

WELCOME!



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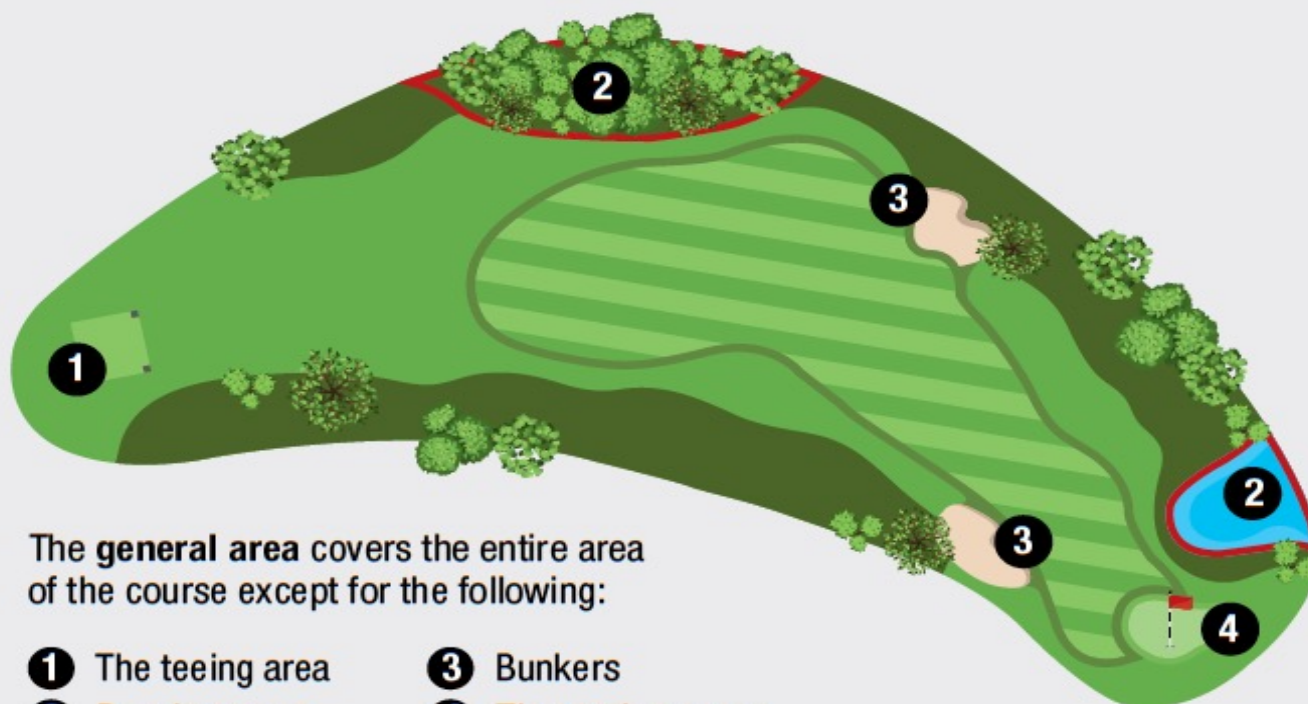
April 24 2025

Topics



- Rules of Stroke Play
- Rules of Match Play
- Quiz

DIAGRAM 2.2: DEFINED AREAS OF THE COURSE



The **general area** covers the entire area of the course except for the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| ❶ The teeing area | ❸ Bunkers |
| ❷ Penalty areas | ❹ The putting green |



Match Play VS Stroke Play – Rule 3

Match Play

- Playing against an opponent
- Eighteen, 1-hole contests
- Scoring: by holes (up or down)
- Loss of hole penalty
- Right to know match score
- Concessions permitted
- Overlook opponent's breach
- Resolve doubts or request a ruling before the next hole starts

Stroke Play

- Playing against the entire field
- One, 18-hole contest
- Scoring: total strokes made
- Two penalty strokes
- No guarantee of standing
- Must hole out
- The Rules protect the field
- Resolve doubts before returning scorecard



Stroke Play – Definition

A form of play where a player or side competes against all other players or sides in the competition. (Rule 3.3)



Rule 3.3 – Stroke Play

Stroke Play has specific Rules (particularly for scorecards and holing out) because:

- Each player competes against all the other players in the competition

And

- All players need to be treated equally under the Rules.

