

# A Monopoly Mulligan

By Richard E. Todd,  
The Golf Rules Guy

Last weekend my wife and I were playing a serious game of Monopoly, there was money on the line. As she counted the spaces for her token, the shoe, it landed on 'Go To Jail.'

Without asking for permission she stated, "I'm going to roll again."

"No way," I demanded. "Play your roll."

To that, she stared me down and responded, "**Fine, but no more mulligans when we're on the golf course. Play your shot and take your lumps.**"

Wow, what an insult to me and the game of golf.

Why do we, as golfers, feel it's acceptable to bend the rules just to cut a couple strokes off our game?

Isn't the real competition in

challenging ourselves, our past performance, and the course rather than other golfers? **By giving ourselves a do-over, it removes the opportunity for the redemption of saving par or bogey.** Shouldn't we learn to play our less-than-perfect shots, and grow our golfing ability to recover when presented with a less than perfect lie.

**Kind of like Life?**



Remember the shot that Bubba Watson hit from the pine straw to win the Masters? Perhaps you have holed out from that pot bunker or some other unsavory predicament? **We would all have fewer stories to tell if we just re-teeed everything that wasn't in the fairway or had a perfect lie.** But where's the fun in that?

**Life is full of challenges, let some of those be on the golf course.**

Let's take the opportunity to hit those shots that seem improbable. Punch out with pride, when stuck behind a tree rather than use an unaccounted foot-wedge.

Own your handicap while promoting the integrity of the game.

**I NEED A MULLIGAN!**



Richard E Todd, author of The Golf Rules series and Short Stories from the Long Links, has been heard on the PGA Tour radio station and seen in On The Green magazine.

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