

RULES OF GOLF CLUB PRESENTATION.

23rd January

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Lesley Brown – Wales Golf Referee



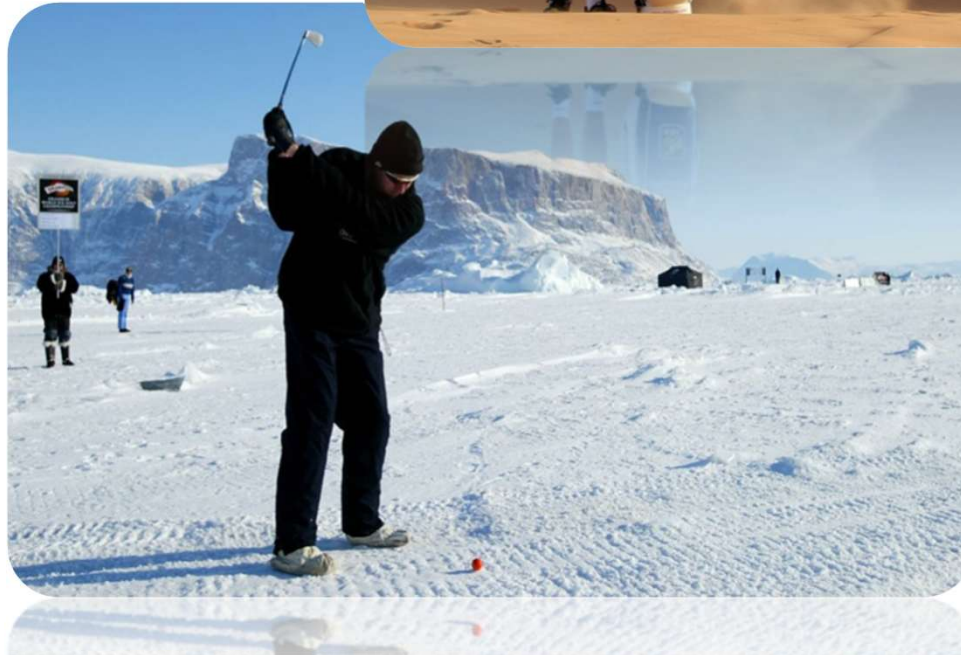
PRINCIPLES OF THE GAME.

- Play the course as you find it
- Play the ball as it lies
- Play in the spirit of the game

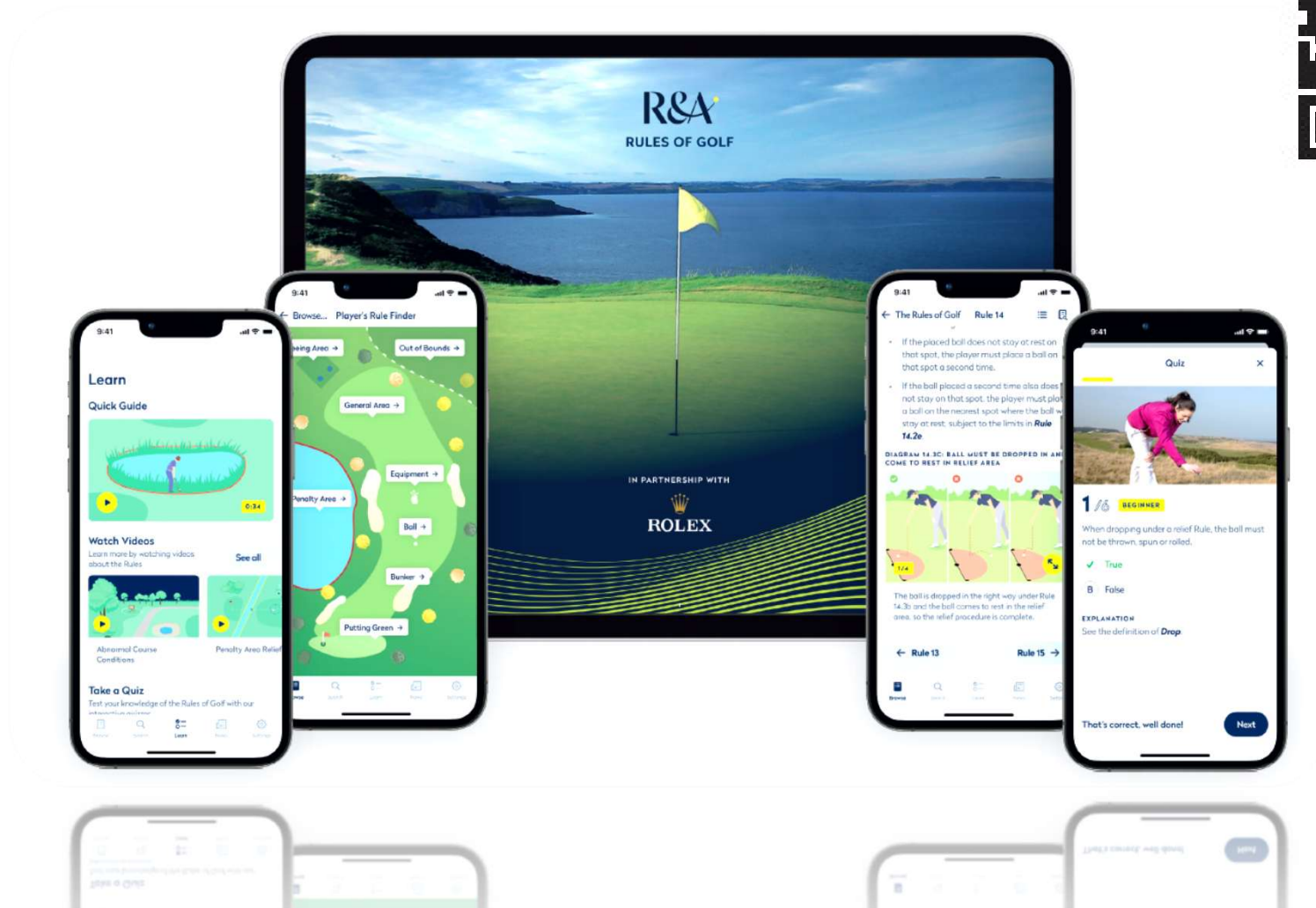


THE RULES OF GOLF.

- Wide variety of playing conditions
- Every golf course is different
- Rules have to deal with all situations



2023 RULES OF GOLF APP.



5

**AREAS
OF THE
COURSE**

GENERAL AREA.

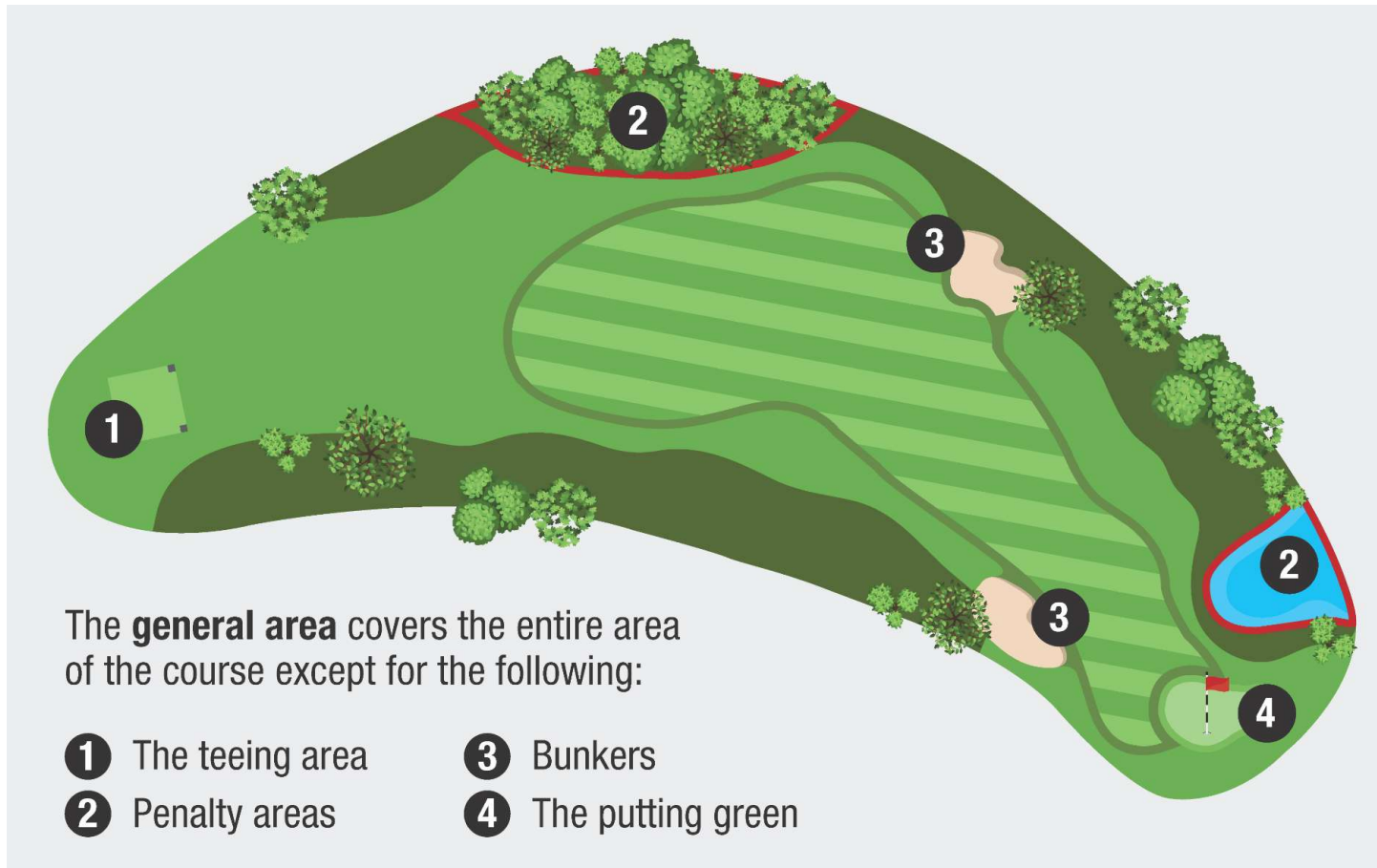
TEEING AREA.

BUNKERS.

PENALTY AREAS.

