

**COACHES GUIDE
COLLEGE PLAYER BASIC EXERCISE
RULES OF GOLF 2023**

There are two separate exercises in this series. One is BASIC with 50 questions and the other is ADVANCED with 100 questions. Each covers all the Rules of Golf except those dealing exclusively with match play (Rule 3.2), other forms of play (Rules 21-23), except team competitions (Rule 24) or Modifications for Players with Disabilities (Rule 25). They also do not cover the modifications for players with disabilities (Rule 25). BASIC is an introduction to the Rules and is intended for the intercollegiate player who is not yet proficient in the Rules. It focuses on the fundamentals in a way that covers many of the infractions that commonly occur in intercollegiate tournament golf. ADVANCED is intended for those players (and coaches) who want more than a basic understanding of the Rules and covers more complex situations including numerous real ones that have recently occurred in stroke play intercollegiate events. Each of these exercises is designed more to be completed with references (e.g., USGA Rules of Golf booklet) rather than as an exam to be taken and scored but each exercise should serve both purposes. The questions in both of these exercises presuppose situations in stroke play with both individual and team competition, that is, the form of play commonly found in intercollegiate competition. The level of difficulty of the questions in BASIC is such that the answers may be quickly found in the Rules of Golf booklet. ADVANCED questions are of moderate difficulty. Both exercises should provide motivation for the player to learn why there was a lack of understanding of the principles involved in those questions that were missed. The suggestion for preparation of these two exercises originated in 1999 with Coach Frank Landrey of Liberty University, who saw the need to assist the intercollegiate player in search of a better game where knowledge of the Rules of Golf can be an important contributor to lower scores. Strong support for both of these exercises and recent revisions also came from the late Coach Rod Myers of Duke University, a firm supporter of playing by the Rules. The original exercise was completed in January 2000 by Dr. Lewis Blakey and is now updated to the Rules of Golf 2023. Remember that questions are for INDIVIDUAL STROKE PLAY only.

In the COACH'S GUIDE, each of the questions in the BASIC exercise is numbered (1-50). After the question number, the Rule or reference for the subject of the question is given. The question and the choices are given with the correct choice (A, B, C, D). In most cases, a short explanation follows, giving the reasoning for the correct answer, with a specific citation in the Rules.

1. DEFINITION OF LINE OF PLAY

Which is FALSE regarding the line of play?

- A. It is the line on which the player intends the ball to go after a stroke.
- B. It extends a reasonable distance beyond the hole.
- C. It includes an extension of that line up above the ground.
- D. It includes a reasonable distance on either side of that line.

Answer is B (FALSE). Definition of Line of Play.

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2. RULE 4.3a(5) and RULE 10.2b(5)

After playing two strokes in heavy rain, a player's ball lies on the putting green. During the stroke of the first putt, a coach holds an umbrella over the player's head. For the second putt that is holed, since the grip of the putter is wet, the player wraps a towel around the grip. What is the player's score for the hole?

- A. 4.
- B. 6.
- C. 8.
- D. Disqualification.

Answer is B. There are two issues here:

- (1) A player must not make a stroke while getting physical help from any other person, Rule 10.2b(5). There is a penalty of two strokes.
- (2) The player is allowed to wrap a towel around the grip to help with gripping the club, Rule 4.3a(5). There is no penalty.

Consequently, the player made a total of four strokes with the ball in play and gets a penalty of two strokes for a score of six for the hole.

3. RULE 16.1d

Temporary water covers the lower half of the putting green where the player's ball lies. The spot of the nearest point of complete relief, where the ball could be positioned so that the player has no interference by the temporary water (complete relief), is several feet off the putting green in light rough (Point A). What is the ruling?

- A. The player is not allowed relief in this situation.
- B. The original ball or a substituted ball may be placed at Point A.
- C. The original ball or a substituted ball may be dropped at Point A.
- D. The original ball may be lifted and placed at the nearest point on the putting green that affords maximum available relief.

Answer is B. In this situation, complete relief from the temporary water may be found at Point A. If the player takes relief from the temporary water, Rule 16.1d requires that the player place the original ball or a substituted ball at Point A. The Rule also notes that the nearest point of complete relief may be on the putting green or in the general area. The option to use maximum available relief on the putting green is not allowed as there is a point of complete relief.

4. DEFINITION OF BUNKER, RULE 12.2a and RULE 12.2b

A player's ball lies in a bunker. Which is FALSE?

- A. The player may remove movable obstructions in the bunker before the stroke.
- B. The player must not remove loose impediments in the bunker before the stroke.
- C. Grass-covered ground within the bunker is not part of the bunker.
- D. A player must not touch sand in the bunker with a club during a practice swing.

Answer is B (FALSE). Rule 12.2a

5. RULE 19

Which is FALSE regarding taking relief under the unplayable ball Rule?

- A. It is virtually certain that the player's ball lies in a small bush in the general area but cannot be located; the player may take back-on-the-line relief based on the place where it is estimated to lie in the bush.
- B. When a player's ball is in a bunker, the ball must be dropped in a relief area in the bunker if the player selects the lateral relief option.
- C. The player is the only person who may decide to treat the ball as unplayable; a player may decide to take unplayable ball relief anywhere on the course except when the ball is in a penalty area.
- D. A player may take relief with either the original ball or a substituted ball and the relief area may be in any area of the course.

Answer is A (FALSE). Rule 19.2b requires that the player know the exact spot where the ball lies to take relief under the back-on-the-line relief option. The location may not be guessed based on a broad location such as "in the lower branches of a bush." In such a situation where the ball cannot be found or identified, it is by definition lost (not unplayable) and the player must take relief under the lost ball Rule. Other choices are TRUE:

- B. If the player chooses the lateral relief option, the ball must be dropped in the bunker, Rule 19.2c. For a total of two penalty strokes, the player may use the extra relief option and drop a ball outside the bunker using the back-on-the-line relief option, Rule 19.3b for two penalty strokes.
- C. Unplayable ball relief is allowed anywhere on the course, except in a penalty area, Rule 19.1. If the player's ball is unplayable in a penalty area, the player's only relief options are penalty area relief under Rule 17.
- D. Rule 19 specifically authorizes substitution when taking relief under the Rule.

6. RULES 9.4a, 13.1d(1) and 14.7

A player's ball is at rest on the putting green. In making a practice swing, the player accidentally strikes the ball causing it to move several inches farther from the hole. The player plays the ball from its new position into the hole. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty.
- B. There is a penalty of one stroke and the ball is holed.
- C. There is a penalty of two strokes and the ball is holed.
- D. There is a penalty of two strokes and the ball must be replaced.

Answer is C. It is important to distinguish between a stroke and a practice swing. A stroke is the forward movement of the club made to strike the ball. If a player accidentally moves the ball in play with a club (by a practice swing, not a stroke), the player gets no penalty if this happens on the putting green, Rule 13.1d(1).

