

Rule 9
Questions and Answers

1. In stroke play in the general area, a player is unaware that his or her ball lies in ground under repair and decides to take relief under the unplayable ball Rule (19.2). Before the player lifts the ball and unknown to the player, the wind causes it to move from point A to point B still within the ground under repair. Then realizing that the ball lies in ground under repair at B, the player lifts the ball, does not replace it at A, takes relief under the abnormal course conditions relief Rule (16.1b) for a ball at rest at B and completes the hole. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty.
 - B. There is a one-stroke penalty.
 - C. The player gets the general penalty.

A. 9.3

2. After making a stroke at his or her ball resting in the general area, a player discovers that the ball he or she played was moved onto the course by an outside influence after the ball had come to rest out of bounds. Which of the following is false?
- A. In match play, the player must correct the mistake if the discovery is made before the opponent makes his next stroke or takes a similar action.
 - B. In stroke play, the player must correct the mistake if the discovery is made before making a stroke from the next teeing area or for the final hole of the round before returning his or her scorecard.
 - C. In match play or stroke play, the player gets the general penalty for playing a wrong ball and in stroke play must correct the mistake by taking stroke-and-distance relief (Rule 18.2b) from the teeing area.

C. 9.6/4

3. Unknown to the player, his or her ball at rest on the putting green 30-feet from the hole is moved to a nearby spot farther from the hole by another player's ball played from a bunker. After the player plays his or her ball from its new position into the hole, he or she becomes aware of the facts. What is the ruling?
- A. There is no penalty and the ball is holed.
 - B. The player gets the general penalty. There is not a serious breach of the Rules and the ball is holed.
 - C. There is no penalty as the player was unaware of the movement. There is a serious breach of playing from the wrong place, the ball must be replaced and the stroke does not count.

A. 9.2a/1

4. After a good shot from the teeing area, a player's ball came to rest in the front of a divot hole in the fairway. Enraged, the player kicks the ball into some nearby bushes from which it cannot be immediately recovered. The player substitutes a new ball on the spot where the original ball lay and completes the hole with the new ball. What is the ruling?
- A. There is a penalty of one stroke.
 - B. There is a penalty of two strokes.
 - C. There is a total penalty of three strokes.

B. 9.4 General Penalty Statement and 14.2a Exception first Bullet Point

5. 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. 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.
 - C. 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.

C. 9.4b

6. In match play, a player holes a putt and, incorrectly thinking he or she has won the match, which he or she has not won, picks up the ball of his or her opponent on the putting green. What is the ruling?
- A. The player gets no penalty because the ball was on the putting green.
 - B. The player gets a penalty of one stroke for picking up the opponent's ball.
 - C. The player has conceded the hole by picking up the opponent's ball.

B. 9.5b

7. A player's ball comes to rest inside a paper cup on the putting green. Then, the wind moves the paper cup with the ball inside to a new spot. What is the ruling?
- A. The player must play the ball from its new spot since wind is not an outside influence.
 - B. The player must replace the ball and cup to where they lay before the wind blowing them.
 - C. The player must lift the ball and place it or another ball on the estimated spot right under where the ball was at rest inside the cup before the wind blowing it.

C. 9.6/1

8. In match play and during search for Player A's ball, A finds a ball and states that it is his or hers. Player B finds another ball and lifts it. A then realizes that the found ball was not in fact his or her ball and that the ball lifted by B was A's ball. What is the ruling?
- A. B gets one penalty stroke and must replace A's ball on the spot from which it was lifted by B.
 - B. Since A misled B into lifting the ball of A, in fairness, there is no penalty to anyone and the ball of A must be replaced by A.
 - C. Since the ball of A was not in fact found when B lifted A's ball, it is considered to have been accidentally moved during search and there is no penalty to B.

C. 9.5b/1

9. A player's ball is hit from the teeing area towards a wooded area beyond an area of high grass. While the player is walking in the high grass some distance from the wooded area where the ball is thought to be, the player accidentally kicks a ball. The ball is determined to be the player's ball that had struck a tree and was deflected back towards the teeing area. What is the ruling?

A. The player gets one penalty stroke for accidentally moving his or her ball and must replace the ball (Rule 9.4b).

B. There is no penalty as the ball was moved during search but it must be replaced on the estimated spot where it lay when moved (Rule 9.4b).

C. There is no penalty as the ball was moved during search; the player is not required to replace the ball (Rule 9.4b).

A. 9.4b/2