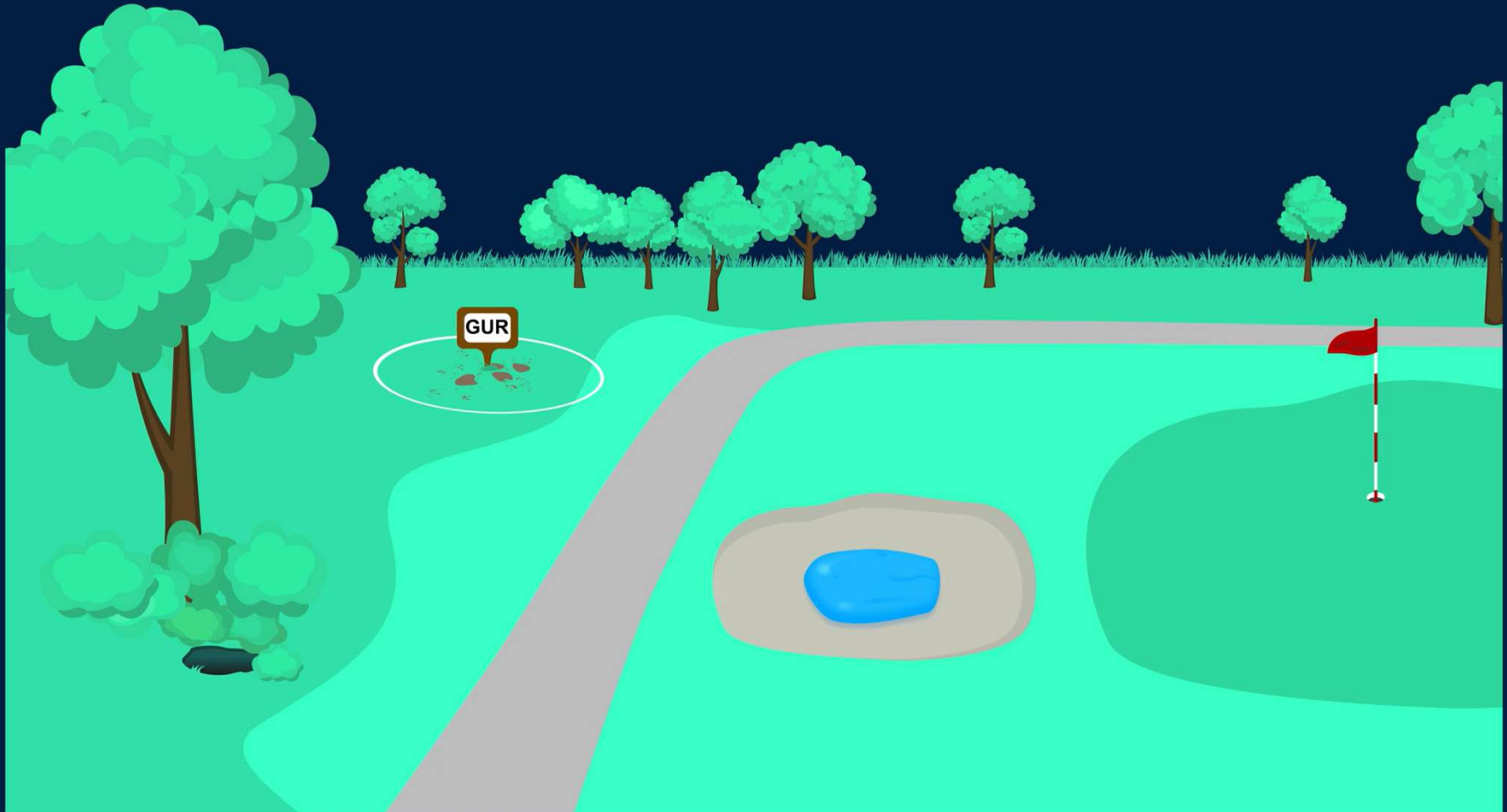
PUTTING GREEN.

AREAS OF THE COURSE



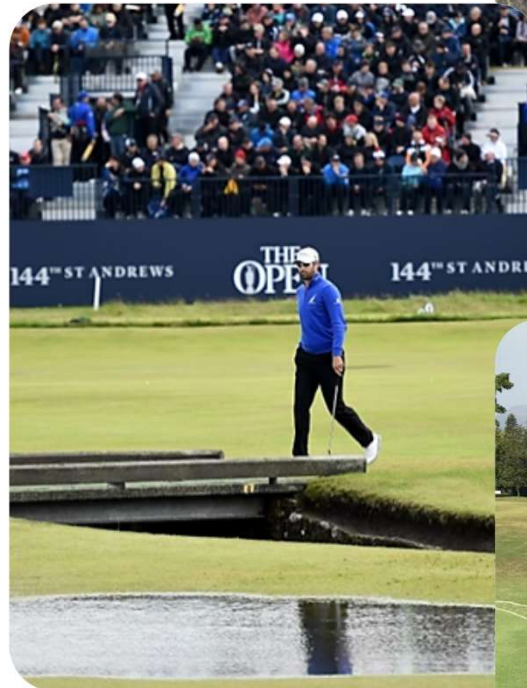
1. GENERAL AREA

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, parallel, wavy lines in a bright yellow-green color. They originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, creating a sense of movement and modern design.

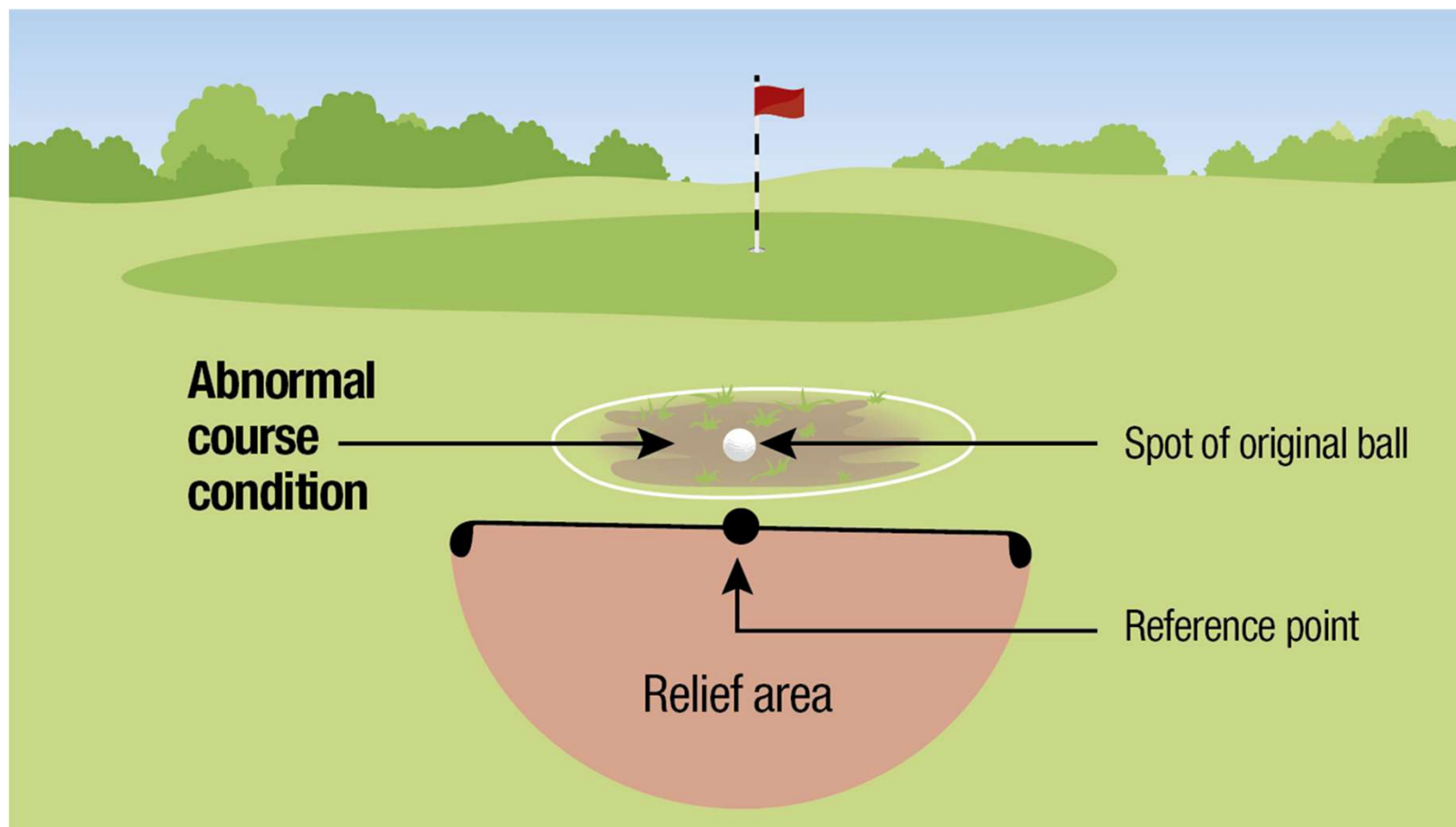


ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITIONS (ACC).

