

New Rules of Golf for 2019 – Part 2

Rule 1 – Reasonable Judgement *(Players Edition, pages 18-19)*

A player is given "reasonable judgement" when estimating or measuring a spot, point, line, area or distance. Your placement will be upheld, even if video evidence later shows it wasn't in the exact right spot.

Rule 15 – Loose Impediments *(Players Edition, pages 88-92)*

Previously, touching leaves, twigs, stones, branches and other loose impediments in bunkers and water hazards was not allowed.

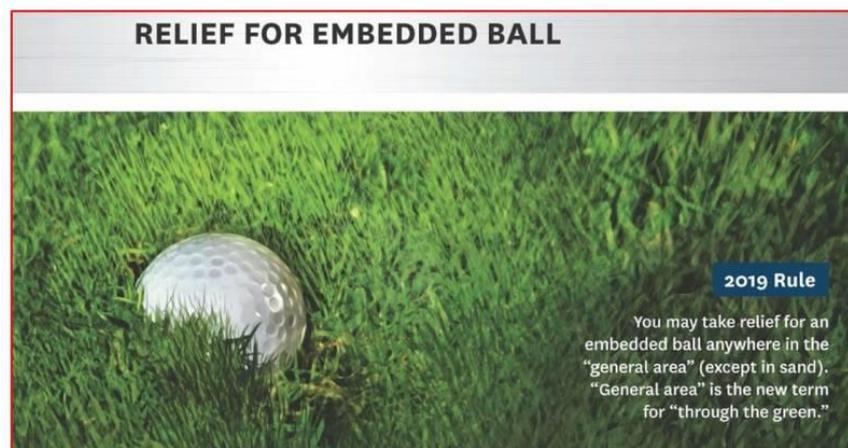
Now, you can remove them anywhere without penalty, including in bunkers and penalty areas (new name for water hazards).



Rule 16 – Embedded Ball *(Players Edition, pages 93-102)*

Previously, the player only got relief if the ball had become embedded in a closely-mown area.

Now, you can take a free drop from all embedded balls in the "general area", including in the semi-rough and rough.



Rule 16 – Animal Holes (*Players Edition, pages 93-102*)

Previously, the player was only given relief from animal holes if they were made by burrowing animals and reptiles, or birds.

Now, the restriction to certain species of animals has been lifted and you can take a free drop from holes and tracks left by all animals (except for insects and worms).

Rule 17 – Penalty Areas (*Players Edition, pages 104-110*)

Previously, with lateral water hazards, it was possible to drop on the opposite side of where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard.

Now, it is called a red penalty area and it is no longer possible to drop on the opposite side. If you decide to play a ball from a water hazard as it lies, you were previously not allowed to touch the ground or the water before your stroke.

Penalty areas will be defined as either red or yellow. The colour of the penalty area stakes (or line) will determine your relief options.

Now, you are allowed to ground the club in or out of the water when you play the ball out of a penalty area.

Rule 18 – Time for Ball Search (*Players Edition, pages 111-115*)

Previously, five minutes were available for finding a lost ball.

Now, the maximum search time is only three minutes.



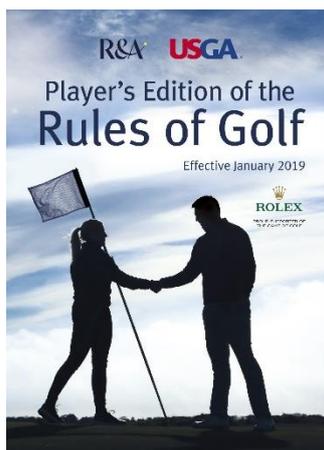
Rule 19 – Unplayable Ball in the Bunker (Players Edition, pages 116-119)

Previously, the player had three dropping options – each incurring one penalty stroke – if he declared his ball in a bunker unplayable.

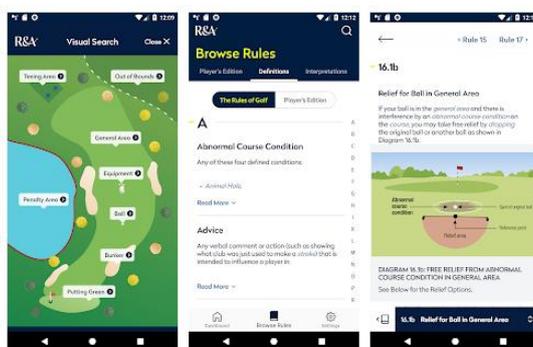
Now, a fourth option is available. You can also drop the ball directly behind the bunker. However, this option costs two penalty strokes instead of just one.

The Players Edition of the Rules of Golf

You can obtain a printed copy of the **Players Edition of the Rules of Golf** from the Pro Shop or Club House.



In addition, why not download the official **Rules of Golf App** available for iPhone and Android.



Also available is a spiral bound **Golf Rules Quick Reference Guide** which can be purchased from book shops including Amazon and WH Smith.