Nevertheless, both Rule 9.4a and Rule 13.1d(1) require that the ball be replaced on its original spot before playing. However, in the question, the player did not replace the ball but rather played it from its new position. For accidentally moving the ball in play and not replacing it before a stroke, the player gets the general penalty of two strokes under Rule 14.7. After the ball was played from a wrong place not a serious breach (a few inches), the error may not be corrected and the ball is holed.

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Alternatively, had the ball been moved much closer to the hole as a result of the practice swing and played from there, this could be considered a serious breach of playing from a wrong place. For a serious breach of playing from a wrong place, the player is required to correct the mistake in accordance with Rule 14.7b. This means that the player must play out the hole with a ball played from the right place, that is, where the ball lay when it was accidentally struck during the practice swing. The player would still get the general penalty of two strokes under Rule 14.7 and none of the strokes with the ball played from the wrong place would count. If there is any doubt about whether the breach is serious, the player should correct the mistake as well as holing out from the wrong place and consult with the Committee before returning their scorecard.

7. RULE 15.1a

A player's ball lies on a cart path covered with loose gravel. The player removes gravel close to the ball without moving the ball and plays it as it lies. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty.
- B. There is a penalty of one stroke.
- C. There is a penalty of two strokes.
- D. There is a penalty of two strokes and the stroke must be replayed.

Answer is A. The cart path is covered with loose gravel (providing an artificial surface) and consequently, by definition, the cart path is an abnormal course condition (obstruction). However, gravel is a loose impediment and a player may remove loose impediments without penalty under Rule 15.1a (two exceptions do not apply here). Therefore, the player has the options of:

- (1) playing the ball as it lies,
- (2) taking relief under the abnormal course conditions Rule or
- (3) removing any of the loose impediments (gravel) under Rule 15.1a.

The player chose both (1) and (3), which is permissible. Since the player did not cause the ball to move, there is no penalty under Rule 9.4b.

8. RULE 10.1d

A player's ball is on the putting green. After the player starts the backswing for the stroke, the ball moves. Without discontinuing the stroke, the player strikes the moving ball. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty and the ball is played as it lies.
- B. There is a penalty of one stroke and the ball is played as it lies.
- C. There is a penalty of one stroke; the stroke does not count and the ball must be replaced.
- D. There is a penalty of two strokes; the stroke does not count and the ball must be replaced.

Answer is A. Rule 10.1d prohibits the playing of a moving ball; however, there are exceptions and this is one of them. Because the ball began to move only after the player began the backswing for the stroke which was made, there is no penalty under Rule 10.1d and the ball is played as it lies after the stroke.

9. DEFINITION OF GROUND UNDER REPAIR

Which is FALSE regarding ground under repair?

- A. It includes material piled for removal and a hole made by the maintenance staff in maintaining the course, even if not so marked.
- B. Stakes or lines defining ground under repair are in such ground.
- C. Stakes defining ground under repair are obstructions.
- D. Grass cuttings left on the course that have been abandoned and are not intended to be removed are ground under repair, even if not so marked.

Answer is D (FALSE). Definition of Ground Under Repair.

10. RULE 6.2b(4)

A tee-marker interferes with the stance of a player when playing a provisional ball for the original ball thought to be lost. The player moves the tee-marker to a new position only a few inches away and plays the provisional ball. Later, determining that the original ball is out of bounds, the player completes the hole with the provisional ball.

What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty.
- B. There is only a penalty of one stroke under the ball out of bounds Rule.
- C. There is a total penalty of three strokes; one stroke under the ball out of bounds Rule and two strokes for moving the tee-marker.
- D. The player is disqualified.

Answer is C. Before making a stroke, the player must not move a tee-marker in the teeing area to improve the conditions affecting the stroke, Rule 6.2b(4) and 8.1a(1) If the player does so, the player gets the general penalty. This violation can be corrected by replacement of the tee-marker before playing to avoid the penalty, Rule 8.1c(1), which the player did not do here.

This situation is analogous to a player removing an out of bounds stake because it interferes with the player's intended stance where the player gets the penalty if the stroke is made but may correct the mistake before making the stroke.

11. RULE 15.3

Which is FALSE regarding a ball either interfering with or helping play in the general area when there is no ball in motion after a stroke?

- A. A may lift A's ball if A reasonably believes that it might interfere with the play of B.
- B. A may not lift A's ball if A considers that it might help with the play of B.
- C. A may have B's ball lifted if A considers that it might interfere with A's play.
- D. A may not have B's ball lifted if A considers that B's ball might help with the play of another player.

Answer is A (FALSE). Rule 15.3 is often misquoted and misunderstood and this question illustrates the issues. Choice A is FALSE because the Rule does not give A the authority to lift their own ball if they consider that it might interfere with the play of B. If A's ball interferes with the play of B, then the authority to have A's ball lifted rests solely with B. A does not have the authority to lift A's ball on A's own consideration of

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interference in the general area - see the next to last sentence in Rule 15.3b(2). Other choices are TRUE:

- B. Rule 15.3a, giving authority to A to lift A's ball or ball-marker helping play, applies only to a ball at rest on the putting green, not anywhere else on the course, which includes a ball at rest in the general area.
- C. Rule 15.3b states that A may have B's ball lifted if A reasonably considers that B's ball might interfere with A's play.
- D. Rule 15.3a, giving authority to A to require B to lift B's ball or ball-marker helping play, applies only to a ball at rest on the putting green, not anywhere else on the course, which includes a ball at rest in the general area.

12. RULE 17.1d

A player's ball is lost in a red penalty area. There is a large bush near where the ball last crossed the edge of the red penalty area (Point A) and it is physically impossible to drop a ball within two club-lengths of Point A, as lateral relief option of the penalty area Rule allows. Point B on the opposite side of the red penalty area is determined such that it is an equal distance from the hole as that of Point A. As allowed by a Local Rule, the player drops a ball within two club-lengths of Point B, not nearer the hole, and completes play of the hole. What is the ruling?

- A. The player took relief correctly; there is no penalty.
- B. The player took relief incorrectly; there is a total penalty of three strokes.
- C. The player took relief correctly; there is only a penalty of one stroke under the red penalty area Rule.
- D. The player took relief incorrectly, is in serious breach of the Rules and must correct the error or be disqualified.

Answer is C. When the ball was in a red penalty area (red stakes and red lines), the procedure that was followed in establishing Point B on the opposite side, and allowing a ball to be dropped in reference to that point, was allowed by Local Rule (Model Local Rule B-2). The only penalty the player gets is the penalty of one stroke under the red penalty area Rule that resulted when the ball was lost in the red penalty area.

A further point of interest is the situation where Point A may be marked as a red penalty area and Point B on the opposite side is marked as a yellow penalty area (yellow stakes and yellow lines). Relief procedures are determined according to the type of penalty area at the point where the ball last crossed the edge (Point A), not the opposite side.

13. RULES 3.3b(3), 5.3a and 5.4

Which does NOT result in a penalty of disqualification to a player?

