



TOMGC Rules and Greens

June 2018



Throw out the Bum two-day event winner Jerry Smith (right) with tournament director Jack Cabral. Way to go Jerry! Jack, we will be expecting more events of this nature; keep up the good work, the club appreciates all of the work that you and Saturday tournament director, Scott McClellan, do for us.

While playing golf with Russ Friesen and Manley Bland awhile back, we encountered a situation that caused some reflection. Manley stepped up to hit a putt when he caused the ball to move with his putter. The discussion that ensued was basically, "that used to be a penalty under the old rules, but the USGA and the R&A have seen fit to remove the penalty associated with this infraction." Honestly, I was in a quandary. I knew that it had been discussed in great detail since the Dustin Johnson fiasco a year ago or so, but I wasn't sure that it had been adopted worldwide. My feeling was that this was still a penalty until the new rules are adopted next year. After research and review of a very fine article forwarded to me by J.C. Cochran, here is what I've learned. Unfortunately for Manley, while Rule 13-1d will remove this penalty as of January 1st next year, Rule 18-2 still attaches a one stroke penalty for moving the ball in play, except under certain situations. While the USGA and the R&A have granted permission for the club's rules committee to make a local rule to remove this penalty, it has not yet been incorporated into the local Rules here at TOMGC. Your board of directors did recently have such a discussion, and after discussion, decided to hold off on incorporating any new local rules until the new Rules of Golf are announced next year. Good day, and good golf.