



2023 MGA Rules of Golf Quiz

1. Players A & B are in a match. After winning the 6th Hole to go 1 up, Player B tees off on the 7th hole from the blue tee markers. Player A then mistakenly plays from the white tee markers and hits his ball deep into the trees to the left of the fairway. Player B observes this but does not say anything as the players leave the teeing area. Player A finds his ball within three minutes, plays a good shot back to the fairway and ultimately scores 5 on the hole. Player B scores 6 on the hole. As they walk off the green toward the 8th hole, Player B remarks that Player A had lost the hole as soon as he played from the wrong tee markers, and Player B is now 2 up. Player A accepts that decision. On the 10th hole they encounter an official and describe the situation on the 7th hole and ask for a ruling. What is the ruling?
 - A. Player A won the hole
 - B. Player B won the hole
 - C. The hole was tied
 - D. Both players were disqualified

2. In stroke play, Player A's tee shot comes to rest on the apron of the putting green where there is no direct line of play to the hole by putting. Player A then makes several practice swings with a lofted wedge near the ball. In the process she deposits soil on the apron around the ball and on to the green near the area where she wishes the ball to first land. Additionally, several large moist blades of grass are now sticking to the ball. Player A brushes away the soil deposited on the green and the apron. Player B, her marker, questions that action as a Rules violation. Player A strongly disagrees. Player A then removes the grass from the ball without lifting, moving or touching the ball. Player A then holes her chip. What is Player A's score for the hole?
 - A. Player A scores 2
 - B. Player A scores 3
 - C. Player A scores 4
 - D. Player A scores 5

3. In a stroke play event with no local rules in effect, Player A's second shot comes to rest sitting up on the surface in a bunker. Before he can play his next shot, the siren sounds indicating an immediate suspension of play. Player A marks his ball with a tee and, unsure of how to proceed, leaves it as it lies. Following the resumption of play, Player A returns but is unable to see his ball near the half-buried tee. Closer inspection reveals a ball is buried under a partially rain induced sand wash out. Player A lifts the ball and completely cleans it to identify it, and is told by his marker, Player B, that Player A is not permitted to completely clean the ball for identification. Player A then smooths the sand to re-create the original lie on the surface and replaces the cleaned ball on that spot. Player A plays his ball to the green and holes out in 2 putts. What is Player A's score for the hole?
- A. Player A scores 5
 - B. Player A scores 6
 - C. Player A scores 7
 - D. Player A scores 8
4. A player's 240-yard tee shot on the 17th hole comes to rest in a deep depression in rough in the general area. The player deems the ball unplayable, and properly takes lateral relief in the adjacent fairway. The dropped ball rolls up against rough, within the relief area. The player whiffs her next stroke, again properly takes lateral unplayable ball relief and the dropped ball comes to rest in a divot hole in the fairway. Frustrated, she lifts the ball, tosses it into the woods and announces she is taking stroke and distance relief back in the teeing area. The player tees another ball at a spot in the teeing area (which, unbeknownst to her, would be in the back-on-the-line relief area from the divot hole), plays that ball into the fairway and finishes the hole in four more strokes. The player informs the committee of the facts. What is the player's score for the hole?
- A. The player scores 10
 - B. The player scores 11
 - C. The player scores 12
 - D. The player is disqualified

