

OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD RULES

Please refer to the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf to gain a thoroughly correct understanding of the topics covered here.

- **RULE 1.2b (excerpt)**
The Committee may set its own standards of player conduct in a Code of Conduct adopted as a Local Rule. ...
The Committee may also disqualify a player for serious misconduct in failing to meet the Code's standards.
- **RULE 5.5b (excerpt)**
Exception ... The player may practice putting or chipping on or near: The putting green of the hole just completed and any practice green, and The teeing area of the next hole. But such practice strokes must not be made from a bunker and must not unreasonably delay play...
- **RULE 5.5c (excerpt)**
When stroke play resumed...
The only practice that is allowed is putting or chipping on or near the putting green of the hole last competed, any practice green, or the teeing area of the next hole.
- **RULE 5.7a Interpretations (excerpt)**
Examples where the Committee is likely to disqualify a player under Rule 5.7a for stopping play include when:
The player takes shelter for rain for a significant amount of time.
- **RULE 5.7c General Interpretations (excerpt)**
...if he or she reasonably believes that there is danger from lightning. In this situation, if the player's belief is reasonable, the player is the final judge. ...If the Committee has ordered a resumption of play ... If a player refuses because he or she believes there is still danger, the Committee may conclude that the player's belief is unreasonable and he or she may be disqualified under Rule 5.7c

- RULE 6.1/1 General Interpretation (excerpt)
What to Do When One or Both Tee-Markers Are Missing
... the player should use his or her reasonable judgement...
to estimate the location of the teeing area.
... the player's reasonable judgement of the location of the teeing area will be accepted even if later shown to be wrong...
- RULE 9.2b(2) (excerpt)
The player,... is treated as having caused the ball to move only if it is known or virtually certain to be the cause. ... If it is not known or virtually certain ... the ball is treated as having been moved by natural forces.
- RULE 10.2a Advice (excerpt)
During a round a player must not:
 - Give advice to any one in the competition who is playing on the course.

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Definitions

Examples of when comments or actions are considered advice and are not allowed include:

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 - While a player is setting up to hit his or her shot over a large penalty area filled with water, another player in the group comments, "You know the wind is in your face and it's 250 yards to carry that water?"

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Penalty for Breach of Rule 10.2: General Penalty [two strokes]
- RULE 20.1c(3) (excerpt)
Playing Two Balls When Uncertain What to Do
The player should chose which ball will count if the Rules allow...
by announcing that choice to his or her marker or to another player before making a stroke.

If the player does not chose in time, the ball played first is treated as the ball chosen by default.

The player must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before retuning the scorecard, even if the player scores the same with both balls. The player is disqualified if he or she fails to do so.

- RULE 20.2e(2) (excerpt)
Disqualifying Players After Result...Final
The Committee may also disqualify a player under Rule 1.2 (serious misconduct) after the completion has closed.