

# GOLF AUSTRALIA RULES

## NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2014



GolfAustralia



## Rules on Tour

**By Tom Duguid**

(Editor, GA National Referee and part-time PGA Tour Referee)

In a previous edition I gave an outline of the role of a referee at a professional or major amateur tournament, particularly in regards to preparation and giving rulings. This time we will cover the other important aspect of refereeing – that of Pace of Play. In fact, most of a referee's time on the course is spent observing, monitoring, recording and managing the progress of the field.

In the days leading up to a major event, the Chief Referee or Tournament Director will draw up a schedule that will hopefully enable play to be completed by a certain time. This time may be prompted by television deadlines, available daylight, presentations or some other factor. Pro events use a detailed timing schedule which lists where each group should be after each hole. The referees make a note on their schedule as to a group's status to the schedule (be it under, square or over) as it passes through his or her zone. A group is deemed to have

completed the hole when all players have holed out and the flag is placed in the hole.

The schedule is arrived at by considering several aspects of each hole – its length, its playing difficulty and if there is a significant walk from the previous green. Naturally the schedule for groups of two is somewhat less than groups of three. The times usually allocated to holes in threes are – Par 3, 11-13 minutes; Par 4, 14 -16 minutes; Par 5, 15-18 minutes. For a championship course this usually comes up with a total time of between 4 hours 20 and 4 hours 30. Unfortunately the days of 4 hour rounds have passed us!

Although a schedule has been set, it is important that the first few groups are somewhat under the schedule as we know that it is inevitable that delays will occur throughout the day. Therefore, when making up the draw an experienced tournament director will usually ensure that notoriously slow players are not in the lead-off groups nor are they grouped together elsewhere. These days most major events use two-tee starts with am and pm blocks. In this regard it is vital that sufficient time

### Autumn 2014: In this edition



#### Pace of Play

Editor & Referee Tom Duguid explains timing and pace of play on tour



#### Does your golf ball conform?

The R&A provides some advice of golf ball rules and conformance testing



#### Ask the Referee

PGA Tour Director of Tournaments Andrew Langford-Jones talks about his experiences as a Tour Referee





is allowed between the two blocks, taking into account the likelihood of some delays. This ideally allows the afternoon groups a few vacant holes to play into, creating a fresh start to the schedule rather than having compounding delays that one-tee starts incurred.

It is also vital to allow adequate intervals between groups – 10 minute intervals are used for groups of three and 9 minutes for groups of two in Tour events. For club competitions in which the average

player hits the ball shorter distances, slightly lesser intervals may be appropriate. The use of larger starting intervals and/or a few starter's gaps in the draw are also helpful whenever possible. However many an event has been marred by organizers cramming too many players into the field thus creating five plus hour rounds!

Now having been given your timing schedule and all other essential items of equipment and literature, you are off to take up your allocated role. As a walker with a group in a stroke event, you will have been instructed in advance on how to handle pace of play. It is usual that you take note of your group's progress and only report to the rovers if you are "out of position". In PGA Tour events, "out of position" is defined as being over the schedule and more than the starting interval behind the group in front. The rovers will then determine the next course of action.

This is where teamwork is important. By regular communication between themselves and the walkers, the rovers are able to pinpoint the cause of any trouble and work out a strategy to fix it if possible. Sometimes, particularly in very bad weather, it is impossible to get the

field back on schedule and the rules team can only do its best to just keep things moving. It may well be that although your group is out of position, two holes on there is a delay on a long Par 3 hole. Nothing upsets players more than being hunted along only to then have to wait at a hole or two further on! In a case like this, a "call-up" may be introduced on the par 3 until the log jam is rectified.

If however the field beyond you is travelling well, the rovers may get you to ask the group to "help us out" by closing the gap over the next few holes. If this does not eventuate, the rovers are likely to step in and make a stronger plea for some urgency. If there is no obvious reaction from the group, it may find itself "on the clock" which means that each player is being timed by a rover on each stroke. The time allowed by the PGA Tour of Australasia is :-

50 seconds on a "first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt", or

40 seconds for a tee shot on a Par 4 or Par 5 or "second or third to play shot".

