

# GOLF'S NEW RULES: KEY CHANGES

The R&A and the USGA have released golf's new Rules, which will take effect on January 1, 2019. Here are five of the most significant changes.

## How to Drop a Ball

You will drop your ball from knee height into the relief area.



## Time for Ball Search



Three minutes will be the maximum allotted time to search for a ball, rather than the current five minutes.

## Repairing Spike Marks



You will be allowed to repair spike marks and any other damage on the putting green caused by a person, an animal or maintenance practices.

## Leaving Flagstick in the Hole

If you make a stroke from on the green and your ball hits the flagstick in the hole, there will be no penalty.



## Relaxed Rules in Penalty Area

You will be allowed to ground your club and move loose impediments in a penalty area (an expanded concept of water hazards that does not include bunkers).



For more information on golf's new Rules, please visit [usga.org](http://usga.org) or [randa.org](http://randa.org).

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