

YOU MAKE THE CALL

Rule 12 – Bunkers and Rule 13 – Putting Greens

1. The player may repair damage to the hole on the putting green that was caused by removing the flagstick and where the dimensions of the hole have been changed.
True or False?
Answer: True. Rule 13.1c(2)
Note: The player gets the general penalty if he or she improves the putting green by taking actions that exceed what is reasonable to restore the putting green to its original condition.
2. A player's ball lies in a bunker. In making the backswing for the stroke, the club touches a solidly embedded stone in the bunker. There is no penalty.
True or False?
Answer: True. Definition of Bunker and Rule 12.2b(1)
Note: Rule 12.2b(1) states that the player may not touch the sand in making the backswing for a stroke. A solidly embedded stone is not sand.
3. A player marks, lifts and replaces his or her ball on the putting green. As the player is preparing to make a stroke, wind blows the ball into the hole. The player has holed out with his or her last stroke made before replacing the ball.
True or False?
Answer: False. Rules 9.3 Exception and 13.1d(2)
Note: The ball owns its spot after the ball has been lifted and replaced on the putting green.
4. In match play, A's plays his or her 3rd stroke and the ball comes to rest against the flagstick left in the hole with part of the ball below the surface of the putting green. B concedes A's next stroke and removes A's ball. Player A makes 4 on the hole.
True or False?
Answer: False. Rule 13.2c
Note: B cannot concede A's next stroke because the hole is over.
5. If the player's ball in motion after a stroke on the putting green is deliberately deflected by a person attending the flagstick, the player must play the ball from where the ball came to rest.
True or False?
Answer: True. Rule 13.2b(2)
Note: Rule 11.2c(2) states the stroke does not count and the original ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated) (see Rule 14.2)
6. In repairing an old hole plug on the putting green, the player presses down several spike marks near the hole plug; the player gets a penalty.
True or False?
Answer: False. Rule 13.1c(2)
Note: The player may repair old hole plugs and shoe damage on the putting green.
7. A ball is inside the edge of the bunker and rests on ground where sand would normally be; the ball is in the bunker.
True or False?
Answer: True. Rule 12.1.
Note: Examples are where a ball touches ground in a bunker where sand has been blown or washed away by wind or water, or it lies on a loose impediment, movable obstruction, abnormal course condition or integral object that touches sand in the bunker
8. Crushed shells may be used as bunker material instead of sand.
True or False?
Answer: True. Definition of Bunker.
Note: Any material similar to sand may be used as bunker material, as well as any soil that is mixed in with the sand.

9. When taking a putt with the flagstick in the hole a player must not deliberately move the flagstick to a position other than centered in the hole.
True or False?
Answer: True. Rule 13.2a(1).
Note: If a player tries to gain an advantage by deliberately moving the flagstick off center, they only get the general penalty if the ball in motion then hits the flagstick.
10. A player who accidentally strikes their ball towards the hole while making a practice swing on the putting green incurs a one stroke penalty and he or she must replace the ball.
True or False?
Answer: False. Definition of Stroke and Rule 13.1d(1).
Note: There is no penalty if a player accidentally moves their ball on the putting green, Rule 13.1d(1).
11. A ball comes to rest on an aeration hole on a putting green. The player may replace their ball to the side of the aeration hole, which is ground under repair.
True or False?
Answer: False. Definition of Ground Under Repair and Rule 13.1b
Note: An aeration hole does not fall within the definition of Ground Under Repair, so the ball must be replaced back on its original spot. Committees may introduce a temporary Local Rule that allows relief from aeration holes.
12. If a ball played from a bunker goes out of bounds, the player may not rake the area in the bunker where they will be dropping another ball under penalty of stroke and distance.
True or False?
Answer: False. Rule 12.2b(3).
Note: After a ball in a bunker is played and it is outside the bunker, the player may smooth sand anywhere in the bunker to care for the course without penalty, under Rule 8.1a.
13. A player may not deliberately test any putting green by rubbing its surface or rolling a ball on it, at any time during their round.
True or False?
Answer: False. Exception to Rule 13.1e.
Note: Between two holes, a player may rub the surface or roll a ball on the putting green of the hole just completed or any practice green, but not otherwise during a round.
14. If a player makes a stroke without authorizing anyone to attend the flagstick there is a general penalty for any player in the group who deliberately moves the flagstick to affect where the ball in motion might come to rest.
True or False?
Answer: True. Rule 13.2a(4).
Note: However, there is no penalty if a player moves the flagstick for any other reason, e.g. they reasonably believe that the ball in motion will not hit the flagstick before coming to rest or they are not aware that the player is about to play or that the ball is in motion.
15. The same Rules for taking relief from an abnormal course condition in a general area apply to taking relief from an abnormal course condition in a bunker.
True or False?
Answer: False. Rule 12.3.
Note: When a ball is in a bunker, specific relief Rules may apply when there is interference by; an abnormal course condition, Rule 16.1c; interference by a dangerous animal condition, Rule 16.2; and unplayable ball, Rule 19.