The Tour's penalties for breaches within a round are – One bad time = official warning: Two bad times = One stroke penalty and a fine: Three bad times = Two strokes penalty and a bigger fine: Four bad times = Disqualification.

Timing starts when it is clearly the player's turn to play after giving time to clear loose impediments and a few seconds to determine yardage. Discretion will usually be given if the player's ball is in a difficult or unusual position. As timing usually has the desired effect, it is also useful to inform the group following that a group is being timed so that it keeps up with the expected surge.

Note 2 to Rule 6-7 provides for a Committee to establish pace of play guidelines including maximum periods of time allowed to complete a stipulated round, hole or stroke. The Note recommends a slightly different penalty structure than the one currently used by the Tour.

## Golf Ball Rules & Conformance Testing - Q&A



**Courtesy of The R&A Website - [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org)**

What are the specifications relating to the golf ball? What is the List of Conforming Golf Balls? Do practice and refurbished golf balls conform to the Rules? Claire Bates (The R&A's Assistant Director – Equipment Standards) explains:

**What are the Rules on golf balls?**

Rule 5 requires players to use golf balls which conform to the Rules of Golf, and all of the applicable specifications can be found in Appendix III. These Rules are generally concerned with limiting the performance of the ball – i.e. how far it can travel and how much energy is lost during impact. There are also limits on minimum size, maximum weight and the ball must be designed to be symmetrical.

In addition to the above performance related specifications, the ball is also required to be traditional and customary in form and make.

**How do golfers know that their golf ball conforms to the Rules?**

The truth is that most golfers probably don't know for sure whether their golf ball conforms, but they generally trust that it does. They trust that manufacturers are only producing and selling products which conform to the Rules.

For the most part, manufacturers do only produce products which conform to the Rules.

The added wrinkle is that, for competitions involving expert golfers (e.g. at the professional or elite amateur game), the golf ball the player uses must not only conform to the Rules of Golf, but it must also appear on the List of Conforming Golf Balls. This is a condition of competition that can be introduced by the Committee (see the Note to Rule 5-1 and Appendix I, Part C, 1b).

**Could you explain more about the purpose of the List of Conforming Golf Balls and the associated condition?**

The existence of the Conforming Ball condition and the List of Conforming Golf Balls provides an added layer of comfort to those Committees in charge of elite level events, as it helps to ensure that the balls being used have been submitted for testing and they have been determined to conform. Without this condition and without the List, there would be no way of knowing for sure, and in a timely fashion, whether or not a ball conforms to the Rules should a query or claim be raised.

While it is generally possible to tell whether a golf club conforms to the Rules on inspection or by performing various tests available in the field, it is impossible to determine just by looking at a ball whether or not it conforms to the Rules.

**How do balls get listed?**

In order for a ball to appear on the Conforming List, two dozen samples must be submitted for testing, together with a completed submission form and the appropriate payment.

Assuming all of this paperwork is in order, the product is then logged into our system and allocated a decision reference number. One of our main challenges with golf balls is that, outwardly, the sole method of distinguishing one model of ball from another is via the markings which have been printed onto the cover. With this in mind, before a ball can be accepted for testing, the identification markings must be inspected to ensure that they are unique and that they are clearly identifiable by description and colour alone.

Once this processing is completed, the product goes on to be tested for size, weight, initial velocity, overall distance and symmetry. All of our test protocols for these tests can be found at [www.randa.org/en/Equipment/Protocols-and-Procedures](http://www.randa.org/en/Equipment/Protocols-and-Procedures). All tests conducted on balls submitted to The R&A are carried out by the United States Golf Association.

Assuming that the ball satisfies the requirements set forth within these test protocols and the requirement that it is deemed to be of traditional form and make, the ball will be included on the next updated List.