5. On the 18th hole of a match, Player A and Player B are tied as darkness starts to set in. Player A and B hit their tee shots and walk to their balls in the fairway. Player B hits his approach shot onto the green. After some debate, Player A decides that he can no longer see the ball and the players agree to stop play and resume at 8:00 a.m. the next day. Player B marks his ball on the green and Player A leaves his ball in the fairway. Player B arrives to the course at 7:30 a.m. and walks to the 18th green to look at his putt. Player B then begins to hit practice putts at the hole from a spot near his marker before Player A arrives. Player A arrives at the course and walks to his ball in the fairway for the resumption of play. Before he makes a stroke at his ball, he wipes dirt off his ball without lifting or moving it. Player A hits his approach shot to 12 feet and makes the putt. Player B puts a new ball in play when resuming the round and makes the putt. A spectator informs Player A that Player B was putting on the 18th green before the resumption of play, Player A makes a claim to the referee. The referee should rule that:
- A. Player A wins the match 1 up
 - B. Player B wins the match 1 up
 - C. Player A wins the match by default as Player B is disqualified
 - D. The match is tied and should continue to extra holes
6. In a stroke play event, Player A's tee shot on the 5th hole ends up in a bunker. Player A enters the bunker and takes a practice swing a few feet from the ball which strikes sand. Player B, who is paired with Player A, informs Player A that this is a penalty, Player A disagrees and takes another practice swing in the bunker which strikes sand. After the second practice swing, Player A realizes the branch of a bush just outside of the bunker will interfere with her next stroke. Unaware it is a breach of the Rules, Player A breaks off the branch. Player A then plays her next shot out of the bunker and onto the putting green. Player A completes the hole in two additional strokes and is then made aware a rule was breached when the branch was broken. What is Player A's score for the hole?
- A. Player A scores 4
 - B. Player A scores 10
 - C. Player A scores 6
 - D. Player A scores 8

7. On a Par 3 with a steep runoff into a red penalty area on the right side, Player A hits her tee shot to the right side, and the ball hangs up just off the green in the fringe at the top of the runoff. Player A marks and picks up the ball, thinking she was on the green. Player B calls out that the ball was not on the green, which Player A realizes and agrees with. She replaces the ball on the spot and begins to read the green for her 2nd shot. While doing so, a large gust of wind blows the ball down the slope and into the red penalty area into deep water. Player A abandons the original ball and replaces a new ball on the spot. Player A goes to choose a club for the shot, and a gust of wind once again blows the ball down the slope, rolling 5 feet but stopping just short of the penalty area. She retrieves the ball, replaces it on the spot once again, and quickly plays the ball onto the green. Player A takes 2 putts to hole out. After hitting her tee shot on the next hole, Player B questions A's actions on the previous hole. What is Player A's score for the hole?

- A. Player A scores 5
- B. Player A scores 6
- C. Player A scores 7
- D. Player A is disqualified

8. In stroke play with Model Local Rule E-11 in effect, a player's tee shot comes to rest against a rake on a slight downslope in front of a bunker. He lifts the rake which causes the ball to roll closer to the hole. After one unsuccessful attempt to replace the ball on the original spot, he presses the ball into the ground in order for it to remain on the original spot. The player makes a stroke and the ball comes to rest left of the putting green, on the fringe of a nearby practice putting green. The player makes a stroke with his left heel touching the surface of the practice putting green, the ball flies over the back of the putting green and strikes an overhead power line. The player consults the Local Rules in effect and discovers this stroke must be replayed. Another ball is placed on the fringe, an inch behind of where he had just played. The player takes a stance and makes a swing without any interference from the practice putting green and the ball is holed with this stroke. What is the player's score for the hole?

- A. The player scores 7
- B. The player scores 5
- C. The player scores 9
- D. The player scores 3

9. In a stroke play event, Players A & B are riding in a cart together and sharing a caddie, who has been going out to the fairways on Par 4s and 5s to forecaddie. On the 10th hole, Player A hits her shot toward the trees to the right of the hole. The caddie hears it hit a tree solidly but did not see it fall. Player B hits her ball in the right rough, adjacent to where Player A's ball had struck the tree.