After the round, the player and the marker (who keeps the player's score) must certify that the player's score for each hole is right and the player must return the scorecard to the Committee.





Notes for the following areas:

- General Area
- Teeing Area
- Bunkers
- Penalty Areas
- Putting Greens

R 11.1b (2) – When Ball is Play from PUTTING GREEN



Ball played from PG ACCIDENTALLY hits something on PG	
Stroke COUNTS and the Ball is Played as it Lies	Stroke does NOT COUNT, and must be REPLAYED
5 Artificial movable objects : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ball at rest (See R. 11.1a if penalty applies) • The Flagstick • The Club used by player to make the stroke • A Ball-Marker • Assistive Mobility Device (R. 25.4k) 	Any Other Movable Obstruction such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towel • Gloves • Clubs of another player or the player's clubs – other than the club used to make the stroke • Ball in motion on PG (P. 11.1b(2)/1 (24-01-04) • Etc.
2 Persons : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The player making the stroke • The person attending the Flagstick 	Any other person – including Partner, an Opponent...
A Loose Impediment (leaves, branches, etc..) – including an insect (animal) such as a worm or spider.	Any other Animal , such as a bird, dog, fox...
. Immovable Obstruction	<div>  If the Stroke is not replayed = General Penalty – Stroke counts – but the player has not played from a Wrong Place  </div>



Rule 13.2c – Ball Resting Against Flagstick in Hole

If a player's ball comes to rest against the flagstick left in the hole:

- if any part of the ball is in the hole below the surface of the putting green, the ball is treated as holed even if the entire ball is not below the surface.
- If no part of the ball is in the hole below the surface of the putting green:
 - The ball is not holed and must be played as it lies.
 - If the flagstick is removed and the ball moves (whether it falls into the hole or moves away from the hole), there is no penalty and the ball must be replaced on the lip of the hole (see Rule 14.2).



Rule 13.3 - Ball Overhanging Hole

13.3a - Waiting Time to See if Ball Overhanging Hole Will Fall into Hole

- If any part of a player's ball overhangs the lip of the hole:
The player is **allowed a reasonable time to reach the hole** and **ten more seconds** to wait to see whether the ball will fall into the hole.
- If the ball falls into the hole in this waiting time, the player has holed out with the previous stroke.
- If the ball does not fall into the hole in this waiting time:
 - The ball is treated as being at rest
 - If the ball then falls into the hole before it is played, the player has holed out with the previous stroke BUT gets one penalty stroke added to the score for the hole.



Rule 13.3 – Ball Overhanging Hole – continued

13.3b What to Do if Ball Overhanging Hole is Lifted or Moved Before Waiting Time Has Ended

If a ball overhanging the hole is lifted or moved, other than by natural forces, before the waiting time under Rule 13.3a has ended, the ball is treated as having come to rest:

- The ball must be replaced on the lip of the hole, and
- The waiting time under Rule 13.3a no longer applies to the ball.

If the opponent in match play or another player in stroke play deliberately lifts or moves the player's ball overhanging the hole before the waiting time has ended:

- ***In match play***, the player's ball is treated as holed with the previous stroke, and there is no penalty to the opponent under rule 11.2b.
- ***In stroke play***, the player who lifted or moved the ball get the general penalty (two penalty strokes). The ball must be replaced on the lip of the hole.

