



## TIPS ON THE RULES OF GOLF

### BALL PLAYED AS IT LIES

#### RULE 13-2 IMPROVING LIE, AREA OF INTENDED STANCE OR SWING, OR LINE OF PLAY

*A player must not improve or allow to be improved:*

- the position or lie of his ball,
- the area of his intended stance or swing,
- his line of play or a reasonable extension of that line beyond the hole, or
- the area in which he is to drop or place a ball,

*by any of the following actions:*

- **pressing a club on the ground,**
- **moving, bending or breaking anything growing or fixed (including immovable obstructions and objects defining out of bounds),**
- **creating or eliminating irregularities of surface,**
- **removing or pressing down sand, loose soil, replaced divots or other cut turf placed in position, or**
- **removing dew, frost or water.**

*However, the player incurs no penalty if the action occurs:*

- in **grounding the club lightly** when addressing the ball,
- in fairly taking his stance,
- in making a stroke or the backward movement of his club for a stroke and the stroke is made,
- in creating or eliminating irregularities of surface within the teeing ground (Rule 11-1) or in removing dew, frost or water from the teeing ground, or
- on the putting green in removing sand and loose soil or in repairing damage (Rule 16-1).

*Exception: Ball in hazard – see Rule 13-4.*

#### PENALTY FOR BREACH OF RULE:

Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes.

#### DECISIONS 13-2/12 and 13-2/13 relate



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