- A. Returning a scorecard with a score for a hole higher than the actual score.
- B. Arrives at the starting point more than five minutes after the player's starting time without exceptional circumstances preventing him from starting on time.
- C. Not remaining throughout the round in the group set by the Committee when the Committee does not approve a change either before or after it happens.
- D. Returning a scorecard without the marker's certification.

Answer is A (NOT DISQUALIFIED). The player is responsible for the correctness of the score recorded for each hole. However, if a score higher than actually taken is recorded, then the higher score stands without penalty, Rule 3.3b(3):

- B. The player must start at and not before the time set by the Committee, Rule 5.3a, but with exceptions. If the player arrives at the starting point, ready to play, no more than five minutes late, the player gets a penalty of two strokes. If there are exceptional circumstances preventing him from starting on time, in such a case, there would be no penalty. Otherwise the penalty is disqualification.
- C. When the Committee has arranged a specific group, the players must remain throughout the round in the group set by the Committee unless the Committee approves a change either before or after it happens, Rule 5.4b.
- D. It is a responsibility of the player to ensure that the marker has certified the scorecard before it is returned to the Committee, Rule 3.3b(2).

14. RULE 13

Which is TRUE regarding the putting green?

- A. No matter where the player's ball lies, the player may remove sand and loose soil from the putting green without penalty.
- B. An old hole plug or damage to the putting green caused by the impact of a ball may be repaired by the player but the player must not use a hand or foot.
- C. If a ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved in the process of repairing a ball mark on the putting green, there is always a penalty of one stroke.
- D. If a player's ball at rest on the putting green is moved by natural forces, the ball must always be played from its new location.

Answer is A (TRUE). Rule 13.1c(1) allows sand and loose soil on the putting green (but not elsewhere) to be removed without penalty – see also Rule 8.1b(10). This may be done without regard to where the player's ball may be located, either on or off the putting green. Other choices are FALSE:

- B. Rule 13.1c(2) allows repair of damage on the putting green without penalty, including old hole plugs and ball marks, regardless of the location of the player's ball. This repair may be made only with the player using a hand or foot, or a normal ball-mark repair tool, tee, club or similar item of normal equipment.
- C. Rule 9.4b Ex3 states that there is no penalty for accidentally causing a ball to move on the putting green.
- D. Rule 13.1d(2) requires that a ball already lifted and replaced moved by natural forces must be replaced on its original spot and would not be played from its new location. Choice D would be true only in the situation where the ball had not been previously lifted and replaced.

15. RULE 4.2

Which is TRUE regarding a ball that has been damaged while playing a hole?

- A. If a ball breaks into pieces after a stroke, there is no penalty but stroke counts.
- B. If the player substitutes another ball for a damaged ball, the substituted ball must be dropped as near as possible to where the original ball lay except on the putting green where it must be placed.
- C. The player may substitute another ball for the original ball for the reason that it can be clearly seen that the original ball's surface is scraped or scratched during the hole being played.
- D. When a ball is lifted from the fringe of the putting green to see if it is cut or cracked during the hole being played, it may not be cleaned.

Answer is D (TRUE). Rule 4.2c(1) states that a ball lifted, other than on the putting green, to see if it is cut or cracked may not be cleaned. Other choices are FALSE:

- A. If a ball breaks into pieces, the stroke does not count, Rule 4.2b.
- B. If the original ball is cut or cracked and the player chooses to substitute another ball, the player must replace the substituted ball on the original spot, Rule 4.2c(2).
- C. The player may not substitute another ball only for the reason that the surface of the original ball is scraped or scratched, Rule 4.2c(2).

16. DEFINITION OF ANIMAL and DEFINITION OF ANIMAL HOLE

Which is TRUE about an animal or an animal hole?

- A. An animal is all living members of the animal kingdom.
- B. An animal hole includes a hole dug by animals such as insects and worms.
- C. The material removed by an animal is not considered part of the animal hole.
- D. An animal hole is considered to be an abnormal course condition.

Answer is D. Definition of Animal Hole. Other choices are FALSE.

- A. From the definition, the term animal excludes humans.
- B. From the definition, the term animal hole excludes a hole dug by insects and worms.
- C. From the definition, the term animal hole includes material removed by an animal.

17. RULE 14.7 and RULE 17.1d

A player plays from the teeing area on a long par-3 to an island putting green that is surrounded by a pond entirely marked as a yellow penalty area (yellow stakes). The ball lands on the putting green and rolls over the back edge into the pond where it is lost. For a ball lost in the pond, there is a Local Rule allowing use of a dropping zone as an option with a penalty of one stroke in addition to playing under the penalty area Rule. This dropping zone is located on the teeing area side of the pond about 80 yards from the putting green. The player mistakenly thinks that the penalty area is a red penalty area (red stakes). The player drops a ball within two club-lengths of the point where the original ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area, not nearer the hole, on the fringe of the putting green according to the lateral relief option of the red penalty area Rule. The player completes the hole. What is the ruling?

- A. There is only a penalty of one stroke under the red penalty area Rule.

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- B. There is a penalty of one stroke under the red penalty area Rule and a penalty of two strokes for playing from a wrong place but not a serious breach.
- C. There is a penalty of one stroke under the red penalty area Rule and a penalty of two strokes for a serious breach of playing from a wrong place; the player must correct the error by playing a second ball in accordance with the Local Rule or the yellow penalty area Rule, getting an additional penalty of one stroke.
- D. There is a penalty of two strokes for playing from a wrong place and there is a serious breach of playing from a wrong place; the player must correct the error by playing out the hole with a second ball played in accordance with the yellow penalty area Rule.

Answer is D. Although the pond is marked as a yellow penalty area, the player by mistake dropped a ball as though the pond was marked as a red penalty area. The red penalty area Rule allows dropping within two club-lengths of the point where the original ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area, not nearer the hole (Point A). The player was not allowed to drop the ball at Point A under the yellow penalty area Rule. As a result of the player's mistake, the ball was dropped and played from a wrong place. The analysis of how to continue is:

- (1) Because of where the ball was dropped and played from, there was a serious breach of the Rules that must be corrected, Rule 14.7b(1). The breach was serious because the ball was played from a place that does not require the player to successfully negotiate the pond - a significant advantage.
- (2) To correct a mistake made in taking relief where the player used a relief Rule that was not allowed, the player may take relief under any Rule or relief option that applies to the player's situation, Rule 14.5b(1). In this case of a serious breach, the player must, before playing from the next teeing area, play out the hole with a ball played from the right place under either (i) Rule 17.1d for a yellow penalty area or (ii) the Local Rule.
- (3) After the player corrects the mistake of playing from the wrong place, the player must report to the Committee before returning the scorecard or be disqualified.
- (4) There will be a total penalty of three strokes. A penalty of one stroke is because the player has correctly taken relief under either (i) the yellow penalty area Rule (not the red penalty area Rule) or (ii) the Local Rule. There is an additional penalty of two strokes under Rule 14.7b(3) for a serious breach of playing from the wrong place when the player dropped and played a ball from a place (near the putting green) that was not allowed by the yellow penalty area Rule. The stroke made in playing the original ball from a wrong place and any more strokes with that ball, including any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball, do not count. The player must count all strokes taken with the second ball.
- (5) If the player had played from the next teeing area before correcting the mistake, the player would be disqualified. If the breach had not been serious, correction would not be required and there would also be a total penalty of three strokes.