#### **How long does this process take?**

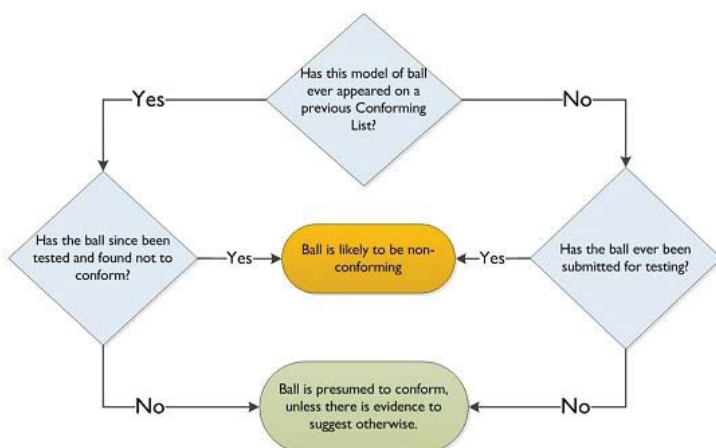
The whole process, from start to finish, usually takes about six weeks, but can take longer during busier times. Manufacturers receive a schedule of deadline dates at the start of the annual cycle.

The List is updated on the first Wednesday of every month and can be accessed at <http://www.randa.org/en/Equipment/Equipment-Search/Balls>.

All being equal, a model of golf ball remains on the List for a year. In order for a model to remain on the List longer, the manufacturer is required to resubmit further samples using the same submission process as before. If the manufacturer decides not to resubmit, the ball expires from the List, but it would still be presumed to be a conforming ball (see below).

#### **What is the status of a ball which is not on the List?**

The following flowchart below should help answer this question:



It should be remember that even if a ball is "presumed to conform", if it is not on the Conforming List, then it must not be used in any competitions where the condition is in use. The ball may be used in all events where the condition is not in use, e.g. Club level medals and competitions.

#### **How does the List cope with customised markings?**

We are aware that there are many ways in which a golfer can obtain customised balls. They can be purchased as souvenirs from trips, they can be gifts from suppliers or they may have been personalised - with a decorative image, initials or name. The balls sometimes used by Tiger Woods have the name "Tiger" printed on the seam; Ryo Ishikawa has sometimes had an image of his face!

In general, such logos are not regarded as identification markings – and the ball would be considered to be the same model of ball as that included on the List.

#### **What is the status of "X-out," "refurbished" and "practice" balls?**

Decision 5-1/4 in Decisions on the Rules of Golf provides the answer to this question as follows:

"X-out" is the common name used for a golf ball that a manufacturer considers to be imperfect (usually for aesthetic reasons only, e.g., paint or printing errors) and, therefore, has crossed out the brand name. A "refurbished" golf ball is a second-hand ball that has been cleaned and stamped as "refurbished."

In the absence of strong evidence to suggest that an "X-out" or "refurbished" ball does not conform to the Rules, it is permissible for such a ball to be used. However, in a competition where the Committee has adopted the condition that the ball the player plays must be named on the List of Conforming Golf Balls (see Note to Rule 5-1), such a ball may not be used, even if the ball in question (without the X's or without the "refurbished" stamp) does appear on the List.

In most cases, "practice" balls are simply listed, conforming golf balls that have been stamped "Practice," in the same way that golf balls often feature a club or company logo. Such balls may be used even where the Committee has adopted the condition that the ball the player plays must be named on the List of Conforming Golf Balls.

#### **If the same model of ball is produced with different coloured covers, are they considered to be the same ball?**

While the design and construction of the ball may be the same, for the purpose of the Conforming List, these balls are considered to be different models and, as such, they are listed separately. This is only really relevant for competitions when, not only is the Conforming Ball condition in use, but also the One Ball Condition.

The One Ball condition requires the player to play with the same model of ball, as detailed by a single entry on the List, during a stipulated round.



