



TOMGC Rules and Greens November 2018

With all of the hoopla surrounding the overhaul of the Rules of Golf by the Royal and Ancient and the USGA, why not devote another issue of our newsletter to those impending rules alterations for next year. Here is a list of the top 20 changes (a summary from the video) you can be looking forward to in January, sent to me again by our Senior League Player of the Year, for the second year in a row, Tom Rousseau. Thanks Tom.

THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE RULES OF GOLF 2019

1. SEARCH TIME - REDUCED FROM 5 MINUTES TO 3 MINUTES
2. BALL MOVED DURING SEARCH - REPLACE WITH NO PENALTY
3. EMBEDDED BALL - FREE RELIEF ANYWHERE THROUGH THE COURSE (Like our local rule)
4. MEASURING A DROP - USE LONGEST CLUB (EXCEPT PUTTER)
5. DROPPING - DROP FROM KNEE INSTEAD OF SHOULDER HEIGHT
6. TAKING STANCE ON WRONG GREEN IS NOT PERMITTED
7. BALL UNINTENTIONALLY HITS PLAYER OR EQUIPMENT - NO PENALTY
8. DOUBLE HIT - NO PENALTY, NOW ONLY COUNTS AS ONE STROKE
9. TOUCHING SAND IN BUNKER INCIDENTALLY IS PERMITTED
10. LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS CAN BE REMOVED ANYWHERE INCLUDING HAZARDS
11. DROPPING A BALL OUT OF BUNKER - 2 PENALTY STROKES
12. WATER HAZARDS - NOW CALLED "PENALTY AREAS"
13. TOUCHING GROUND IN PENALTY AREA - NO PENALTY
14. BALL MOVES ON GREEN AFTER BEING MARKED - REPLACE WITHOUT PENALTY
15. BALL ACCIDENTALLY MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN - REPLACE WITH NO PENALTY
16. ALL DAMAGE TO GREEN CAN NOW BE REPAIRED
17. POSITIONING A CLUB FOR ALIGNMENT IS NOT PERMITTED
18. CADDIE ASSISTING WITH ALIGNMENT IS NOW NOT PERMITTED
19. PUTTING WITH FLAGSTICK IN HOLE IS NOW PERMITTED
20. BALL WEDGED AGAINST FLAG STICK AND SIDE OF HOLE IS DEEMED AS HOLED

Ponder this for a while, and I'm sure it will make for some interesting conversation when we meet again at the 19th hole, eh? Good day, and good golf.