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18. RULE 5.7d(2)

When the Committee suspends play because of heavy rain, the position of a player's ball is not marked nor is the ball lifted from the putting green. When the Committee orders play to resume, the player finds the original ball in a bunker. What is the ruling?

- A. The original ball must be played from the bunker.
- B. The original ball must be lifted from the bunker and replaced on the putting green.
- C. A ball or ball-marker must be placed on the spot from which the original ball was moved.
- D. The player may play the original ball from the bunker or the putting green.

Answer is C. Whenever the Committee orders play to resume and the player's ball or ball-marker was moved while play was stopped, Rule 5.7d(2) requires a player to either (i) replace the original ball, or another ball on the original spot (which if not known must be estimated) from which the original ball was moved or (ii) place a ball-marker to mark that original spot, and then replace the original ball or another ball on that spot. The player is not required to replace the original ball.

19. DEFINITION OF ADVICE

Which is FALSE regarding advice?

- A. Information on the Rules is advice.
- B. Information on the location of the hole on the putting green is not advice.
- C. Information on the location of penalty areas is not advice.
- D. Advice is any verbal comment or deliberate action that is intended to influence a player in choosing a club, making a stroke or deciding how to play a hole or a round.

Answer is A (FALSE). Definition of Advice. Care should be taken though. For example, telling a player what their options are under Rule 19 (Ball Unplayable) is allowed. Telling the player that they should choose a specific option would be advice.

20. RULE 3.3b(2)

Which is TRUE regarding a scorecard?

- A. If a player returns a scorecard with an incorrect total score that is lower than actually taken, the player is disqualified.
- B. A player must certify the hole scores on the scorecard and promptly return it to the Committee, after which the player must not change the scorecard.
- C. If more than one marker records the scores, only the last one of them is responsible for certifying the scorecard.
- D. After each hole, a marker must check the score with the player and record it.

Answer is B (TRUE). Rule 3.3b(2) states that the player must certify the hole scores on the scorecard and promptly return it to the Committee, after which the player must not change the scorecard. Other choices are FALSE:

- A. There is no penalty for the player returning a scorecard with a mistake in added up the scores incorrectly. The Committee is responsible for the addition of the scores recorded on the scorecard and should correct the incorrect total score, Rule 3.3b(5).
- C. Although it is rare, sometimes a marker will not complete a round started with the player (as for example, illness). In such a case, Rule 3.3b(1) requires that each marker must certify the scores for those holes where he or she was the marker.

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- D. Rule 3.3b(1) states that after each hole, the marker should confirm with the player the number of strokes on that hole and enter the gross score on the scorecard.

21. RULE 11.1a AND RULE 11.1b(2)

A's ball lies on the fringe of the putting green 20-feet from the hole. B's ball lies on the putting green 25-feet from the hole. A plays first, but before the ball comes to rest, B putts and the two balls in motion collide. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty; the strokes count and each ball must be played as it lies.
- B. B gets a penalty of two strokes, each stroke with a ball in play counts, and both balls must be played as they lie.
- C. There is no penalty to A or B; A's ball must be played as it lies and B's stroke does not count, and the original ball or another ball must be replaced on its original spot.
- D. A gets a penalty of two strokes; A's ball must be played as it lies and B's stroke does not count, and the original ball or another ball must be replaced on its original spot.

Answer is C. The occurrence of two balls colliding on the putting green is not rare and the situation in this question is typical of what might happen. The proper answer to the question requires the examination of Rule 11.1a and Rule 11.1b.

There are two basic principles in Rule 11.1, one from Rule 11.1a and the other from Rule 11.1b.

Rule 11.1a states that if a player's ball in motion accidentally hits any person or outside influence, there is no penalty to any player with an exception for the case where both balls were on the putting green before the stroke, which is not the case here. Thus, there is no penalty to either A or B.

Rule 11.b covers where the ball is to be played from. Rule 11.1b(1) states that if a player's ball in motion that was played from anywhere other than the putting green accidentally hits any person or outside influence, the ball must be played as lies. This applies to the ball of A. However, Rule 11.1b(2) applies when a ball is played from the putting green and the ball accidentally hits another ball in motion on the putting green. In this case, the stroke does not count and the original ball or another ball must be placed on its original spot. This applies to the ball of B.

22. RULE 18.3

Which is TRUE regarding a provisional ball?

- A. It becomes the ball in play if it is played from a place where the original ball is found or nearer the hole than that place.
- B. It becomes the ball in play if it is played from nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be.
- C. It may not be played after the player has gone forward to search.
- D. If a provisional ball is abandoned because the original ball was found before becoming lost, all strokes with that provisional ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes from playing that ball) do not count.

Answer is B (TRUE). Rule 18.3c(2) states that the provisional ball becomes the ball in play under penalty of stroke and distance when it is played from a spot nearer to the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be - not where the original ball is found. The former is choice B (TRUE) and the latter is choice A (FALSE). Other choices are FALSE:

- C. There is no requirement in Rule 18.3 that limits a player in play of a provisional ball in a situation where the player has gone forward to search.
- D. Rule 18.3c(3) states that if a provisional ball is abandoned because the original ball was found before becoming lost, all strokes with that provisional ball before it was abandoned (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count. For instance, play of wrong ball (with its general penalty) that occurred during the time playing the provisional ball would not be considered as solely associated with playing the provisional ball. That penalty would not be disregarded.

23. RULE 13.2

With the flagstick in the hole and no one authorized to attend the flagstick, A's ball is putted from the putting green. After the stroke and while the ball is in motion, thinking that A's ball might strike the flagstick, B walks over to the hole and removes the flagstick without A's authority. A's ball strikes the end of the flagstick as it is removed from the hole and comes to rest one foot past the hole. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty; A's ball is played as it lies.
- B. B gets a penalty of two strokes; A's stroke is cancelled and replayed.
- C. B gets a penalty of two strokes; A's ball must be played as it lies.
- D. A gets a penalty of two strokes; A's ball must be played as it lies.

Answer is C. This situation is covered by Rule 13.2a(4) for removing the flagstick and Rule 13.2b(2) for the ball hitting the flagstick. In situations involving a ball striking a flagstick, there are usually three questions to be answered:

- (1) Was there a Rules violation and, if so, which player(s) gets a penalty? Without authorization by A, B deliberately removed the flagstick while the ball was in motion to affect where A's ball might have come to rest. Thus, B gets the general penalty, Rule 13.2a(4).
- (2) Is there a penalty to any player because the ball struck the flagstick? B thought that A's ball might strike the flagstick and was trying to prevent that but A's ball accidentally struck the flagstick. There is no penalty to either player for the ball

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accidentally striking the flagstick, Rule 13.2b(2). Note that Rule 11.1b(2) does not apply when a ball in motion accidentally hits a flagstick.