# Ask the Referee: Andrew Langford-Jones

Courtesy of The R&A Website - [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org)



*In the final instalment of our short series interviewing some of the top referees in the game, this month it is the turn of Andrew Langford-Jones (Director of Tournaments, PGA Tour of Australasia) to answer your questions, and to share his vast knowledge and experience of refereeing.*

## **How did you get started in refereeing?**

Unlike most Rules referees I became involved more by accident than choice. I became involved back in 1988 when the Director of Tournaments for the Australasian PGA Tour, Trevor Herden, rang me up and asked if I would be interested in helping. Basically he needed another set of eyes on course to assist with pace of play. I enjoyed the experience so much it was not long before I had read the Rule book from cover to cover and with the practical experience I soon became a fulltime Rules Official on the Tour. In 2002 Trevor moved on and I now hold the position that he previously held. Trevor now holds the position of Director of Championships for Golf Australia.

## **What do you enjoy most and least about your job?**

Most. Working with elite sportsmen in any area is great fun and being involved on a day to day basis with the best in your field is a most rewarding experience. The people I have met in this job are also extraordinary. Apart from the golfers I have also been lucky enough to meet people from all walks of life and other sports. People such as Nelson Mandela, Princess Diana, Prince Andrew, three American Presidents, sportsmen such as Jordon, Botham, Ponting, and of course several Australian Prime Ministers. The list goes on. Golf is a great equaliser.

Least. Definitely the travel and hotel rooms and the time spent away from the family. Often people will remark to me that I have the best job in the world. Maybe I have, but at times the thought of another hotel or plane trip is quite depressing.

## **Are you a good golfer? Does it help to be a good golfer to be a good referee?**

Good is Tiger, Scott and McIlroy. Alright golfer is probably a more appropriate term to describe my ability. I have always managed to keep a single figure handicap and while I don't think it is totally necessary, it does help in assessing whether a player's shot is reasonable or not. Well, in theory it should.

I remember back in my early days I had a ruling with Jean Van de Velde. After assessing all the information at hand I denied him relief on the basis I did not believe his choice of shot was reasonable under the circumstances. Jean wanted to hit a shot through a small hole in the tree canopy. I denied him and Jean went ahead and played the perfect shot. As he left the area he turned, pointed at me, and said, "Don't you ever put your ability on my shot again." I have never forgotten that moment. These guys are so good that perhaps if I had been a slightly better golfer I might have had the imagination to see the shots that they do.

## **What do you think are the most challenging aspects of refereeing?**

The Rules are so complex that it is always a challenge to keep on top of the changes. At most Major events there is usually a debate at some stage during the week involving perhaps the top twenty Rules people from all over the world and often they can't agree what is the right ruling, so how can we mortals be expected to have the right answers at hand all the time.

The other challenge is make sure you have the ability to think outside the square or laterally. For example we have all walked into an area that has a white line around it and thought GUR when a simple drop from casual water within the GUR might be the better option for the player.

## **What is your favourite memory from your refereeing career to date?**

Clearly the 2007 Presidents Cup in Montreal. The two teams were relatively close with only the single matches to be played. As luck would happen I was drawn to referee match number four. Out came the names, Tiger Woods representing the USA and Mike Weir the Internationals. Now Tiger was clearly number 1 in the world but Mike, being Canada's only Major winner was clearly the hometown favourite. It was estimated in the papers the following day that twenty thousand people followed that match in what turned out to be one of the all time great matches, with Mike Weir winning one up on the 18th. The atmosphere was amazing and after the nerves died down on about the fourth I actually enjoyed it, although I must admit when Tiger conceded the match on the 18th green I was very relieved it did not have to go down the 19th. My observer that day was R&A Chief Executive Peter Dawson, one of the truly great men of our sport.

## **What do you carry on the golf course with you when you are refereeing?**

Good question. The answer depends on whether I'm walking or in a cart.

When I walk I like to carry as little as possible. Definitely a Rule Book and a copy of the Local Rules and a radio for communication purposes. A watch and "gotcha" or box of dental floss (for measuring) is also very handy. If I'm in a cart I tend to load up with everything. Wet weather gear, umbrella, shower cap to cover my paper work on the steering wheel in case of rain. Timing sheets, band aids, pocket knife, shoe polish, stop watch, binoculars, etc.