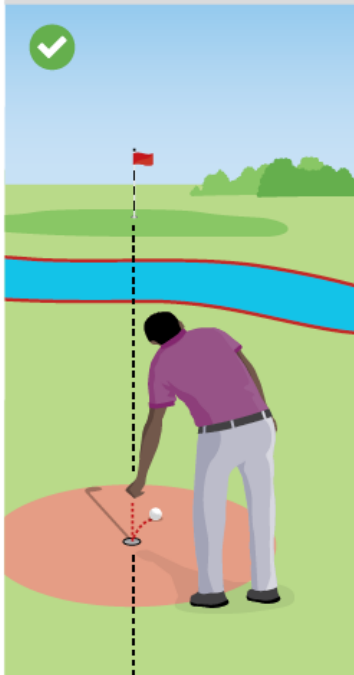


Free Relief – Rules 15 and 16

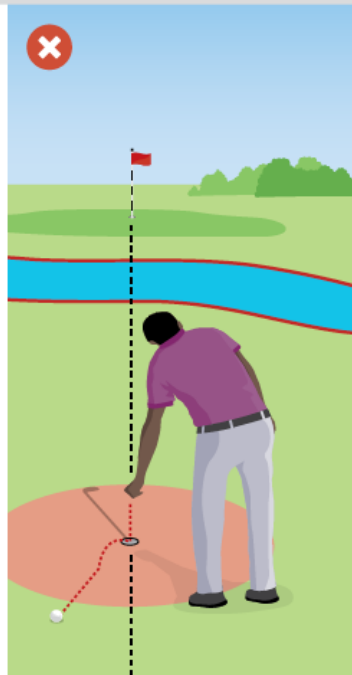
How to drop ball in relief area

Rule 18 – Stroke & distance Ball Lost or Out of Bounds;
Provisional Ball

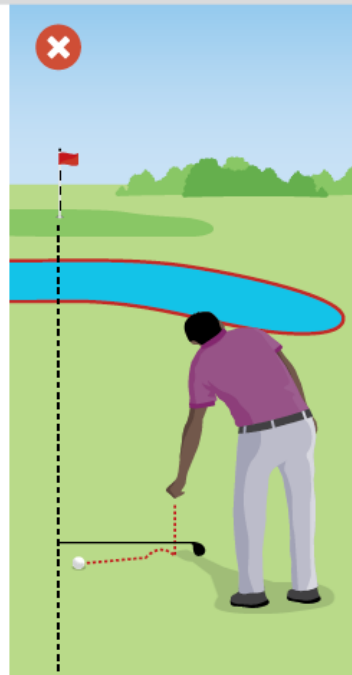
DIAGRAM #2 14.3c: DROPPING WHEN TAKING BACK-ON-THE-LINE RELIEF



The spot on the line where the ball first touches the ground when dropped creates a relief area that is one club-length in any direction from that point. The ball is dropped in the right way under Rule 14.3b and the ball comes to rest in the relief area, so the relief procedure is complete.



The ball is dropped in the right way under Rule 14.3b, but comes to rest outside the relief area, and so the ball must be dropped the right way a second time.



The ball is dropped in a wrong way as it has not been dropped on the line, and so the ball must be dropped again in the right way.





Rule 20 – Resolving Rules Issues during Round: Rulings by Referee and Committee,

Rule 20 covers what players should do when they have questions about the rules during a round, including the procedures (which differ in match play and stroke play) allowing a player to protect the right to get a ruling at a later time.

The Rule also covers the role of referees who are authorized to decide questions of fact and apply the Rules. Rulings from a referee or the Committee are binding on all players.



Rule 20.1c – Rules Issues in Stroke Play

- (1) No Right to Decide Rules Issues by Agreement
- (2) Players Should Protect Other Players in the Competition
- (3) Playing Two Balls When Uncertain What to Do
- (4) Committee Decision on Score for Hole



Match Play – Definition

A form of play where a player or side plays directly against an opponent or opposing side in a head-to-head match of one or more rounds:



Rule 3.2 Match Play

Rule 23 – Four-Ball Match Play

Match play has specific Rules (particularly about concessions and giving information about the number of strokes taken) because the player and opponent;

- Compete solely against each other on every hole
- Can see each other's play, and
- Can protect their own interests



Rule 23 – Four-Ball

Overview – Slide 1 or 2

- General Penalty – Loss of Hole
- Concession of Match, Hole or Next Stroke
- Second Ball – not allowed
- Wrong Ball
- Stopping Play
- Practice
- Information as to Strokes Taken



Rule 23 – Four-Ball – Overview – Slide 2 of 2

- Order of Play
- Teeing Area
- Ball at Rest Move by Opponent
- Ball in Motion Accidentally Hits Person or Outside Influence
- Ball or Ball-Marker Helping or Interfering with Play
- Restriction on Player Standing Behind Partner When Stroke Made
- Resolving Rules Issue During Round