- (3) Does the stroke count or is it replayed? Since this was an accidental deflection, the ball is played as it lies, Rule 13.2b(2).

24. RULE 4.1a(2)

Which of the following clubs may a player NOT REPLACE with another club if the club was damaged during a round when the player started with 14 clubs?

- A. A driver with a shaft slightly bent by the player in making a stroke.
- B. A wedge with a loft significantly altered by the player in making a practice stroke.
- C. A putter with a shaft loosened by the player “slamming” it into the player’s golf bag.
- D. A club broken when accidentally run over by a coach’s golf cart.

Answer is C. If a player starts with 14 clubs and damages a club during the round, the player may replace that club (Choices A, B, and D); but, there is an exception - if the player damaged the club through abuse, they are not allowed to replace the damaged club (Choice C), Rule 4.1a(2). In all cases the damaged club may continue to be used throughout the round. If the damage was not due to abuse, the player may have it repaired.

25. RULE 9.4b EXCEPTIONS

In which of the following situations regarding a player's ball in play and at rest moved is there a penalty?

- A. In the act of marking the position of the ball and lifting it while applying a Rule, a player accidentally drops a towel that causes the ball to move.
- B. If a player's ball at rest on the putting green moves as a result of the player lifting a small twig resting against the ball.
- C. In removing a rake from the sloping side of a bunker, a player causes the ball that was resting against the rake to roll down the slope.
- D. A player’s caddie searches for the player’s ball, finds it and identifies it; in selecting a club for the stroke, the player accidentally causes the ball to move.

Answer is D. Rule 9.4b states that if the player moves the player’s ball at rest, the player must add one penalty stroke. However, there are exceptions to Rule 9.4b where the player gets no penalty for causing the ball in play to move when taking a specific action covered in that exception. The exception applies during the entire time from when the player begins to take that action until the action is completed.

- A. Exception 4 states that when the player accidentally moves the ball while marking, lifting or replacing the ball, there is no penalty.
- B. Exception 3 refers to Rule 13.1d that states if a player accidentally moves the ball on the putting green, there is no penalty for causing the ball to move.
- C. Exception 4 refers to Rule 15.2 that states if the player’s ball moves when removing a movable obstruction, there is no penalty.
- D. There is an exception from penalty when a player moves the player’s ball while searching (Rule 7.4) but in this situation in the question, the search was completed. The player must add one penalty stroke.

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26. DEFINITION OF BUNKER and RULE 12

Which is NOT ALLOWED before the stroke when a player's ball lies in a bunker?

- A. Deliberately touching the sand with a hand, club, rake or other object to test the condition of the sand to learn information about the next stroke.
- B. Touching or removing loose impediments in the bunker.
- C. Touching or removing a movable obstruction in the bunker.
- D. Touching any grass or growing thing with a club.

Answer is A (NOT ALLOWED). Rule 12 contains special Rules for bunkers but the definition of bunker is also an essential reference to consult when an issue arises concerning a bunker:

- A. Rule 12.2b(1) tells us that this action is not allowed.
- B. Rule 12.2a quotes Rule 15.1 as allowing this.
- C. Rule 12.2a quotes Rule 15.2 as allowing this.
- D. Definition of bunker states the any growing thing inside the prepared area such as grass, bushes or trees is not part of the bunker, which means that touching these growing things is allowed, the same as allowed in the general area.

27. RULES 6, 9 and 18.3

A provisional ball is played from the teeing area. After a brief search, a ball is found in the rough with a mark similar to that of the player's original ball. The player plays the ball and lifts the provisional ball. Then it is discovered that the ball played from the rough is a wrong ball. The original ball is not found. What is the ruling?

- A. The player must return to the teeing area and put a ball into play; there is a total penalty of three strokes.
- B. The player must return to the teeing area and put a ball into play; there is a total penalty of four strokes.
- C. The player must replace the provisional ball on the spot from which it was lifted; there is a total penalty of four strokes.
- D. The player must replace the provisional ball on the spot from which it was lifted; there is a total penalty of five strokes.

Answer is C. This complex question emphasizes the importance of a player putting an identifying mark on the ball as Rules 6.3a and 7.2 tell us. There are three issues here, each with a penalty:

- (1) Rule 6.3c(1) provides that in play of a wrong ball in these circumstances the player gets a penalty of two strokes, the stroke does not count and the player must correct the mistake under the Rules by playing the right ball from its original spot or taking relief under the Rules. The right ball is the original ball if found within three minutes of search or the provisional ball if the original ball is lost.
- (2) Since the original ball was lost, the provisional ball becomes the ball in play under penalty of stroke and distance, Rule 18.3c(2).
- (3) For lifting the provisional ball (which was to become the ball in play), the player must add one penalty stroke and the provisional ball must be replaced, Rule 9.4a.

There is a total penalty of four strokes.

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One additional point to be considered is what the ruling would be if the player had returned to the teeing area where the previous stroke was made and replayed the provisional ball from there rather than replacing it as required. In that case, the player must add one penalty stroke under Rule 18.1 for a total penalty of five strokes.

28. DEFINITION OF BALL IN PLAY

Which is a ball in play?

- A. A ball substituted for the original ball in play when substitution is not allowed.
- B. The player's original ball that lies out of bounds.
- C. The player's original ball that is not found within three minutes of search.
- D. The player's original ball that is lifted from the putting green and not yet replaced.

Answer is A. Definition of Ball in Play

29. RULE 7

A player's ball is believed to be in a penalty area and the player is in search to find and identify the ball. Which of the following is FALSE?

- A. If a player's ball is believed to be covered by sand to the extent that a player cannot find or identify it, the player may, without penalty, touch or move sand to find or identify it.
- B. A player's ball may be identified by finding a ball with the player's brand, model, number and condition in an area where the player's ball is expected to be even if an identical ball lies in the same area; in this case, the player's ball may be selected by lot between the two balls.
- C. If a player has reason to believe a ball at rest is the player's ball and it is necessary to lift it to identify it, the ball may be lifted without penalty after the spot of the ball has been marked.
- D. The player may move or bend grass, bushes, tree branches and other growing or attached natural objects; if these actions improve the conditions affecting the stroke, there is no penalty if the improvement results from a fair search.

Answer is B (FALSE). If two balls are found and it is not possible to distinguish between them, then the player has not identified it, Rule 7.2. Other choices are TRUE:

- A. The player may fairly search for the ball anywhere by taking reasonable actions to find and identify it, such as moving sand, Rule 7.1a.
- C. If a ball might be the player's ball but cannot be identified as it lies, the player may lift the ball to identify it, Rule 7.3.
- D. These actions are allowed and if these actions improve the conditions affecting the stroke, there is no penalty if the improvement results from a fair search, Rule 7.1a.

30. DEFINITION OF TEMPORARY WATER

Which is TRUE regarding temporary water?