No one has ever been able to prove or disprove that John Paramor (Chief Referee on the European Tour) even has an old kitchen sink in that famous bag he always carries out on course. The one thing I can confirm is that John has never been confronted by a problem on course that he couldn't solve by dipping into that bag of his.

## **Your most embarrassing or funniest moment?**

My most embarrassing moment is easy. It occurred at the Open Championship at Carnoustie in 2007. It was the second round and I had been given the Phil Mickelson match. At the time Phil was ranked number two in the world.

On the second hole Phil carved it way right onto a grassy bank. After searching for four and a half minutes a spectator found a ball plugged in the long grass. Phil asked if he could identify the ball to which I said yes. After confirming it was his ball he looked at me and asked, "nearest point"; to which I answered yes. Now this is where the embarrassment starts. Fifty one weeks out of fifty two the Professional Tours of the world play embedded ball through the green. At the Open Championship we play embedded ball only on closely mown areas. As the ball left his hand, like a sledge hammer, it occurred to me that this two foot high grass was not closely mown. Now I had to inform Phil that I had erred and the ball would

have to be replaced in the original pitch mark. After a short discussion as to whether the ball should be played from its new position or not Phil agreed the ball should be replaced.

This was only the beginning. Now faced with an unplayable lie he chose to drop within two club lengths onto a step path leading from the green to the next tee. He dropped it twice and both times it rolled closer to the hole so finally he placed it at the point where his second drop struck the course. Phil then walked down onto the green and I melted into the crowd grateful to finally be hidden from the all-telling TV cameras.

The ball however, not content to end my embarrassment at that point, then decided to follow Phil down onto the green, some five yards away. As the ball had been stationary for some time it now had to be played from its new position on the green. As I explained this to Phil I could feel the glare of 400 million pairs of eyes, watching worldwide on TV.

The moral of the story is that if you are going to stuff up, do not do it at the Open Championship with 400 million people watching on television. That is embarrassing.

My funniest moment involved Niclas Fasth at the New Zealand Open when with three holes to go Niclas' ball finished in the lap of a very attractive lady at the rear of the green. When I arrived Niclas wanted to know his options. I informed him of his options finishing with, "of course you can play the ball as it lies, but if you choose to do so, I am sure this young lady would appreciate you taking a very shallow divot." The crowd erupted in laughter and judging from the phone calls the television audience appreciated the humorous side of the situation as well. Unfortunately Niclas did not and expressed his opinion forthwith. Luckily for me he went on and won the title in a playoff.

#### ***If you could change any Rule of Golf what would it be?***

Rule 18. Ball at Rest Moved. With modern equipment greenkeepers all over the world are striving to get their greens harder and faster. That's fine, except occasionally the ball when laying on these super quick greens may move a dimple or two. Unless the player at address actually touches the ball and causes it to move I would allow the ball to be replaced without penalty.

I am and always have been a great believer that the player who has the least number of hits should win the tournament. Tournaments should not be decided by technical penalties.

#### ***What has been your most difficult ruling?***

An example of the above caused me great difficulty some years back when Peter O'Malley walked into the scorers' hut and asked the scorer to check his card. While this was happening Peter left the scoring area and went to his bag outside to retrieve his watch and wallet. Upon returning to the scoring hut he was informed that he had been disqualified for not signing his card. At no time was it Peter's intention to leave the area or not sign his card, he merely left the hut to retrieve his watch and wallet while the scorers checked his card. The arguments for and against disqualification lasted well into the night before I finally declared it a Committee error in not defining the scorers' area properly.

#### ***Any tips for budding referees?***

Almost as important as Rules knowledge is "people skills". When I first started doing Rules back in the eighties we were instructed to ask, "Under what Rule are you seeking relief?" It didn't take me long to refine that approach when several players informed me that they had no idea what rule was involved except they needed help.

Now we approach with a more subtle line such as, "Hello mate. How can I help you?"

Try it. Rules officials are not the enemy and should not take the role of



policeman. We are there to help the players and in doing so protect the integrity of the field and the game.