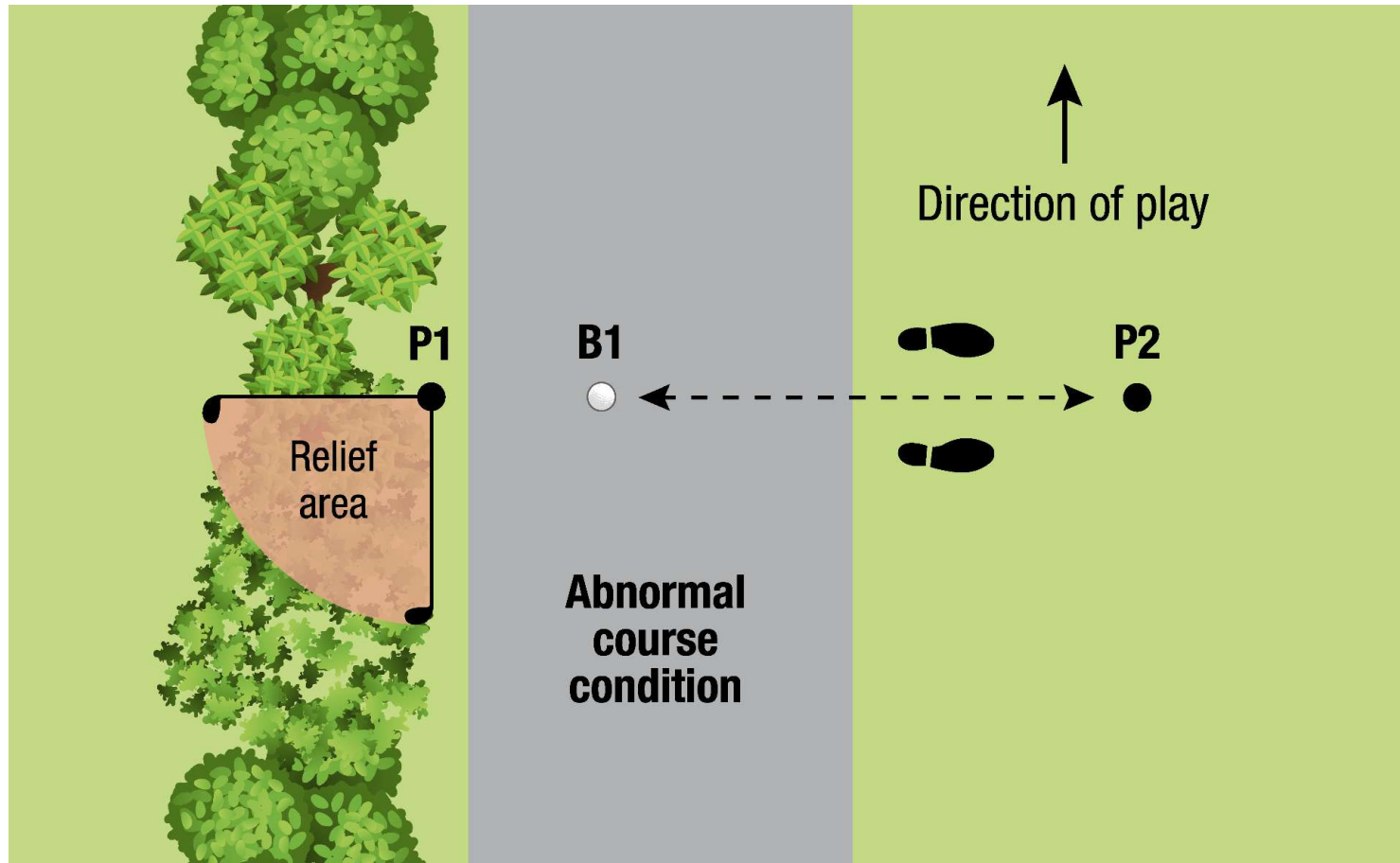
- Animal holes
- Temporary water
- Ground under repair (GUR)
- Includes immovable obstructions (e.g. cart paths)
- Free relief Rule 16.1



ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION.



ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION.







 **RAHM** **+1**
150 18 345 1 2 3 4

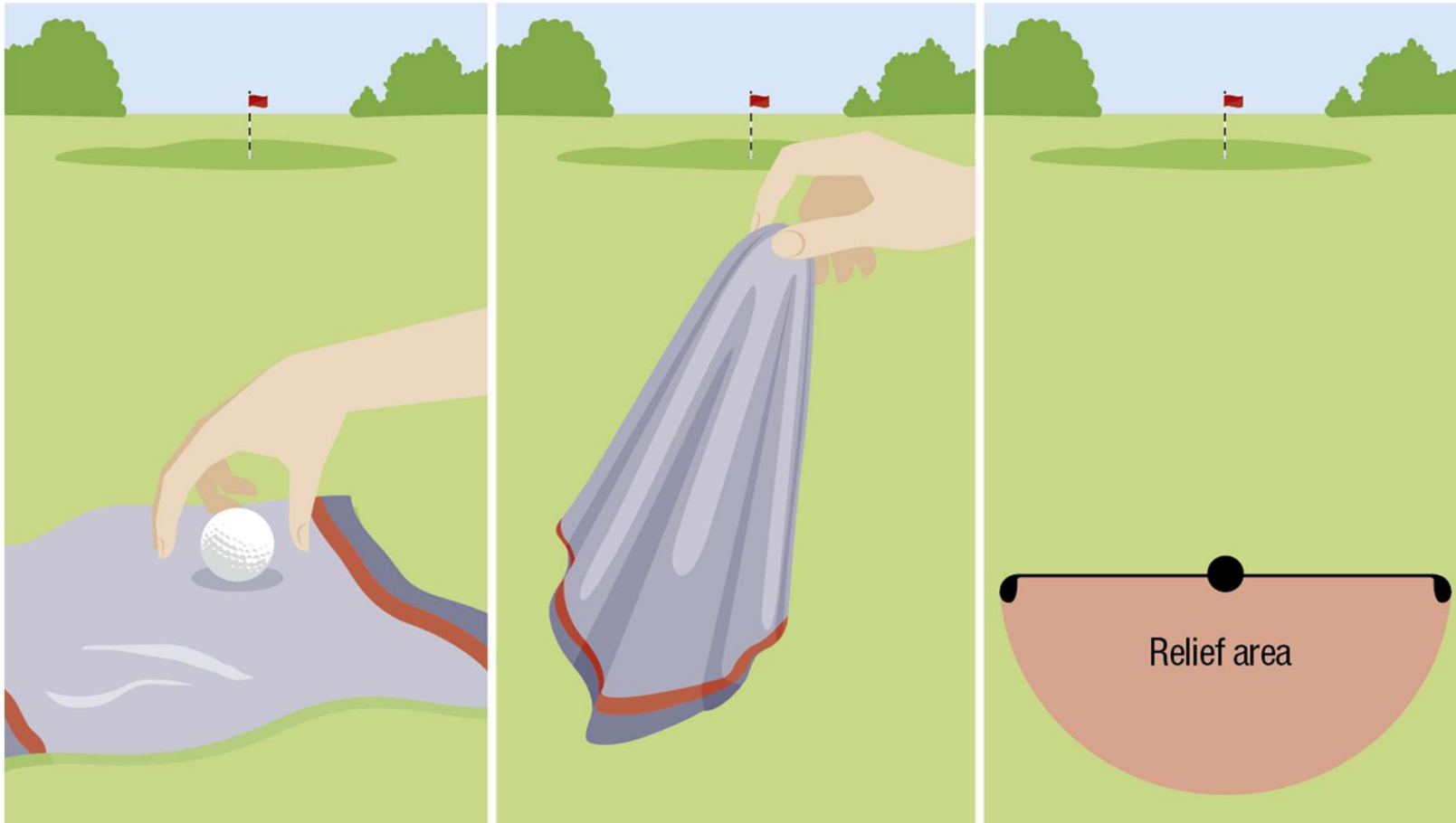
150		
ROUND 1		
1 YOUNG	-8	64
2 McILROY	-6	66
3 C. SMITH	-5	67
4 SCHEFFLER	-4	68
BROWN (A)	-4	68
KITAYAMA	-4	68
78 RAHM	+1	17

MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS.

- May be removed without penalty
- If the ball moves when obstruction is removed, the ball is replaced



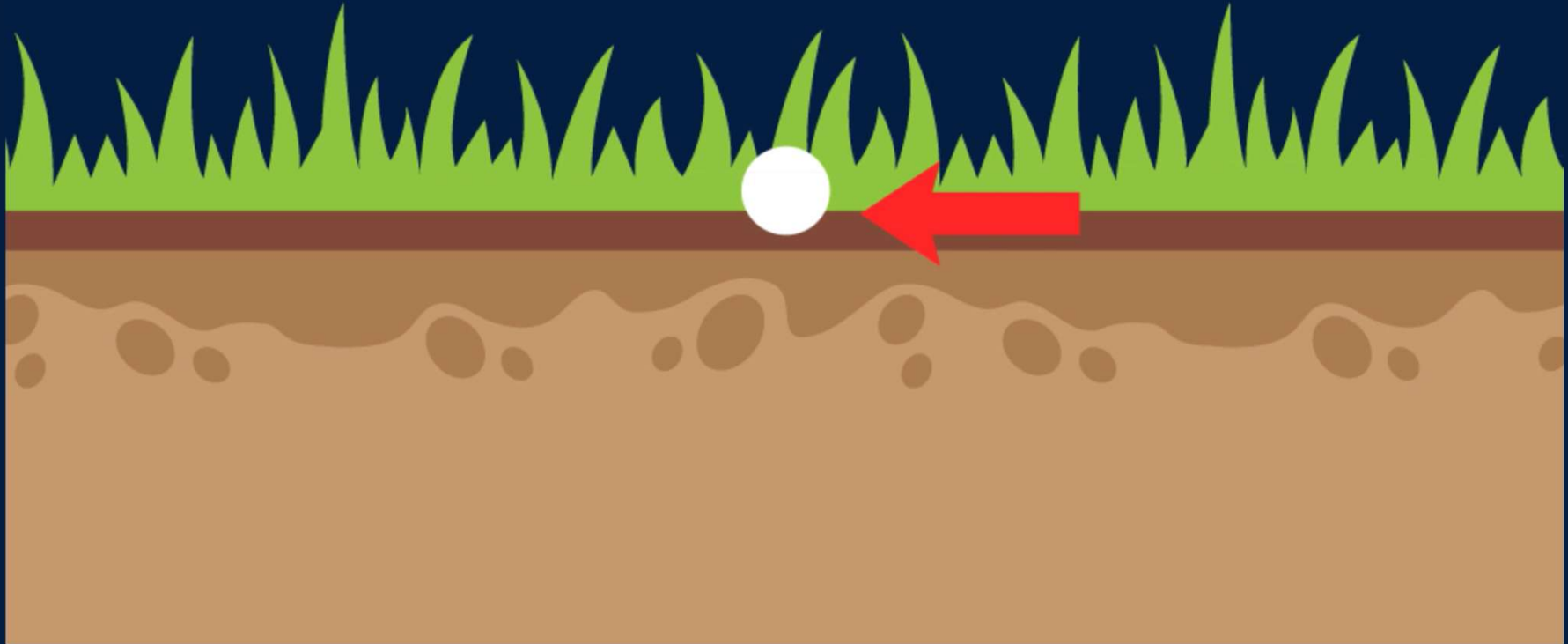
MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS.