- A. Dew is temporary water.
- B. Manufactured ice is temporary water.
- C. Snow, natural ice and frost are either temporary water or loose impediments at the option of the player.

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- D. Temporary water is any temporary accumulation of water on the surface of the ground that is not in a penalty area and can be seen before or after the player takes a stance.

Answer is D (TRUE). Definition of Temporary Water

31. RULE 9.4 and RULE 12

A player's ball lies in a large bunker. After the player's first stroke in the bunker, the ball comes to rest 10-yards away in another part of the bunker, closer to the hole. The player rakes the area where the ball originally lay and carries the rake to the ball's new position. There, the player accidentally drops it, causing the ball to move without altering the original lie. Replacing the ball where it lay before being moved, the player plays out of the bunker. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty.
- B. There is a penalty of one stroke for accidentally causing the ball to move.
- C. There is a penalty of two strokes for raking the bunker.
- D. There is a total penalty of three strokes for accidentally causing the ball to move and for raking the bunker.

Answer is B. There are two issues here:

- (1) The player may rake or smooth the bunker to care for the course provided this action does not improve the conditions affecting the stroke, Rule 12.2b(2). Since the player's ball lies some distance from the smoothing and is not on the line of play, the player's actions do not breach Rule 8.1a. There is no penalty for raking.
- (2) There is a violation for accidentally causing the ball in play to move and the ball must be replaced, Rule 9.4b. None of the five exceptions to the Rule apply in this situation. There is a penalty of one stroke.

32. RULE 16

Two balls lie adjacent to the edge defining a red penalty area. A's ball is in the general area and B's ball is in the penalty area. Inside the penalty area, there is a large fixed iron stake (immovable obstruction) that interferes with the swing and line of play of each player. Each player takes relief under the abnormal course conditions Rule procedures. A's ball is dropped in and played from the general area and B's ball is dropped in and played from the penalty area. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty.
- B. A gets a penalty and B gets no penalty.
- C. B gets a penalty and A gets no penalty.
- D. Both A and B get a penalty.

Answer is C. A (whose ball is not in the penalty area) is allowed relief without penalty under the abnormal course conditions Rule (immovable obstruction) and B (whose ball is in the penalty area) is not allowed relief. If a player's ball lies in the general area, the player is allowed relief without penalty from an immovable obstruction regardless of the location of the obstruction on the course. If a player's ball lies in a penalty area, the player is not allowed relief without penalty from an immovable obstruction, Rule 16.1a(2).

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An interesting aspect of this situation is that when B lifted the ball, dropped it and played it, B's procedures will be governed by the penalty area Rule rather than the abnormal course conditions Rule, even though B intended to follow the abnormal course conditions Rule. This is because B had the authority to lift the ball with a penalty of one stroke under the penalty area Rule. That is, the penalty area Rule is the applicable Rule to B's situation and governs what penalties are applied, depending in part on where the ball is eventually dropped and played from.

33. RULE 9.6 and RULE 14

A coach accidentally steps on a player's ball in the general area, but not in sand, and embeds it. What procedure **MUST** the player follow?

- A. Take relief under the embedded ball Rule.
- B. Replace the ball by placing it on the nearest spot (not nearer the hole) with a lie most similar to the original lie that is within one club-lengths from its original spot and in the general area.
- C. Place the ball as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole.
- D. Drop the ball as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole.

Answer is B. The coach is an outside influence. Thus, this situation involves a ball in play moved by an outside influence where the original lie has been altered. The ball must be replaced with no penalty, Rule 9.6. Since the lie is altered, the altered lie Rule must be followed in replacing the ball and the procedure in choice B is correct, Rule 14.2d(2). The player would get no penalty.

If the player were to continue as described in the other choices and play the ball, the player would be in violation of Rule 14.7 for playing from a wrong place and would get a penalty of two strokes. If the player continues with the other choices but before playing the ball, the player may lift the ball and continue correctly without penalty, Rule 14.5.

34. RULE 6.3 and RULE 14.5

Which is **TRUE** regarding a player playing a wrong ball or a substituted ball?

- A. A wrong ball is played from a fairway; if the player corrects the error before playing from the next teeing area, there is no penalty.
- B. A wrong ball is played from a fairway; if the player does not correct the error before playing from the next teeing area, the player gets the general penalty.
- C. When not allowed, a player substitutes a ball for the ball in play; if the ball is played, the player gets one penalty stroke and the error must be corrected.
- D. When not allowed, a player substitutes a ball for the ball in play; if the ball is played, the player gets one penalty stroke and the error must not be corrected.

Answer is D (TRUE). If a player substitutes another ball when not allowed, it becomes the ball in play, Rule 6.3b(2). Before playing the ball, the error may be corrected without penalty under Rule 14.5. After the incorrectly substituted ball is played, the player gets one penalty stroke and correction is not allowed. Other choices are **FALSE**:

- A. As soon as a wrong ball is played, except for one moving in water in a penalty area or in temporary water, the player gets the general penalty and must then correct the mistake by playing the correct ball, Rule 6.3c(1). The correction must take place before playing from the next teeing area, but the correction does not

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relieve the player of the penalty already assessed. However, correction does allow the player to avoid the penalty of disqualification that would follow if the player plays from the next teeing area before correction.

- B. If the player plays a wrong ball and fails to correct the mistake before playing from the next teeing area, the player is disqualified, Rule 6.3c(1).
- C. Once a player has made a stroke at an incorrectly substituted ball, the player must then play out the hole with the incorrectly substituted ball, Rule 6.3b(3).

35. RULE 17 and RULE 18

Which is FALSE regarding penalty areas?

- A. To treat a ball struck toward a penalty area as lost in the area, it must be known or virtually certain that the ball lodged in it.
- B. When a ball is struck toward a penalty area, in the absence of knowledge or virtually certainty that it is lost in the penalty area, the lost ball Rule applies.
- C. If a ball lies in a penalty area, the player may play a ball from where the previous stroke was made.
- D. In taking relief, if a ball is lifted from a penalty area, it may not be cleaned before it is dropped.

Answer is D (FALSE). When a ball is lifted under the penalty area Rule, the original ball may be cleaned (Rule 14.1c) or another ball may be substituted, Rule 17.1d. Other choices are TRUE:

- A. A player may not judge the ball to be in a penalty area just because the player thinks the ball may be in the penalty area. For the player to treat it as lost in the penalty area, there is conclusive evidence or all reasonably available information must show that it is at least 95% likely that the ball is lost there.
- B. When a ball is lost, in the absence of knowledge or virtually certainty that it is lost in the penalty area, then the player's only option is to take relief under the lost ball Rule with a penalty of stroke and distance, Rule 18.2b.
- C. Stroke-and-distance is one of the options under which the player may take relief under the penalty area Rule.

36. RULE 8 and RULE 12

A tee shot on a par-3 hole comes to rest on a severely sloping bank inside a bunker. When taking a stance, the player pushes up sand on the downhill side of the ball to create a level stance. Before making the stroke, the player stumbles and sticks a club in the sand to prevent falling. During the backswing for the stroke, the club removes a small mound of sand behind the ball. The player plays the ball out of the bunker into the hole. The player is unaware that any of the actions taken were not permitted. What is the player's score for the hole?