#### ***What is your thought process when a player asks you for relief from a damaged area of the course that has not been marked as ground under repair?***

One of the great rules men of the modern era Mike Shea from the US PGA Tour once said, "Being a Rules Official involves hours and hours of complete and utter boredom interspaced with moments of blind panic."

When I work overseas, rulings such as these become much more difficult, for the last thing you want is to give relief that has not been taken by earlier players in the round. What we all try to do is obtain knowledge from the rest of the Match Committee early in the week to ascertain what is the rule or standard for the week with regard to damaged areas.

It is impossible to always mark every bit of GUR. There will always be something that we miss. Courses also change during the week. Sometimes this occurs due to weather and at other times due to vehicle or foot traffic.

My advice is to always contact your fellow rules team first to ascertain if anyone else has had a ball in the area concerned and secondly what action was taken on that occasion. Consistency is what we are trying to achieve.

Once relief has been given from such an area the area should immediately be marked so that no future problems arise in the area.

#### ***What preparation do you do in advance of attending a tournament?***

Prior to leaving home I try and ascertain the type of course we will be working at. For example if it has plenty of water I read up on the hazard rules etc. If it's a match play event study your rules specifically dealing with match play issues.

Check the forecast and pack your bag accordingly. Always make sure your rules book is packed. Contact the Chief Referee for the week and see if a copy of the local rules is available.

When you arrive the first thing is to do a survey of the course to note any potential problem areas and discuss these with your fellow officials as to how they are going to be treated. I always scan the draw to note any potential slow groups that may need potential attention.

# It's Your Shot!

In the previous edition we asked readers to send in an article for publication on any rules topic – an incident you dealt with, a query you may have, a topic you would like featured or the like.

The inaugural winner is Louise Purcell who sent in the letter and photo below regarding her experience while officiating at the 2014 Oates Women's Victorian Open at Thirteenth Beach Golf Club, Barwon Heads. She wins a dozen Titleist balls and a Titleist cap.

Louise is a member at Green Acres and The National Golf Clubs and plays off 11. She did the Club Level Rules course in about 2010 then State Level Accreditation in 2012, and has taken every opportunity to referee since including the last 2 Vic Opens and pennant season. A retired naval officer and theatre nurse, she is an inveterate traveller, off-shore sailor and navigator.

## **Louise relates -**

After a fairly uneventful but busy first three rounds I was winding down with the second nine remaining on the Beach Course on Sunday morning. Phillis Meti, a delightful New Zealand professional, with dad Raz on the bag, hit her third shot on the 18th (her ninth hole), straight into the open flaps of The Beach Club hospitality marquee behind the green.

After calling 'fore' I heard the ball ricochet like a pinball and quickly ran through the TIO mantra in my mind. In, on, under, behind, more than one less than two, on direct line to hole and on line of play etc, etc. Thank goodness for downloading and studying all those diagrams. ....I felt ready!

Wondering where the ball had actually come to rest, we walked towards the tent with some trepidation. Thankfully on arrival there were few patrons and the staff were all unharmed.

As luck would have it the very experienced National referee Brian Lasky was on the scene when we arrived. I quietly said, 'would you like to take this?', or something similar. The nearest point of relief was smoothly and calmly established outside the tent. That area was hard-

packed fine black dirt. The player chose not to take relief and decided to play off the carpet about a metre inside the clear plastic back wall. We now had a 270 degree gallery. Several bar stools and tables were pulled aside and she chipped back through the marquee entrance to the front apron, then back on the green for 5, then had two putts for a 7.

I heard several mutterings from the gallery with regard to how unfair it was that she had to play from the tent!!

It was all accomplished with minimal delay and we still actually had to wait a short time on the first tee to hit off. Refereeing my second Vic Open was a great experience, but this incident will remain a highlight.

## **We also received an interesting query from Ian Wise from Benalla, Victoria.**

"Here is an interesting situation that occurred recently whilst playing a stroke round at our local club.

One member of our group was putting for birdie on the green. Another member of the group was tending the flag stick. As the ball got close to the hole the person with the flag stick endeavoured to remove it however it broke and left the bottom 30cm of the stick in the hole. The ball duly rolled into the hole and hit the remaining part of the flagstick. What is the decision?"