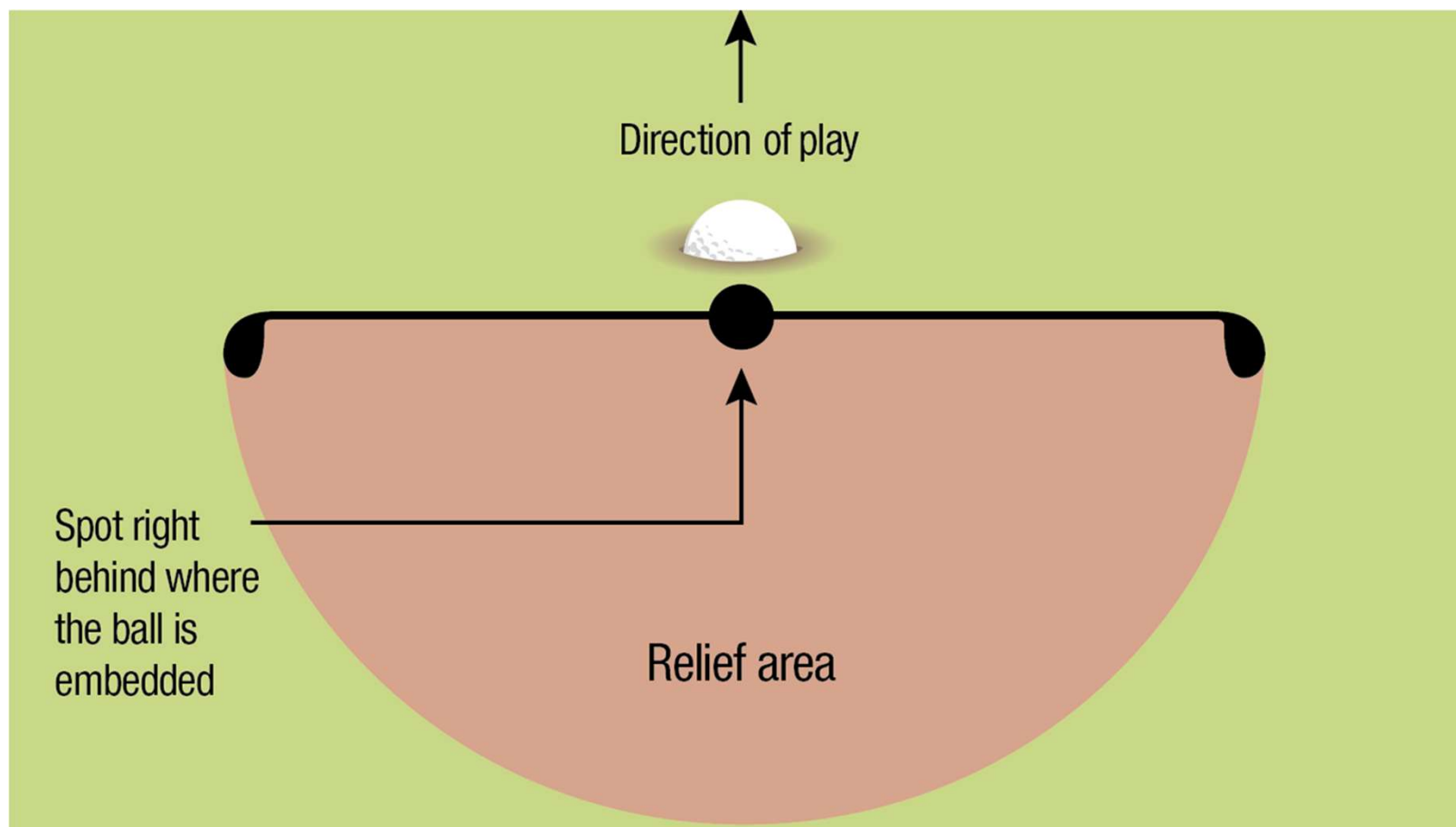
LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS.

- Can be removed by any means
- Can be removed anywhere on or off the course
- If ball moves, it must be replaced, and the player normally gets one penalty stroke





EMBEDDED BALL RELIEF.



IDENTIFYING BALL – RULE 7.3.

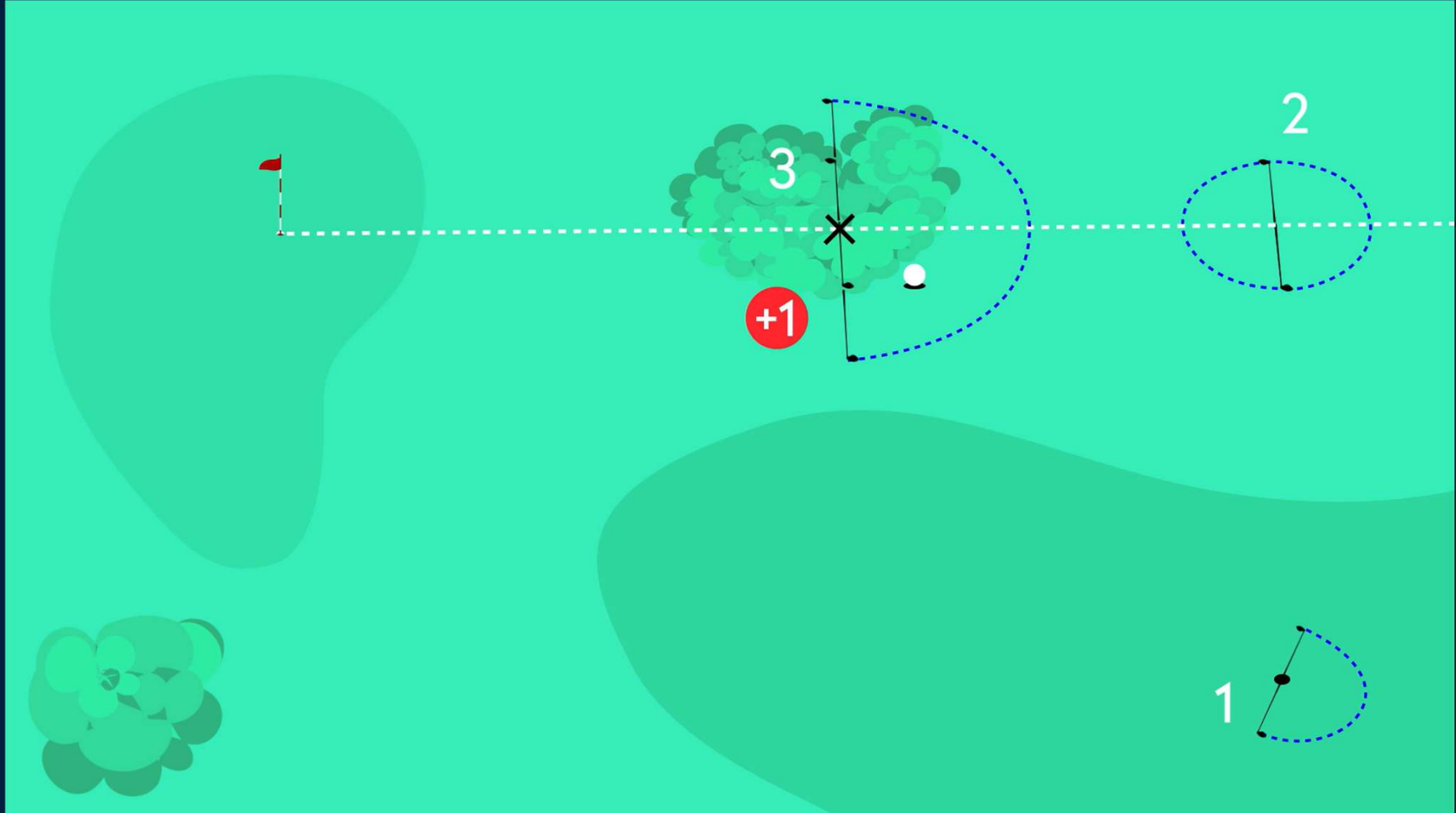
- No requirement to announce
- You must mark the ball, can then lift it (or rotate it)
- Ball cannot be cleaned more than necessary
- Replace ball on original spot



UNPLAYABLE BALL – RULE 19.

- Three options for relief
- Under penalty of one stroke
 - Stroke-and-distance relief
 - Back-on-the-line relief
 - Lateral relief

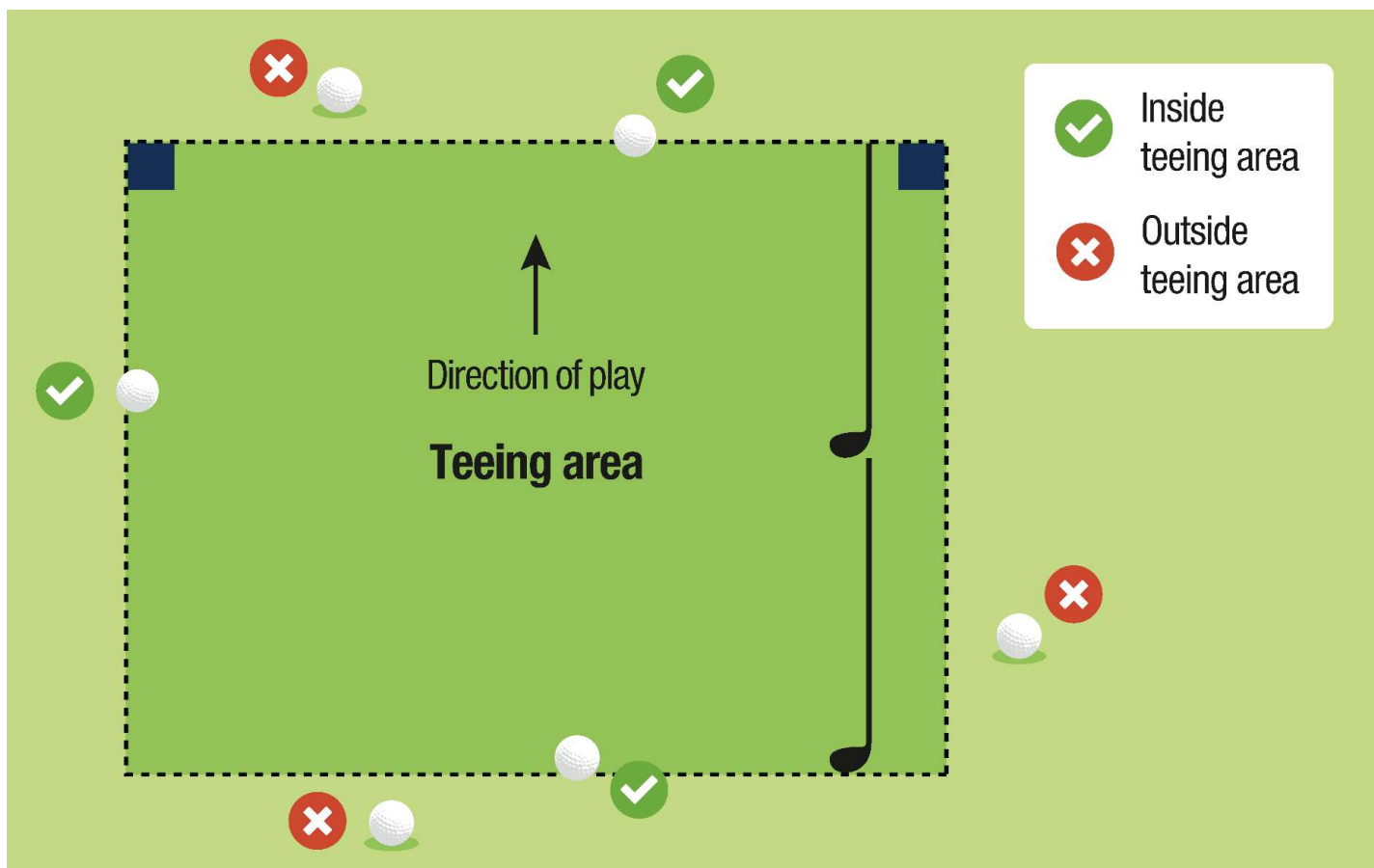




2. TEEING AREA

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, yellow, wavy lines that originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, creating a sense of movement and design.