- A. 2.
- B. 4.
- C. 6.
- D. 8.

Answer is B. There are three issues here, resulting in two penalty strokes that must be added to the two strokes the player made with the ball in play for a score of four:

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- (1) A player is allowed to place both feet firmly in taking a stance, but the player must not build a stance. Pushing up sand so that the stance is level is building a stance; the player gets a penalty of two strokes, Rule 8.1a(3).
- (2) A player may touch sand in a bunker to prevent falling with a club or otherwise; there is no penalty, Rule 12.2b(2).
- (3) The player may not touch the sand in the bunker with a club in making the backswing for a stroke; the player gets a penalty of two strokes, Rule 12.2b(1).

However, Rule 1.3c(4) states that since the actions took place without an intervening event, the player only gets one penalty applied. Intervening events are either the player makes a stroke or becomes aware of the breach of the Rule. In this case, since both penalties are two strokes, the player gets a single two-stroke penalty.

37. DEFINITION OF NEAREST POINT OF COMPLETE RELIEF and RULE 16

Which is FALSE regarding relief from temporary water?

- A. The nearest point of complete relief is the estimated point where your ball would lie that is nearest to your ball's original spot, but not nearer the hole than that spot, in the required area of the course, and where the condition does not interfere with the stroke you would have made from the original spot if the condition was not there.
- B. When a ball lies on the putting green, there is no relief without penalty from temporary water off the putting green intervening on the line of play.
- C. When a ball lies in a penalty area, there is no relief without penalty from interference by temporary water in the general area.
- D. A ball may be cleaned without penalty when it is lifted from and relief is taken from temporary water.

Answer is B (FALSE). When a ball lies in the general area or a bunker, there is no relief for intervention from an abnormal course condition; however, when the ball lies on the putting green, relief is allowed without penalty when such a condition on the putting green or elsewhere intervenes on the line of play, Rule 16.1a(1). Other choices are TRUE:

- A. See definition of nearest point of complete relief.
- C. There is no relief without penalty from interference by an abnormal course condition if a ball is in a penalty area, Rule 16.1a(2).
- D. The ball may be cleaned or replaced when relief is taken under Rule 16.1.

38. RULE 20.1c(3)

A movable stake defining a penalty area interferes with the swing of a player whose ball is in the penalty area. The player plays the ball as it lies without removing the stake. Then, a coach says that the stake was a movable obstruction and there is relief under the abnormal course conditions Rule. The player decides to invoke Rule 20.1c(3) (Playing Two Balls When Uncertain What to Do), known as the second ball Rule. The player announces to the marker the choice of the second ball to count. The player moves the stake and plays a second ball from where the original ball lay. What is the ruling?

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- A. There is no penalty; the score with the original ball counts.
- B. There is no penalty; the score with the second ball counts.
- C. The player gets a penalty of two strokes for playing a second ball because the stroke was made after the doubt had arisen; the score with the original ball counts.
- D. The player gets a penalty of two strokes for playing a second ball because the stroke was made after the doubt had arisen; the score with the second ball counts.

Answer is A. The coach was correct in that the stake was a movable obstruction, but the correct Rule is Rule 15.2a not the abnormal course conditions Rule; however, since the player made a stroke before the uncertain situation arose, the second ball Rule was not available. There is no penalty for having played the second ball under Rule 20.1c(3), but the score with the original ball counts, Rule 20.1c(3).

39. RULE 14.3

In which two of the following situations is there no penalty to a player?

- A. Any person other than the player drops the ball in a relief area; the player plays it.
- B. A player drops a ball by throwing it into the relief area; the player plays it.
- C. A player deliberately stops the dropped ball while in motion outside a relief area when there is no reasonable chance it will return to and come to rest in the relief area.
- D. A player drops a ball, striking ground in the relief area, then accidentally it hits the player's equipment before coming to rest in the relief area; the player plays it.

Answer is C and D - No penalty

- A. A ball must be dropped only by the player. No one else (including a caddie) may do so. If the player makes a stroke at a ball dropped by the wrong person, there is a penalty of one stroke, Rule 14.3b.
- B. If the ball is dropped in a wrong way and the player plays it, there is a penalty of one stroke, Rule 14.3b.
- C. This is an exception to Rule 14.3d where in such a case there is no penalty and the ball must be lifted and dropped again.
- D. If a dropped ball accidentally hits any person, equipment or other object before coming to rest, there is no penalty. If the ball comes to rest in the relief area, it must be played as it lies. If it comes to rest outside the relief area, it must be dropped again, Rule 14.3c(2).

40. RULE 16.1

A bunker is entirely covered with temporary water to a shallow depth. The player's ball lies in the bunker. What is the ruling?

- A. A ball may be dropped without penalty in a relief area that is one club-length from the point of maximum available relief, not nearer the hole than that point and in the bunker.
- B. The original ball must be dropped without penalty in the bunker within one club-length of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole, on a part of the course that affords maximum available relief from the temporary water.
- C. The ball may be lifted and dropped without penalty outside the bunker keeping the point where the ball lay between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped.

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- D. The ball may be lifted and dropped with a penalty of two strokes outside the bunker keeping the point where the ball last crossed the edge of the temporary water between the hole and the spot where the ball is dropped.

Answer is A. To obtain relief without penalty from temporary water, the ball must be dropped in the bunker. Since the bunker is completely covered with temporary water, complete relief from the condition is not possible and the Rule requires that the ball must be dropped in a relief area referenced to the point of maximum available relief as stated in choice A, Rule 16.1c. Other choices are incorrect (see Rule 16.1c):

- B. See choice A for the proper procedure.
C. The ball may not be dropped outside the bunker without penalty.
D. See choice A for the proper procedure and penalty.

41. DEFINITION OF ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS and RULE 16.1a

Which of the following is FALSE about an abnormal course condition?

- A. A hole dug by a dog is an animal hole.
B. Relief is not allowed for interference by material piled for later removal that lies in a penalty area if the ball lies in the general area.
C. Relief is not allowed for interference from an obstruction that lies out of bounds if the ball lies in the general area.
D. Temporary water does not exist in a penalty area.

Answer is B (FALSE). Definition of Abnormal Course Conditions.

42. DEFINITION OF PENALTY AREA

Which of the following is TRUE regarding penalty areas?

- A. Penalty areas must be defined by yellow or red stakes.
B. The edge of a penalty area extends up above ground but not down below.
C. Stakes defining the edges of penalty areas are not in the penalty area.
D. Penalty areas include any body of water on the course (whether marked or not).

Answer is D (TRUE). Definition of Penalty Area

43. RULE 5.6

Which of the following is TRUE?

- A. A player may be allowed a short delay without penalty when seeking help from a referee or the Committee.
B. If the player unreasonably delays play between play of two holes, the penalty applies to the previous hole.
C. The penalty for a first breach of the unreasonable delay of play Rule is two strokes.
D. The penalty for a second breach of the unreasonable delay of play Rule is disqualification.