Excerpt - 2024 Rules of Handicapping – Rule 3

Rule 3

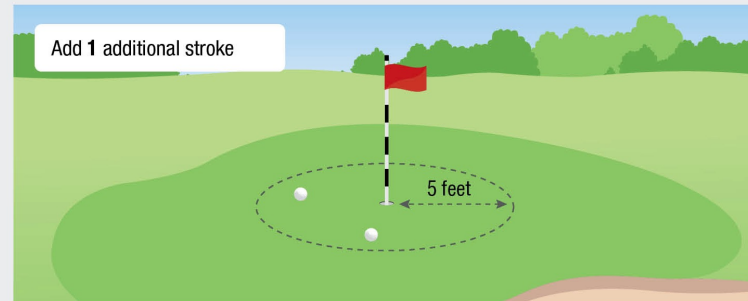
Most likely scores should be determined on any hole in accordance with the following guidelines:

Position of the Ball	Strokes to be Added
If the ball lies on the putting green, and is no more than 5 feet (1.5 metres) from the hole:	Add one additional stroke.
If the ball lies between 5 feet (1.5 metres) and 20 yards (20 metres) from the hole:	Add 2 or 3 additional strokes, depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player.
If the ball lies more than 20 yards (20 metres) from the hole:	Add 3 or 4 additional strokes, depending on the position of the ball, the difficulty of the green and the ability of the player.

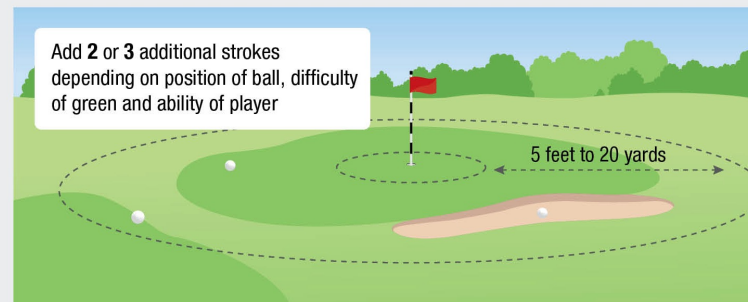
(See Diagram 3.3.)

**DIAGRAM 3.3: MOST LIKELY SCORE WHEN A HOLE IS STARTED
BUT PLAYER DOES NOT HOLE OUT**

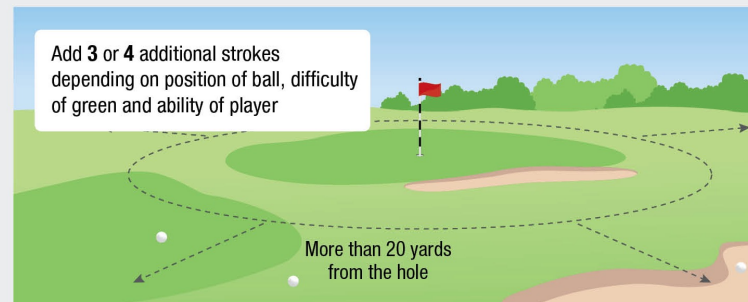
- ▼ If the ball lies on the putting green, no more than 5 feet (1.5 metres) from the hole.



- ▼ If the ball lies between 5 feet (1.5 metres) and 20 yards (20 metres) from the hole.



- ▼ If the ball lies more than 20 yards (20 metres) from the hole.





3.3/1 – Clarification of the Meaning of Most Likely Score for Handicap Posting and When It Should Be Used

A *most likely score* is used to record a player's probable score on a hole, when the hole has been started but the player did not hole out their ball. It should be a reasonable assessment of the number of strokes needed to complete the hole.

For example, in a Four-Ball match-play competition, a player's partner holes their ball from off the putting green for three. The player's ball lies 15 yards (14 metres) away from the hole in four strokes and the score for the side cannot be improved. To save time, the player may pick up and record a *most likely score* for handicap purposes.

Based on the *most likely score* guidelines, the player would record a score of six or seven for handicap purposes (four strokes taken plus two or three additional strokes).



Resources

- Download the R and A Rules of Golf 2023 App to your smartphone, tablet, or computer.
- Review the Definitions Section
- Contact your Golf Club Rules Chair or Zone Rules Chair
- Review Comparison Document



**Outcome Changes:
2019 Rules to 2023 Rules Comparison**

<https://bcgazone4.org/women>