



## 2019 RULES / PENALTY AREAS

### THE COURSE

#### WHAT STAYED THE SAME?

Courses will still be marked with **red** (formerly known as a lateral hazard) & **yellow** (formerly known as a water hazard) paint and stakes.

#### WHAT'S NEW?

The term "hazard" has been removed from the Rules of Golf. These areas are now known as **red penalty areas** and **yellow penalty areas**.

A course or a committee may now choose to mark the entire course in red, always offering the option of lateral relief.

### PLAYING THE BALL

#### WHAT STAYED THE SAME?

When playing a ball from a penalty area, a player **DOES NOT** receive relief from an immovable obstruction (e.g. sprinkler head, concrete slab, foot bridge, etc.).

When playing a ball from a penalty area, a player **MAY** move movable obstructions (ex: rake, bench, bottle, etc.).

#### WHAT'S NEW?

When playing a ball from a penalty area a player **MAY**:

- Ground his/her club (including during a practice swing)
- Move loose impediments (ex: sticks, pine straw, leaves)

### RELIEF OPTIONS

#### WHAT STAYED THE SAME?

When in a penalty area (red or yellow) a player has the following relief options, each under the penalty of one stroke:

- Stroke-and-Distance Relief 17.1d(1)
  - Play from area of previous stroke
- Back-on-the-Line Relief 17.1d(2)
  - Back on the line drawn from hole to entry point of the penalty area

When in a **red penalty area**, a player has the two relief options listed above, plus a third option under the penalty of one stroke:

- Lateral Relief 17.1d(3)
  - Two club lengths from entry point, not nearer the hole

When in a penalty area (red or yellow), a player may play the ball as it lies.

#### WHAT'S NEW?

When in a **red penalty area** a player **NO LONGER** has the option of opposite side relief.

\*\*\*A committee may make a local rule allowing opposite side relief as an option.\*\*\*