Well, we referred this to David Greenhill, Chief Operating Officer of Golf Victoria, who replied as follows –

"The answer to the question is that the player would still be penalised as per Rule 17-3. The flagstick piece left in the hole doesn't lose its status/definition as a flagstick just because of the breakage."

Many thanks to Ian and David. We look forward to receiving further input for the Winter issue – It's Your Shot. Another nice prize will be awarded to the best contribution. Just send it to [rulesnewsletter@golf.org.au](mailto:rulesnewsletter@golf.org.au). By the way, we did not get an answer to the query posed in the last issue about the opponent finding his ball in the trees!!!



Phillis Meti plays from inside tent at Oates Vic Open

# Rules Quiz

**By Brian Nesbitt**

(Victorian State Level Referee)

*Answers can be found on the back page*

**Club Level, No Rule Book Quiz – Rule Numbers Please.**

**The key here is to try to learn Pages 2 and 3 in the Rule Book**

1. Lifting Dropping Placing
2. Practice
3. Information as to Strokes Taken
4. Order of Play
5. Ball at Rest Moved
6. Abnormal Ground Conditions
7. Loose Impediments
8. Striking the Ball
9. Wrong Ball
10. Putting Green

**Club Level, you may use the Rule Book if necessary here, but I want the Rule number and sub-paragraph as well please.**

1. Assistance. Positioning of Caddie or Partner behind the ball
2. Ball in Hazard. Prohibited Actions
3. Ball in Motion deflected by Opponent's Equipment
4. Lifting Ball for Identification
5. Playing from Outside the Teeing Ground (Match play)
6. Information as to Strokes Taken. Match Play. Wrong Information
7. Ball Interfering with Play
8. Movable Obstruction
9. Unplayable Ball
10. Ball Not Found within Five Minutes

**Club Level – True or False**

1. If your ball is lying on the fairway, you may remove cut grass adhering to the ball.
2. A ball is outside the teeing ground when any part of it lies outside the teeing ground.
3. Sand and loose soil are loose impediments anywhere on the course.
4. The line of putt does not extend beyond the hole.
5. A player approaches his ball in a bunker and finds that the group in front has dropped a scorecard in the bunker and his ball lies next to the scorecard: the player may remove the scorecard.

**Now for a Hole with our Intrepid Heroines – Brunhilde and Clarissa. Please count the strokes and any penalties involved in each paragraph by Brunhilde and check your score for the hole at the end.**

***Brunhilde and Clarissa's Matchless Stroke Play***

1. Brunhilde stood on the first tee in the Monthly Medal and spanked a magnificent drive straight down the middle of the fairway. Clarissa looked up in horror to discover that Brunhilde had teed off from the wrong tee markers. Nervously she pointed out the error and suggested that there might be a penalty. Clarissa then played a rather weak drive down the middle some 50 metres behind Brunhilde's effort. Brunhilde then teed another ball from the correct teeing ground and, under the circumstances, hit a decent shot which caught the bunker on the edge of the fairway.
2. Clarissa approached her ball with some trepidation, but managed to hit a decent shot down in front of the green. Brunhilde's ball was near the back of the bunker and on her backswing she struck the sandy wall of the bunker as she hit her ball onto the green. "Great shot", said Clarissa, from some distance away.
3. Clarissa hit her pitch quite well and it rolled to within a metre of the pin. Brunhilde, still seething at her error in the bunker, dropped her marker onto her ball from about 20 cm and the ball moved. She replaced her ball and sank the putt. Clarissa rolled her putt in for a neat four, and said sweetly, "I think that's a four Brunhilde, how many were you?"