TEERING AREA.



PLAYING FROM OUTSIDE TEEING AREA OR FROM WRONG TEEING AREA.

- Rule 6.1b(2) – Stroke Play
 - Two penalty strokes
 - Must correct mistake by playing from the correct area
 - Strokes made prior to correcting error do not count
 - Failure to correct error = disqualification



3. BUNKERS

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, wavy yellow lines that originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, creating a sense of movement and depth.

PLAYING BALL IN BUNKER – RULE 12.2.

- Must not touch sand to test condition
- Must not touch sand with club
 - In front of or right behind the ball
 - In making a practice swing
 - In making the backswing for the stroke



PLAYING BALL IN BUNKER – RULE 12.2.

- May remove loose impediments (be careful not to cause your ball to move)
- May remove movable obstructions

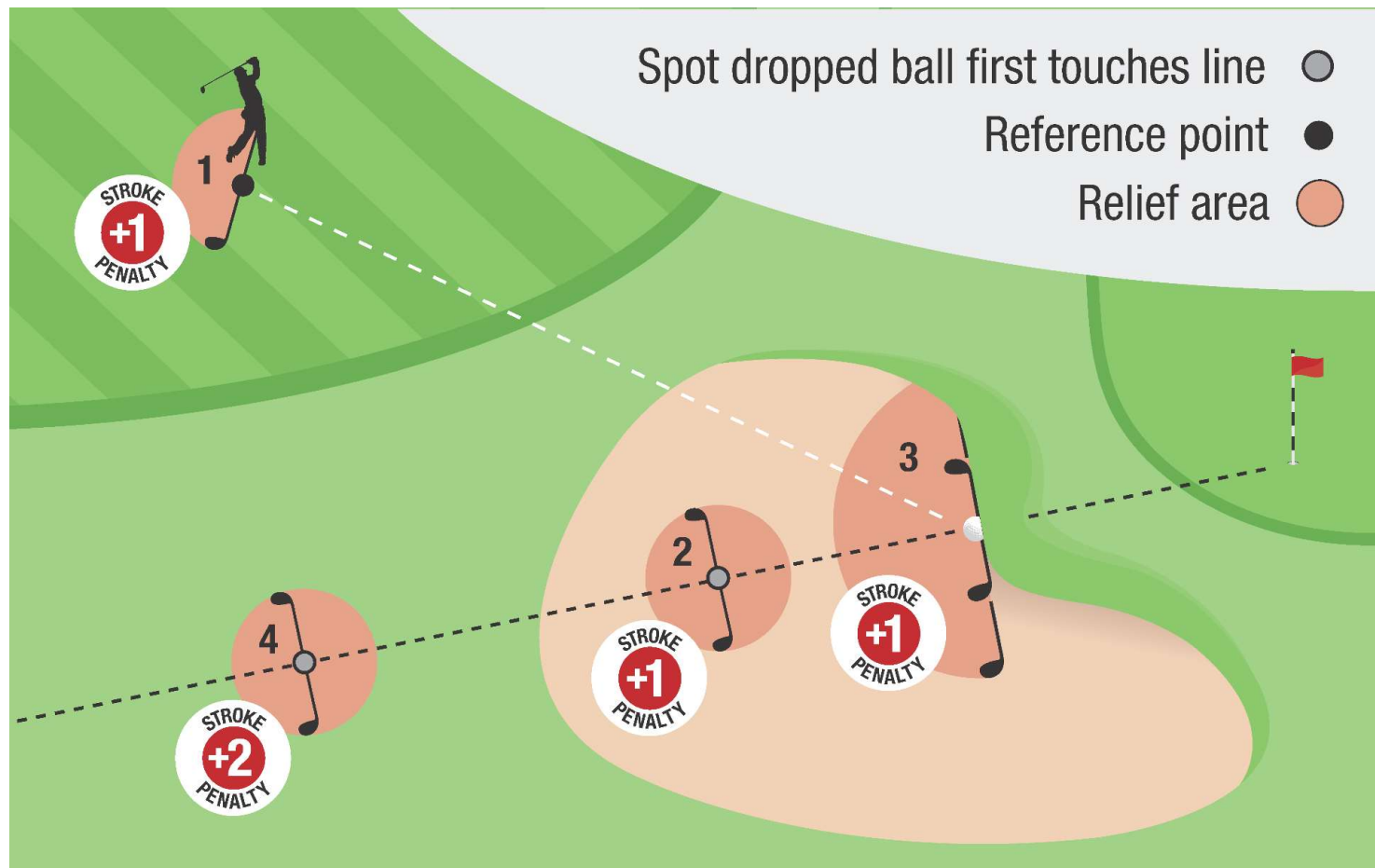


UNPLAYABLE BALL IN BUNKER – EXTRA OPTION.

- Same options as before
- Plus additional option to take back-on-the-line relief outside bunker
- BUT for two penalty strokes

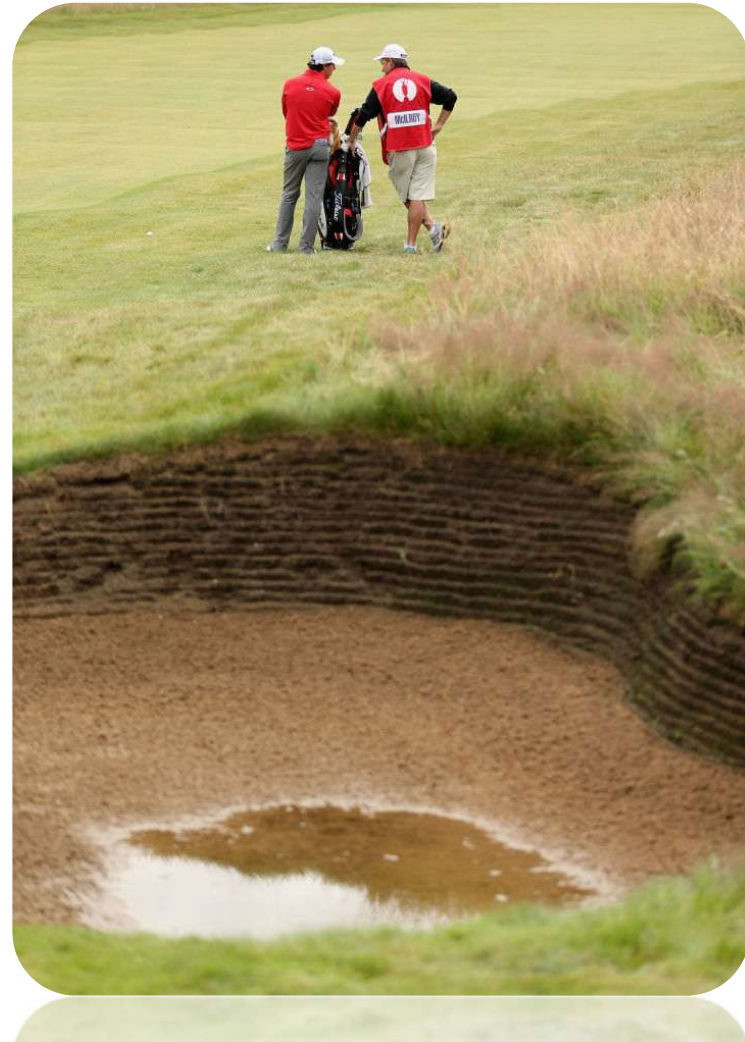


UNPLAYABLE BALL IN BUNKER.

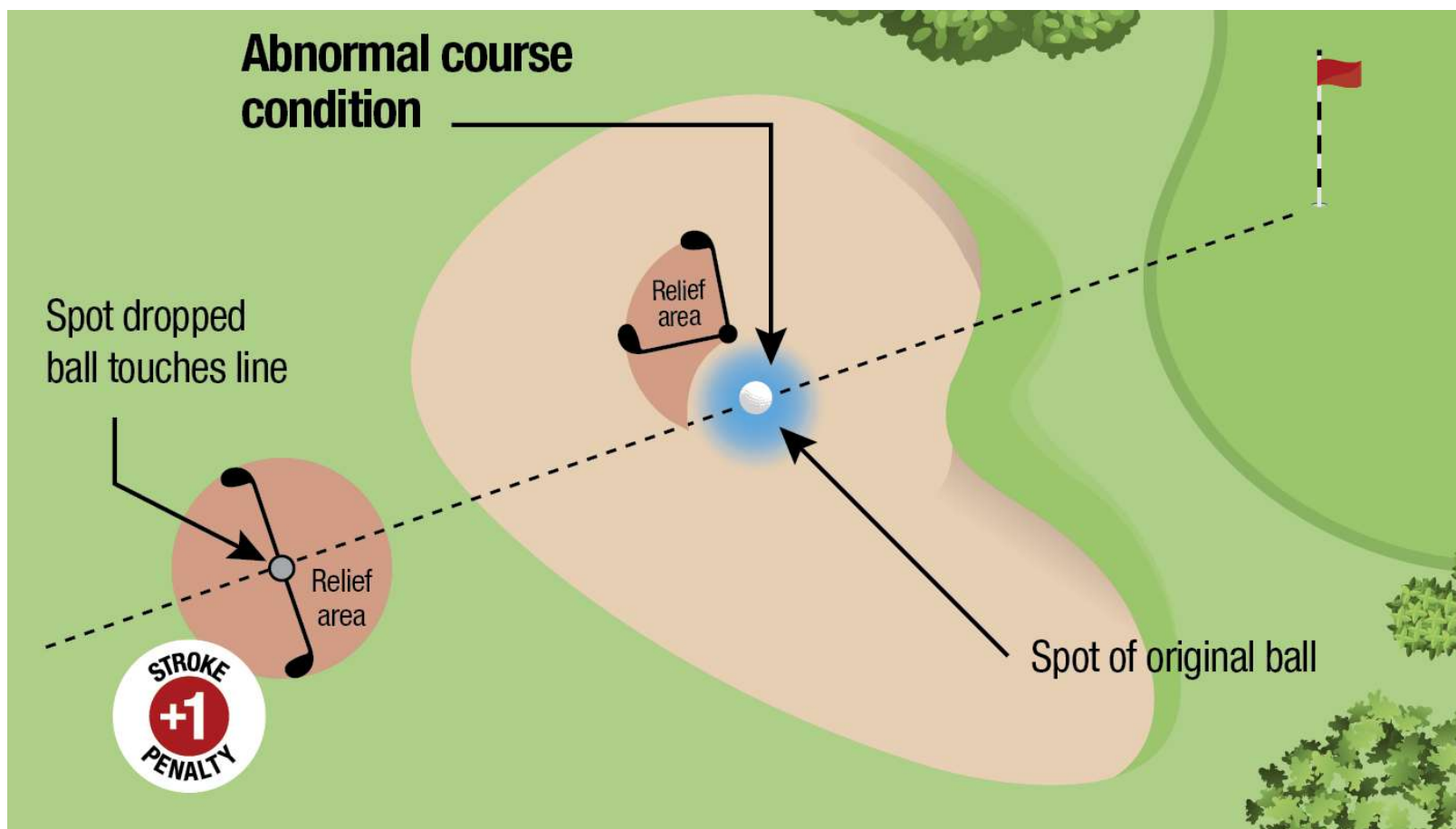


TEMPORARY WATER IN BUNKER – RULE 16.1C.

