

# GOLF'S NEW RULES: EVOLUTION OF KEY CHANGES

The continuous evolution of the Rules of Golf is one of the game's central traditions.

On March 1, 2017, The R&A and the USGA released a set of proposed changes to the Rules of Golf, which started a six-month period of public feedback on the proposals. We received and listened to more than 30,000 comments from golfers around the world, which helped inform further analysis, review and updates.

The new Rules were then finalized and are set to take effect on January 1, 2019. See how three topics evolved from the current Rule to last year's proposed modification to the final Rule scheduled to take effect in 2019.

	Current Rule	Proposed Rule (March 1, 2017)	New Rule (January 1, 2019)
Dropping a Ball	<p>SHOULDER HEIGHT</p>	<p>ANY HEIGHT</p>	<p>KNEE HEIGHT</p>
Taking Relief	<p>CLUB-LENGTHS</p>	<p>FIXED DISTANCE 20"</p>	<p>CLUB-LENGTHS</p>
Double Hit	<p>ONE-STROKE PENALTY</p>	<p>ONE-STROKE PENALTY</p>	<p>NO PENALTY</p>

