving a loose impediment into position	Removing dew, frost or water
Moving a movable obstruction into position	

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Rule 8.1c: Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rules 8.1a(1) or 8.1a(2)

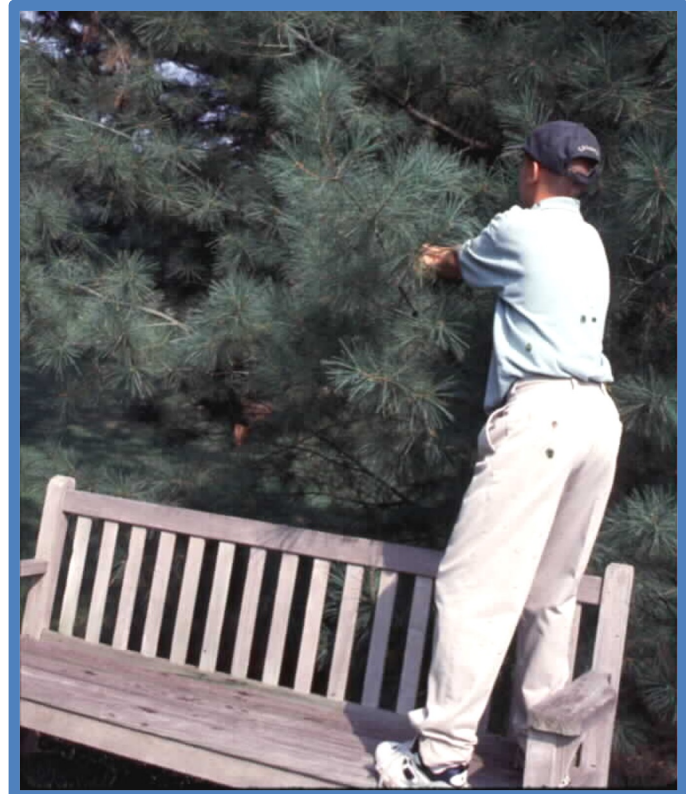
- How to restore when moving or bending object
- Limitations
 - ✓ improvement must be eliminated
 - ✓ must use original object



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Rule 8.1c: Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rules 8.1a(1) or 8.1a(2)

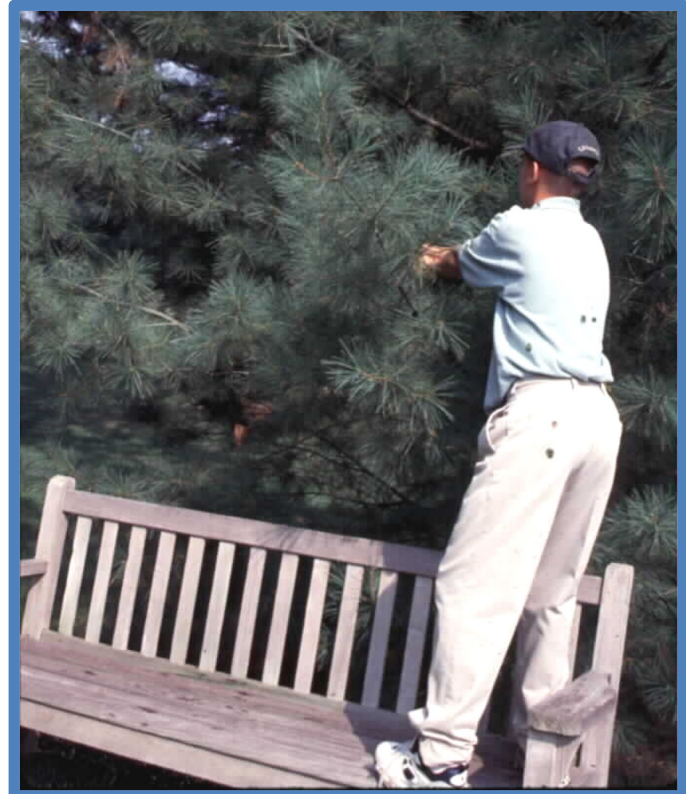
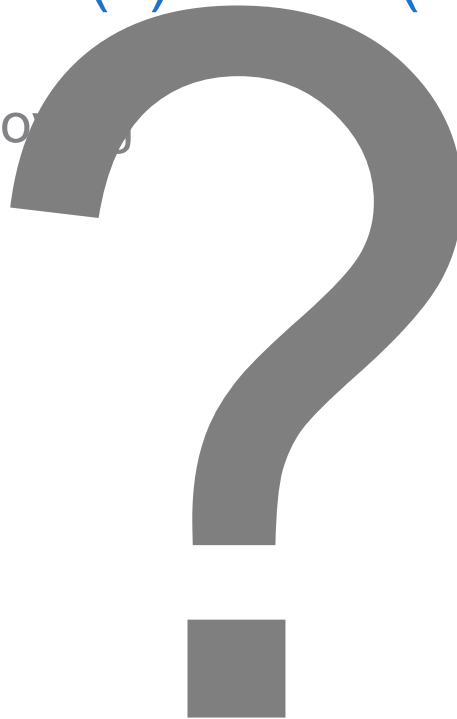
- How to restore when moving an object into position