- Free relief
- Nearest point of complete relief must be in bunker
- Penalty relief
 - Back-on-the-line relief (one stroke)



TEMPORARY WATER IN BUNKER.



4. PENALTY AREAS

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, parallel, wavy lines in a bright yellow-green color. They originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, curving upwards as they go, creating a sense of motion and modern design.

PENALTY AREAS – RULE 17.

- Can touch and move loose impediments
- Can ground your club
- Same actions permitted as in general area



RELIEF FOR BALL IN PENALTY AREA – RULE 17.1d.

- Applies when ball is in or lost in penalty area
- Must be known or virtually certain





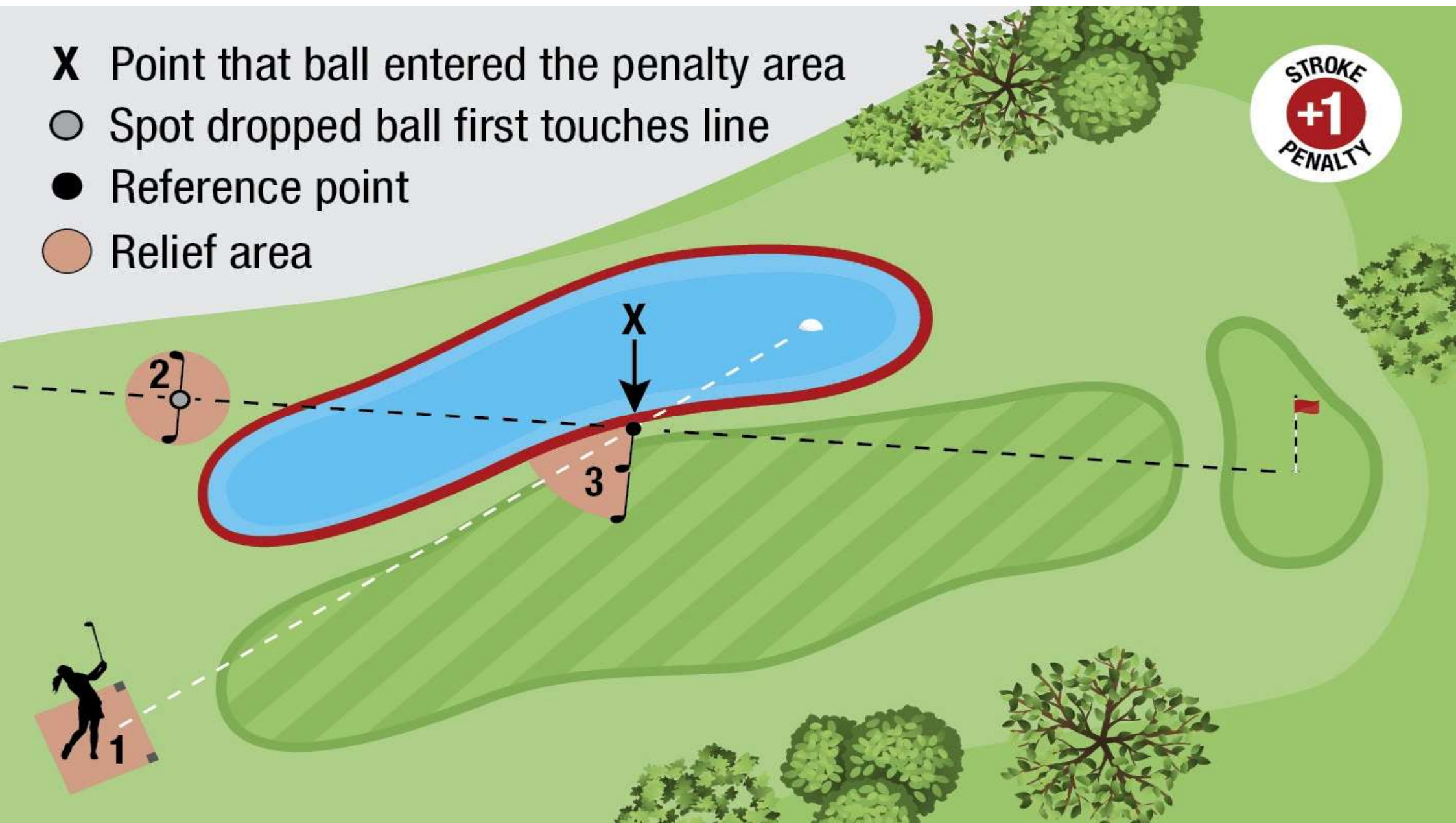
When Your Ball is in a Penalty Area

X Point that ball entered the penalty area

○ Spot dropped ball first touches line

● Reference point

○ Relief area



5. PUTTING GREEN

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, parallel, wavy lines in a bright yellow-green color. They originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, curving upwards as they go, creating a sense of movement and rhythm.

REPAIR OF DAMAGE ON PUTTING GREEN – RULE 13.1c.

- Can remove sand and loose soil
- Can repair ball marks, spike marks
- Can repair old hole plugs, turf plugs
- Can repair animal tracks or hoof marks
- Can remove embedded objects, e.g. stones, acorns



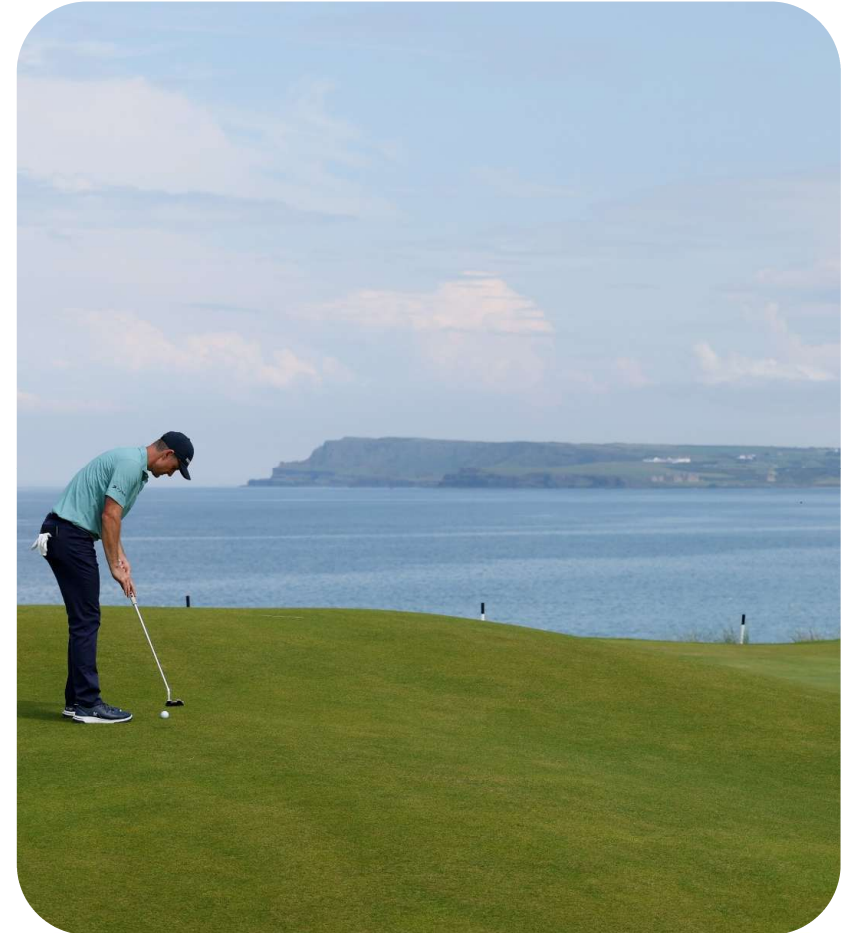
NOT DAMAGE ON PUTTING GREEN – RULE 13.1c.

- Aeration holes and grooves from verti-cutting
- Damage resulting from irrigation or rain
- Bare or diseased areas
- Natural wear of the hole



BALL MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN – RULE 13.1d.

