

NOTICE 2016/2017 TO MGA MEMBERS

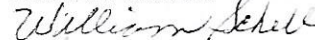
From the Rules Committee

Effective June 1, 2017

In an effort to gather some experience(s) with the proposed USGA/R&A changes to the Rules of Golf, the MGA will "adopt" the following rules. Please evaluate your understanding, use and adaptability of these changes through MGA play. We may continue to delete changes as we, the Rules Committee members and the Executive Committee, feel have become advantageous to the playing of the game of golf. Then, after the 31st of August, we, the MGA members will discuss the changes we have tried and throughout September decide how to word our reply to the USGA as the MGA inputs to these proposed changes.

15. If you have a good reason for lifting a ball, you don't have to announce your intention to another player. You also don't have to give that person an opportunity to observe the process.
16. You have to declare you're playing a provisional ball before making a stroke with it. But you can begin a search and still have the option of playing a provisional as long as you do so within 3 min.
17. All holes created by animals will be treated as abnormal course conditions. Free relief.
18. The time to search for a LOST BALL is reduced from 5 minutes to 3 minutes.
19. You can move LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS in HAZARDS, touch the ground with your hand or club, or ground your club WITHOUT PENALTY.
20. The free drop or penalty drop area is defined as 20 inches or 80 inches around the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole. Also, the ball CANNOT come to rest OUTSIDE this area. After 2 unsuccessful drops the ball will be PLACED where it contacted the drop area.
21. As long as you don't improve the conditions for your stroke, you CAN TOUCH the line of putt to indicate a target. NO TWO STROKE PENALTY.

WILLIAM SCHELL



Chairman, Rules Committee

Committee Members: Jim Dyer, John Haury, Bill Manson, Billie McCullough, Jack Nederostek