



NEW RULES OF GOLF 2019

Adopted by the Commission Sportive du Golf de Barthe

Drop

All drops must be made from knee height (standing position), and no longer from shoulder height.

Double Hits

The penalty for having touched the ball twice during the same stroke (as can arise when chipping) is abolished. In case of a double hit, the player counts just one shot.

Bunker

It is possible to remove loose impediments from the bunker, or even to touch the sand with the club or the hand, without incurring any penalty. However, in order to preserve the challenge of playing from the bunker, it remains forbidden to place the club in the immediate proximity of the ball (either behind or in front of the ball) in playing the shot.

Bunker players may elect to play from behind the bunker with two penalty shots

For a player playing from a bunker, a new option is proposed whereby the player can decide to declare the ball unplayable. In this case the player can play his next stroke from behind the bunker (in line with the ball position in the bunker and the flag), adding two penalty shots to his score.

Water Hazard The removal of loose impediments or the touching of the water or ground in the water hazard is no longer the subject of a penalty. The commission / owners are authorised to identify a larger number of areas as “penalty areas” - sand / jungle / volcanic rocks - and to determine such

areas as lateral water hazards (red stakes), allowing lateral relief. This will ease the shot and accelerate the speed of play.

Pace of Play

The time for looking for a lost ball will from now on be 3 minutes, in place of the previous limit of 5 minutes, and each player will from now on have 40 seconds to play his shot. This measure, it is hoped, will accelerate the pace of play.

Lost ball and out-of-bounds

A local rule may permit a drop in these circumstances. Until now in the case of a lost ball or ball out-of-bounds, one was obliged to apply a penalty of "shot and distance", i.e return to the point of the preceding shot and add a penalty shot to the score. From now on, if the local rule is adopted by the golf club, the player has additionally the option to take a drop ball, in adding two penalty shots to the score, at the nearest point where the ball was lost or went out-of-bounds. This might, for example, be on the nearest fairway

Ball in Motion accidentally hits Person or Outside Influence

There will no longer be any penalty if a player's ball hits the player, his opponent, their equipment or their caddies.

Relief from hazards

Yellow Stakes - one club length behind the estimated point of entry to the hazard, or without limit behind the hazard without reference to the point of entry, or from the originating point of the stroke; **with one penalty shot**

Red Stakes as for yellow staked hazards, with the additional possibility of lateral relief of two club lengths; **with one penalty shot**

DISPUTES

In case of dispute, note the estimated score on the card, note also the score given by your opponent. The final decision will be determined by the scorers, and not on-course.