- No penalty for accidentally causing the ball to move
- Replace the ball or ball-marker
- When to replace a ball moved by natural forces:
 - If it had already been lifted and replaced - replace the ball on original spot
 - If not, played your ball from its new location

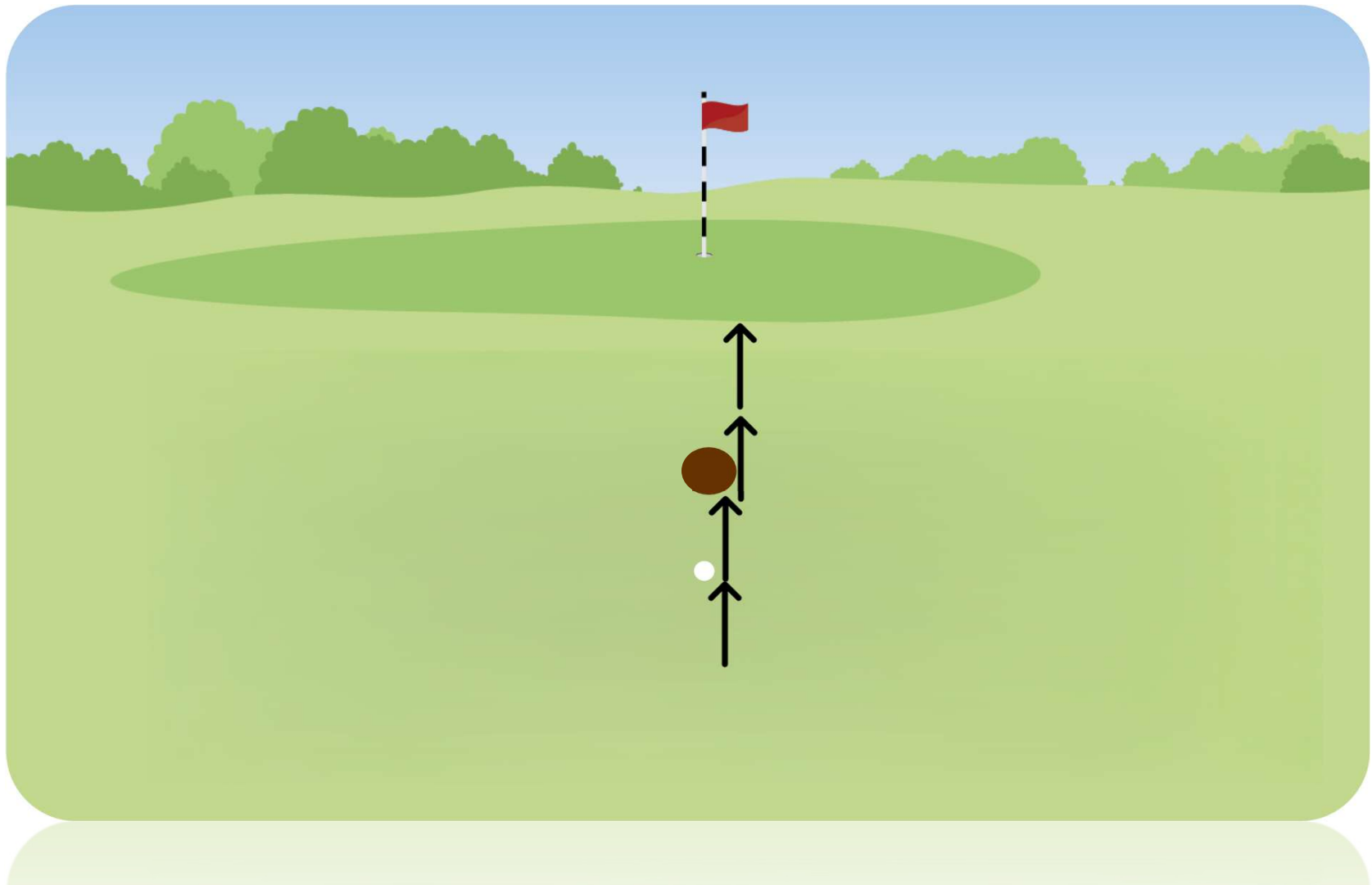




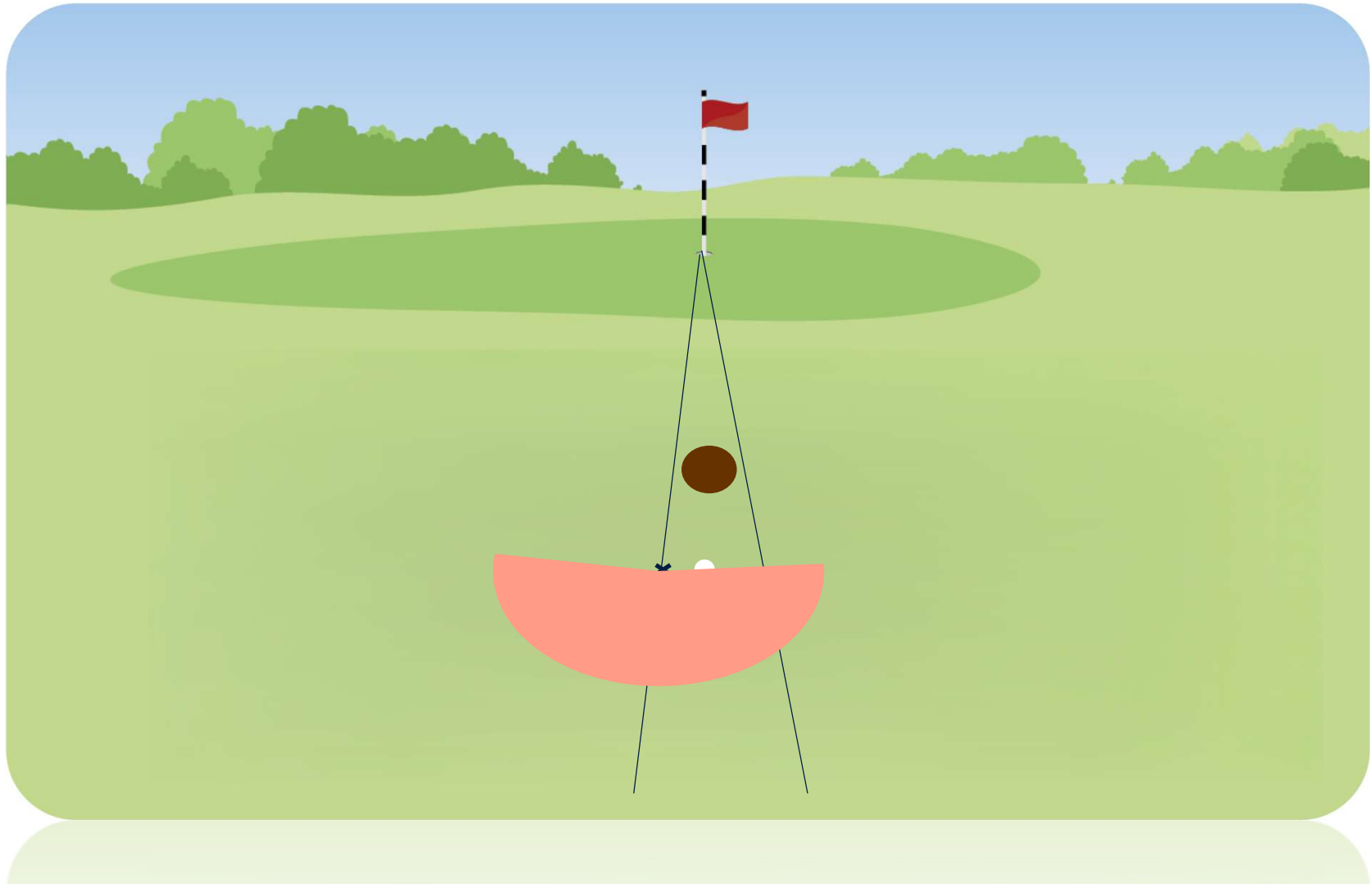
6. LOCAL RULES

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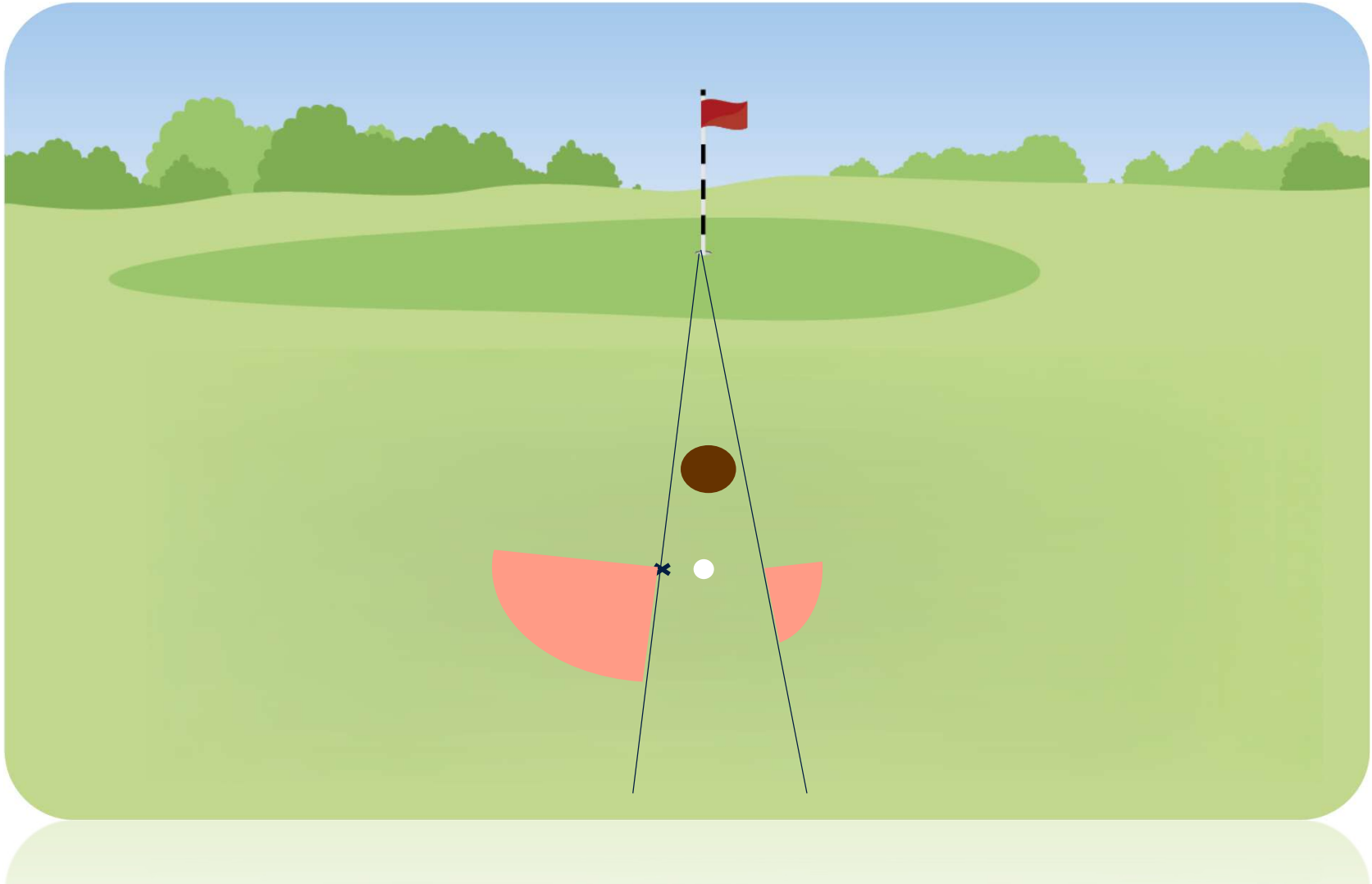
LOCAL RULE - SPRINKLER HEAD ON LINE OF PLAY.



LOCAL RULE - SPRINKLER HEAD ON LINE OF PLAY.



LOCAL RULE - SPRINKLER HEAD ON LINE OF PLAY.