**This next Section will require the use of the Decisions Book and is aimed at State Level Referees. Ideally we want a decision within 3 minutes.**

1. In a match, A holes a putt and, thinking that he has won the match, picks up B's ball. B then advises A that he (B) had a putt to win the hole. Did A concede B's next stroke when he picked up B's ball?
2. In a match, A holed out and stated to B, his opponent, that he had scored a 4. B, having played 4 strokes, picked up his ball assuming he had lost the hole. A then realised that he had scored a 5. He immediately told B of his error. You are called.
3. In a match, A's ball was a few centimetres from the hole. B asked A, "How many will that be in the hole?" A answered, "6", whereupon B, lying 5, conceded A's next stroke. Before B putted, A informs B that he (A) had actually scored 5. You are called.
4. In a match between A and B, A's ball was 10 centimetres from the hole. B conceded A's next stroke and then asked, "How many strokes did you take?" A answered, "6", B lying 5, then holed a putt for a 6 and assumed he had halved the hole. At that point, A told B that he (A) had actually scored 5. The Committee ruled that A won the hole. Was this correct?
5. In a match, player A gives incorrect information to his opponent B and the incorrect information results in the opponent B lifting the coin marking the position of his ball. Is the lifting of the coin by the opponent B the equivalent of the opponent making his next stroke?

# Tee it Up

Since the first edition in 2011, Golf Australia has distributed almost 30,000 copies of the publication "Tee it Up – A Guide to Club Golf."

The booklet is a component of the National Rules Accreditation & Education Programs Framework. Endorsed by Golf Management Australia, the Australian Golf Course Superintendents' Association and all State Associations, the publication provides the following information:

- Common Golf Terms
- A Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf
- Local Rules and Competition Conditions
- Handicapping
- Etiquette and Dress Code
- Pace of Play
- How Various Competitions are Played and How to Mark a Score Card

Filled with diagrams and photos, the 50-page booklet is a useful resource for clubs and new club members to have on hand when that tricky question arises.

Golf Australia has just released the 'Third Edition' of the booklet. Copies start from \$2.00 per book and an order form can be found at the following link - [www.golf.org.au/default.aspx?s=publications](http://www.golf.org.au/default.aspx?s=publications)



## Rules Quiz Answers

### Club Level Quiz - Rule Numbers

1. Rule 20
2. Rule 7
3. Rule 9
4. Rule 10
5. Rule 18
6. Rule 25
7. Rule 23
8. Rule 14
9. Rule 15
10. Rule 16

### Club Level Quiz using Rule Book

1. Rule 14-2b
2. Rule 13-4
3. Rule 19-3
4. Rule 12-2
5. Rule 11-4a
6. Rule 9-2b
7. Rule 22-2
8. Rule 24-1
9. Rule 28
10. Rule 27-1c

### Club Level – True or False

1. False. Definition of Loose Impediment, and Rule 21- one stroke penalty
2. False. Definition of Teeing ground.

3. False. Definition of Loose Impediment.
4. True. Definition of Line of Putt
5. True. Definition of Obstruction and Rule 24-1

### A hole with Brunhilde and Clarissa:

1. One stroke. Two penalties. Rule 11-4
  2. One stroke. Two penalties. Rule 13-4 and Decision 13-4/34
  3. One stroke. One penalty. Rule 18-2a and see Decision 20-1/15
- Total: 3 Strokes and 5 Penalty strokes - Total 8 Strokes**

### Decisions Book Answers

1. Decision 2-4/4. No. A incurred a penalty stroke under Rule 18-3b; B must replace his ball and now has two putts to win the hole.
2. Decision 9-2/6. A gave wrong information as to the number of strokes taken and, under the principle of Rule 9-2, A would normally lose the hole. However, since A had holed out for no worse than a half, the hole was halved – see Rule 2-2. (In colloquial English: once you've got a half, you can't lose it.)
3. Decision 9-2/7. A loses the hole for giving wrong information under Rule 9-2. The principle of Rule 9-2 applies if, after giving incorrect information, a player picks up his ball, concedes his opponent's next stroke or takes some other action before the mistake is corrected. In this case, the answer does not turn on how close A's ball was to the hole or on the fact that B could not have done any better.
4. Decision 9-2/14. Yes. The hole was over when A's putt was conceded and he had won the hole with a 5. Since A corrected the error before either played from the next tee, no penalty was incurred – See Rule 9-2.
5. Decision 9-2/5. Yes. The player loses the hole.

