

Rule 8

Questions and Answers

1. Which of the following is an example of "fairly taking a stance" by a player?
 - A. Bending a branch of a tree with the hands to get under a tree to play a ball if that is the only way to take a stance to play the ball.
 - B. Bending with a hand a branch obscuring a ball after the stance has been taken.
 - C. Standing on a branch to prevent it interfering with the backswing.

A. 8.1b/3 and 8.1b/4
2. The Committee suspends play for bad weather. When play is ordered resumed, a player discovers that his or her ball is some distance away from its original position and the lie at the original position is naturally altered. What is the ruling?
 - A. The original ball must be played from its new position.
 - B. A ball must be placed in the nearest lie most similar to the original lie that is not more than one club-length from the original lie, not nearer the hole.
 - C. A ball must be placed on the spot from which the original ball was moved.

C. 8.1d Exception
3. A player makes a stroke at a ball that strikes a group of trees and is deflected out of bounds. The player replaces his or her divot and presses it down in addition to several others nearby. Then without any announcement, the player drops a ball on the spot from where the previous stroke was made and plays it. What is the ruling?
 - A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a penalty of two strokes.
 - C. There is a penalty of three strokes.

C. 8.1a(3) and 8.1a/8
4. A player's ball lies in some bushes and he or she fairly takes his or her stance. With the intention of making a stroke, the player starts a backswing. Before reaching the top of the backswing, the club strikes and breaks a small branch that results in an improvement to the area of the intended swing, whereupon the player discontinues the backswing. What is the ruling?
 - A. There is no penalty because the player fairly took his or her stance.
 - B. There is no penalty because the branch was broken during backswing for the stroke.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.

C. 8.1b(7)

5. In stroke play, another player purposely steps on a player's line of play on the putting green with the intention of damaging it. This action results in a deep footprint or spike mark. What is the ruling?

- A. The other player gets a penalty of two strokes; the player may restore the line to its previous condition.
- B. The other player gets a penalty of two strokes; only a Committee Member may restore the line to its previous condition; if a Committee member is not available within a reasonable time the player may do so.
- C. There is no penalty to anyone; the player may restore the line to its previous condition.

A. 8.3b and 13.c(2)

6. A player's tee shot comes to rest in an area of ground under repair in the general area, just short of a bunker that is on his or her line of play. The player takes relief behind the bunker from the abnormal course condition and the dropped ball rolls forward out of the relief area into the bunker. While walking into the bunker to retrieve the ball to drop it again, the player creates numerous footprints on his or her line of play when the ball will be dropped again in the relief area. He or she rakes the bunker to restore the bunker to its previous condition. This restoration improves conditions affecting the stroke from the relief area. What is the ruling?

- A. There is no penalty as restoring the bunker is allowed as the player was caring for the course.
- B. In restoring the bunker to its condition prior to his or her walking in the bunker, the player improved conditions affecting the stroke. Because the player was responsible for worsening the conditions, the player is not allowed to restore the bunker and gets the general penalty.
- C. Normally, a player is not allowed to restore altered conditions affecting the stroke when it was the player who altered the conditions. However, in this situation the player was required to retrieve the ball and is allowed to restore the conditions without penalty.

B. 8.1d(2)/3

7. A player tees the ball near and behind the left tee-marker but within the teeing area. Then he or she breaks a branch of a small tree not growing in the teeing area that would interfere with his or her intended right-handed stroke at the teed ball. Deciding to make a different stroke at the ball, he or she lifts the ball and tees it near and behind the right tee-marker from where the stroke is made. What is the ruling?

- A. The player is allowed to break a branch of a tree or otherwise improve the conditions affecting the stroke when playing a ball from within the teeing area.
- B. There is no penalty as the player corrected his or her mistake by re-teeing the ball in a different location and played from there.
- C. The player gets the general penalty that cannot be avoided by re-teeing the ball in a different location and playing from there.

C. 8.1a/3

8. In starting a hole, player moves a tee-marker and then makes his or her stroke from the teeing area. What is the ruling?

A. If the player improves the conditions affecting the stroke by moving a tee-marker before playing from the teeing area, he or she gets the general penalty

B. There is no penalty regardless of the reason for moving the tee-marker.

C. The player is disqualified.

A. 8.1a(1)