OTHER USEFUL RULES

PLAY BALL AS IT LIES

A series of approximately 10-12 thin, parallel, wavy lines in a bright yellow-green color. They originate from the left side of the slide and flow towards the right, curving upwards as they go, creating a sense of motion and energy.

Rule 8 – Course Played as it is Found

- Basic/central principle of golf
- Play the course as you find it





Rule 8.1a – Actions That are Not Allowed

- Moving a loose impediment or movable obstruction into a position to improve
- Or build a stance





**AVOID PENALTY BY
RESTORING CONDITIONS
RULE 8.1c**

Rule 8.1c – Avoiding Penalty By Restoring Conditions

- No penalty if improvement eliminated by restoring conditions covered by Rule 8.1a(1) and 8.1a(2)
- If improvement occurs through actions under 8.1a(3) to 8.1a(5) cannot avoid penalty



Rule 8.1c – Restoring Conditions Improved

- Return object as near as possible to its original position
- Eliminate improvement





Rule 8.1c – Restoring Conditions Improved

- Cannot avoid penalty if improvement is not fully eliminated
- Or by using something else instead of original object
- Examples:
 - Placing a different stake in a hole from which stake was removed
 - Holding a branch in the hole from which a stake was removed
 - Using tape to repair a broken object or branch

Rule 8.1d – Restoring Conditions Worsened

- If player worsens conditions, have to accept it
- If worsened by any other person, can be restored
- If required, mark, lift and clean ball



Rule 8.1d – Restoring Conditions Worsened

- If conditions cannot be easily restored, can lift and replace ball on nearest spot
- Must be no nearer the hole
- Similar conditions to original spot
- Is within one club-length
- In same area of course



BALL MOVED

Rule 9.2a – Deciding Whether Ball Moved

- Moved – only if “known or virtually certain”
- If not known or virtually certain, ball played as it lies



Rule 9.2b – Deciding What Caused Ball to Move

- Must decide what caused ball to move
- Determines where ball is played from
- Four possible causes



Rule 9.2b – Deciding What Caused Ball to Move

1. Natural Causes – wind or water
2. The player (including player's caddie)
3. The opponent (including opponent's caddie)
4. Outside influence (including any other player in stroke play)



Rule 9.2b – Deciding What Caused Ball to Move

- If it is not known or virtually certain that player, opponent or outside influence was the cause
- Treat as moved by natural forces
- Consider all reasonable evidence
- 95% certainty



Rule 9.3 – Ball Moved by Natural Forces

- No penalty
- Ball played from new spot
- Exception 1: Ball on Putting Green (if lifted and replaced)
- Exception 2: Ball at rest must be replaced if it moves to another area of the course after being dropped, placed or replaced



Rule 9.4 – Ball Lifted or Moved by Player

- If player lifts or moves ball, ball must be replaced
- One penalty stroke



Rule 9.4 – Ball Lifted or Moved by Player

- Five exceptions
 - 1) Player allowed to lift or move ball under a Rule
 - 2) Accidental movement in trying to find ball
 - 3) Accidental movement on putting green
 - 4) Accidental movement anywhere except putting green while applying a Rule
 - 5) Ball moves after coming to rest against a player or equipment

Rule 9.5 – Ball Lifted or Moved by Opponent

- If opponent lifts or moves ball, ball must be replaced
- Opponent gets one penalty stroke



Rule 9.5 – Ball Lifted or Moved by Opponent

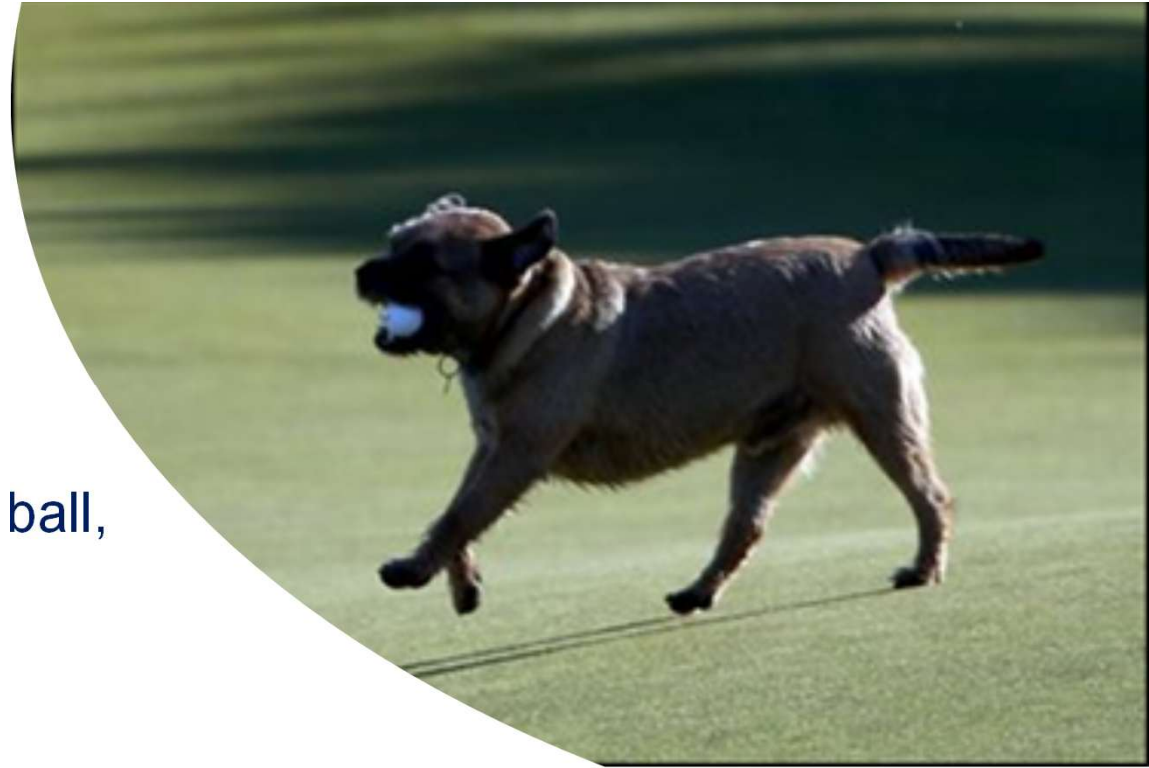
- Exceptions

- 1) Opponent allowed to lift or move ball
- 2) Marking and lifting ball on putting green by mistake
- 3) Same exceptions for player (Rule 9.4) apply to opponent too



Rule 9.6 – Ball Lifted or Moved by Outside Influence

- If outside influence lifts or moves the ball, ball must be replaced
- No penalty to any player
- Must be know or virtually certain ball moved by outside influence
- Otherwise ball is lost



Rule 9.7 – Ball-Marker Lifted or Moved

- Ball-marker marking spot of a lifted ball
- If moved in any way, it is replaced
- One penalty stroke
- Exceptions apply



**BALL IN MOTION HITS
PERSON, ANIMAL OR OBJECT
RULE 11**

Rule 11.1 – Ball Accidentally Hits Person or Outside Influence

- No penalty to any player
- Ball played as it lies



Rule 11.1 – Ball Accidentally Hits Person or Outside Influence

- When ball played from anywhere comes to rest on any person, animal or moving outside influence
- Must take relief
- Ball must be dropped in relief area
- Reference point = estimated point under where the ball came to rest
- Drop in one club-length relief area

Rule 11.1 – Ball Accidentally Hits Person or Outside Influence

- When ball played from putting green accidentally hits the player or an outside influence
- The ball must be played as it lies
- **But** if it is known or virtually certain that the ball in motion hit any of the following on the putting green,
 - Any person other than the player or person attending the flagstick
 - Movable obstruction other than the club used to make stroke, ball marker, ball at rest, flagstick
 - An animal other than those defined as loose impediments
- The player must replay the stroke

Rule 11.2 – Ball in Motion Deliberately Deflected or Stopped by Person

- Applies when it is known or virtually certain
- Player gets general penalty



Rule 11.2 – Ball in Motion Deliberately Deflected or Stopped by Person

- Player must rectify situation
- Ball must be dropped
- Reference point = estimated spot where ball would have come to rest
- Drop in one club-length relief area
- On putting green, place ball at estimated spot where it would have come to rest

Rule 11.2 – Ball in Motion Deliberately Deflected or Stopped by Person

- If stroke made from on putting green
- Ball is deflected or stopped by another person
- Stroke does not count
- The stroke must be replayed

BALL LOST AND OUT OF BOUNDS

Rule 18.1 – Relief under Penalty of Stroke and Distance

- Anytime, can take stroke and distance relief
- One penalty stroke
- Play a ball from where previous stroke made
- Known as “stroke and distance” penalty
- Original ball is no longer in play



Rule 18.2 – Ball Lost or Out of Bounds

- Lost if not found in 3 minutes after searching for it
- Player must promptly identify a ball that is found
- May identify after 3 minutes has ended
- Allowed a reasonable time to get to ball to identify it

Rule 18.2 – Ball Lost or Out of Bounds

- Ball out of bounds
- When all of it is outside the boundary of the course
- In bounds when any part of ball lies in or touches the ground or anything inside boundary
- Can stand out of bounds to play ball on course



Out of bounds



Out of bounds



Ball in bounds



Ball out of bounds

YOUR QUESTIONS

18th Hole – Hawarden GC



● Scenario 1 – Ball Crosses the penalty area here

● Scenario 2 – Ball Crosses the penalty area here

- Relief from paths - in particular where to drop (many confuse the side of the path the ball is nearest with nearest point of relief), also need to understand the dropping area may not be pleasant (eg rough, trees), help when can't drop (or get stance) on one side because of course boundary.
- The difference between animal burrowing and tree root disturbance.
- Marking ball when taking relief (preferred lies or those mentioned above) or identifying ball
- Teeing from outside teeing area, stroke play and match play (happens more often than you think on red tees since introduction of the red tee disposal boxes)
- Playing out of order in match play
- Issues when playing the 12th and getting into difficulty in and near to the penalty area on the right. A question may arise in such cases about hitting a provisional off the tee. Is there a temptation to play a provisional when a player may not be so entitled?
- Do we have to look for a lost ball and what happens if it's found?

- Examples are people thinking they can take relief from an 'unplayable' wherever suits them.
- Relief from 'man made structures', what is involved on our course ie bridges and nets and whether relief is taken.
- 3 minutes to look for a ball and what happens if its found after 3 mins
- What if my ball is in goose droppings on the 9th?
- What if my ball is in the right-side rough on the 10th, after the GUR marking stops?
- Also, what about leaves? Are there any local rules where you can not take a penalty if your ball is covered in leaves?
- Preferred Lies

LEARN MORE
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RULES ACADEMY**



END OF PRESENTATION

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