Answer is A. Correct statements from Rule 5.6a are as follows:

- A. A player may be allowed a short delay without penalty when (i) seeking help from a referee or the Committee. (ii) suddenly becoming ill or (iii) there is some other good reason.

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- B. If the player unreasonably delays play between play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.
- C. Penalty for a first breach is one penalty stroke.
- D. Penalty for a second breach is the general penalty.

44. DEFINITION OF OUTSIDE INFLUENCE

Which is FALSE regarding the definition of an outside influence?

- A. An animal is an outside influence.
- B. The player's equipment is not an outside influence.
- C. A natural force is not outside influence.
- D. The player's caddie is not an outside influence.

Answer is B (FALSE). Definition of Outside Influence

45. RULE 16.1

A player's ball is lost in a pump house well that lies in the general area. What is the ruling?

- A. A ball must be played with a stroke and distance penalty under the lost ball Rule.
- B. Relief may be taken with a penalty of one stroke under the unplayable ball Rule; the spot where the ball came to rest in the structure must be estimated as the reference point for the purpose of taking lateral relief (Rule 18.2c).
- C. Relief may be taken without penalty under the abnormal course conditions Rule; the spot where the ball came to rest in the structure must be estimated as the reference point for the purpose of taking relief.
- D. Relief may be taken without penalty under the abnormal course conditions Rule, using the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the obstruction as the spot of the ball for the purposes of finding the nearest point of complete relief.

Answer is D. Here the player has a choice, see Rule 18.2b Exception. If a ball is lost in an immovable obstruction (e.g. a pump house well), the player may take relief with a penalty of stroke and distance under the lost ball Rule, Rule 18.2b. Alternatively, the player may take relief without penalty under the abnormal course conditions Rule, Rule 16.1e. If the player decides the latter, relief is taken using the estimated point where the ball last crossed the edge of the abnormal course condition as the spot of the ball for purposes of finding the nearest point of complete relief, Rule 16.1e. Other choices are incorrect:

- A. A ball MAY be played, not MUST be played, under the lost ball Rule.
- B. When the ball is lost, the unplayable ball Rule lateral relief option is not available.
- C. Where the lost ball came to rest in the obstruction is irrelevant to relief.

46. RULE 14.7 and RULE 15.3b

In a fairway, A's ball interferes with B's play and B requests that A's ball be lifted. A marks the ball's position, lifting and cleaning it. B makes a stroke moving A's marker. A replaces the lifted ball ahead of the moved marker and plays it. What is the ruling?

- A. A gets no penalty.
- B. A gets a penalty of one stroke.
- C. A gets a penalty of two strokes.
- D. A gets a penalty of three strokes.

Answer is C. There are three issues here that should be reviewed in sequence:

- (1) Under Rule 15.3b, the ball was properly lifted by A at B's request because of interference with the play of B. Thus, for the lifting, there is no penalty.
- (2) The ball was cleaned by A when the ball was lifted. This is a violation of Rule 15.3b (and Rule 14.1c as well) for which there is normally a penalty of one stroke. However, if the player gets a penalty for failure to act properly in accordance with Rule 15.3b (see next issue) by playing from a wrong place, no additional penalty under Rule 15.3b is applied, Rule 14.7 penalty statement. Thus, there is no additional penalty under Rule 15.3b (however, see next).
- (3) Rule 15.3b requires that a ball lifted under the Rule be replaced. The ball was not replaced where it originally lay but placed on another spot and played; thus, for playing from a wrong place, the player gets the general penalty of Rule 14.7; there is a penalty of two strokes.

47. RULE 10.2

Which is TRUE regarding advice and indicating the line of play?

- A. During a suspension of play, a player may ask for advice from anyone in the competition and may also give advice to anyone in the competition.
- B. A player may have a coach stand close to the player's line of play for the purpose of indicating the line of play while the stroke is being made.
- C. The player's coach may point out the player's line of play during the stroke but the line must not be touched on the putting green.
- D. During the play of a hole, a mark may be placed with the player's knowledge to indicate the line of play and remain there during the stroke.

Answer is A (TRUE). The prohibition against giving advice or asking for advice applies only during the round, not during suspension, Rule 10.2a. Other choices are FALSE:

- B. A coach must move away before the stroke is made, Rule 10.2b(1) and (2).
- C. A coach may point out a line of play by touching the putting green before the stroke; but this may not take place during the stroke, Rule 10.2b(2).
- D. The player may not have an object (such as a towel) put on the course to show the line of play even if it is removed before the stroke is made, Rule 10.2b(1).

48. RULE 11

A player's ball comes to rest in a moving maintenance vehicle in the general area. The vehicle stops, the ball falls out and it comes to rest in the rough. What is the ruling?

- A. The player must drop the original ball or a substituted ball in and play it from the relief area that is within one club-length from the estimated point right under where the ball was first at rest in the vehicle, not nearer the hole than that point and in the general area.
- B. The original ball must be dropped according to the procedure in Choice A.
- C. The ball must be dropped as near as possible to the estimated point in Choice A.
- D. The ball must be played as it lies in the rough.

Answer is A. The maintenance vehicle is a moving outside influence. If a ball in motion after a stroke comes to rest in a moving outside influence, the player must drop

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the original ball or a substituted ball in and play it from the relief area that is within one club length from the estimated point right under where the ball was at rest in the vehicle, not nearer the hole than that point and in the general area, Rule 15.2a(2).

49. DEFINITION OF OBSTRUCTION

Which is TRUE regarding obstructions?

- A. Walls, fences or stakes defining out of bounds are obstructions.
- B. Artificial sides of roads and paths are not obstructions.
- C. An immovable artificial object out of bounds is an obstruction.
- D. An integral object (an artificial object defined by the Committee) is an obstruction.

Answer is C (TRUE). Definition, Obstructions.

50. RULE 5.5

A group finishes the 13th hole. During a long delay caused by others at the teeing area of the par-3 14th hole, and without unreasonably delaying play, the players make practice strokes as follows: A practises putting on the 13th hole putting green, B hits chip shots near the 14th teeing area, C walks to the nearby practice green and hits short chip shots to the practice putting green with a 7-iron, and D practises wedge shots from a greenside bunker at the 13th hole. There is no Local Rule prohibiting practise.

Which one of the players has played incorrectly and gets a penalty?

- A. A.
- B. B.
- C. C.
- D. D.

Answer is D. Between the play of two holes, practise is allowed where the player may practise putting and chipping on or near (i) the putting green of the hole just completed, (ii) any practice green or (iii) the teeing area of the next hole. Practice strokes must not be made from a bunker nor may the player unreasonable delay play, Rule 5.5b. Choices A, B, and C are correct:

- A. Practise putting on the putting green of the hole just completed is allowed.
- B. Chipping near the teeing area of the next hole is allowed.
- C. Chipping near any practice green is allowed.