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Rule 8.1c: Avoiding Penalty by Restoring Conditions Improved in Breach of Rules 8.1a(1) or 8.1a(2)

- How to restore when moving an object into position



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Rule 8.1d: Restoring Conditions Worsened After Ball Came to Rest

- Altered by...
 - ✓ any person other than the player
 - ✓ animal

From Clarification 8.1d(1)/2

“Generally speaking, a player is entitled to the *conditions affecting the stroke* that they had when the ball came to rest.”

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Rule 8.1d: Restoring Conditions Worsened After Ball Came to Rest

- Altered by...
- Restoration not permitted when done by...
 - ✓ player (caddie)
 - ✓ another person (other than a referee) when authorized by the player
 - ✓ natural forces

From Clarification 8.1d(1)/2

“Generally speaking, a player is entitled to the *conditions affecting the stroke* that they had when the ball came to rest.”

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Rule 8.1d: Restoring Conditions Worsened After Ball Came to Rest

- If conditions cannot be restored...
 - ✓ Lift and replace the ball on the nearest spot...
 - not nearer hole
 - most similar conditions
 - within one club-length
 - same area of the course

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Rule 8.1d: Restoring Conditions Worsened After Ball Came to Rest

- If conditions cannot be restored...
 - ✓ Lift and replace the ball on the nearest spot...
 - not nearer hole
 - most similar conditions
 - within one club-length
 - same area of the course



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Deliberate Actions to Affect a Ball at Rest or Stroke to Be Made

Rule 8.2

In addition to Rule 8.1, the player must not deliberately alter other conditions

- where the ball might go after the next stroke
- where the ball might go if it moves before the next stroke

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Deliberate Actions to Affect a Ball at Rest or Stroke to Be Made

Rule 8.3

The player must not deliberately

- improve or worsen the conditions of affecting the stroke of **another player**

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Deliberate Actions to Affect a Ball at Rest or Stroke to Be Made

Rule 8.3

The player must not deliberately

- improve or worsen the conditions of affecting the stroke of **another player**
- alter other physical conditions to affect where **another player's** ball might go
 - ✓ after the next stroke
 - ✓ If it moves before the next stroke

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Deliberate Actions to Affect a Ball at Rest or Stroke to Be Made

- Actions to care for the course permitted



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Review

Rule 8.1 Improving Conditions Affecting the Stroke

Rule 8.2 Deliberate Actions to Alter Other Physical Conditions

Rule 8.3 Deliberate Actions to Alter Physical Conditions Affecting Another Player

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Review

Rule 8.1 Improving Conditions of the Course and the Stroke

Rule 8.2 Deliberate Actions to Alter Other Physical Conditions

Rule 8.3 Deliberate Actions to Alter Physical Conditions Affecting Another Player