As the players leave the teeing area the caddie begins to search for Player A's ball. Seeing this, the official assigned to the hole starts the stopwatch on his phone and begins searching in the rough for Player B's ball. Player B sees the caddie searching for A's ball in the trees and calls to him to stop searching until they all can join the search. Player B tells the caddie to help the official search for his own ball just as thirty seconds have expired on the official's stopwatch. The caddie leaves the trees and joins the official in the search for B's ball in the rough. The official finds B's ball and places a flag next to it. The caddie, moving closer to get a yardage for Player B, inadvertently kicks Player B's ball. The caddie picks the ball up and replaces it where he thought it had originally been. As the players arrive at the area and begin to search for A's ball, the official informs Player A that two minutes have expired in her search and she has one minute left to find the ball. Player A strongly objects to this announcement, stating that she has only just begun to search.

As the official's stopwatch shows 4 minutes, 20 seconds, Player A finds her ball. She plays it back into the fairway, telling the official she disagrees with the ruling and that they had found the ball in time. Player A completes the hole in a total of 5 strokes. Before playing her ball, Player B lifts it without first marking the spot and places it a few inches away from where it had been. Seeing this, the official asks Player B why they had lifted the ball. She stated that the caddie had moved her ball and placed it in the wrong place based on the flag the official had put down, so she corrected that error and replaced the ball where it had originally come to rest after the tee shot. Player B also took 5 strokes in total to complete the hole. After the round, the players bring up the situation in the scoring tent and ask for a Ruling. What was the result of the 10th hole?

- A. Player A scores 5; Player B scores 7
- B. Player A is disqualified; Player B is disqualified
- C. Player A is disqualified; Player B scores 6
- D. Player A scores 5; Player B scores 6

10. On the 3rd hole in a stroke play event, Player A hits his tee shot short of a yellow penalty area, laying up with a 6 iron. Due to a poor lie, his next stroke comes to rest in deep water within the penalty area. Player A then decides to go back to the tee to try and clear the penalty area with a driver. Player A tees a new ball in the middle of the teeing area and while addressing the ball it is nudged off the tee. Player A lifts the ball and re-tees in a different spot in the teeing area. At this point Player B, his marker, mentions that he does not believe A is permitted to play this next shot from the teeing area, he would need to return to the previous spot or take back-on-the-line relief. Player A notices that there is a section of teeing area that is back on the line from the hole. He drops a ball on the line inside the teeing area, but after it lands it hits the tee marker and rolls outside the teeing area. Player A then removes the tee marker, drops on the line again, and this time it lands and remains in the teeing area within one-club length. Player A puts the tee marker back in place, lifts the ball and places it on a tee, and plays the ball successfully over the pond. Player A takes two more strokes to reach the green and two putts to hole out. What is Player A's score for the hole?

- A. Player A scores 8
- B. Player A scores 9
- C. Player A scores 10
- D. Player A scores 11

11. In stroke play, a player hits her drive into a penalty area where she finds her ball, which is playable, but her swing is obstructed by a flower bed designated as a no play zone that is in the general area. The player takes relief from the condition and drops a ball in the penalty area no closer to the hole within 1 club length of the nearest point of relief. Before addressing the ball, a gust of wind blows the ball into the general area. The player picks up the ball and drops it back in the same relief area as the previous drop, and the ball ends up on the same spot as the original drop. The player punches the ball onto the green, two putts into the hole, and tees off on the next hole. What is the player's score for the hole?

- A. The player scores 4
- B. The player scores 5
- C. The player scores 6
- D. The player scores 7

12. Players A, B and C are playing Three Ball Match Play when they reach the tee of a drivable par 4. While waiting for the group ahead of them to finish the hole, Player A practices short wedge shots chipping on the teeing area. When the green is clear they play their tee shots. Player A is in a penalty area next to the green where he may be able to play a short wedge recovery chip shot onto the green. Player B's ball is closer to the hole partially buried in a bunker. B's choice of a stroke-relief option will depend on the result of A's recovery shot. Player C's ball is farthest away from the hole behind a tree. Player A looks in his bag, can't find his wedge and realizes he left it back at the tee. Player A walks back to recover the wedge, apologizes to the group that is waiting on the tee, and starts walking back to play his shot. Without Player A knowing, while A was going back to recover the wedge, Player C took unplayable relief from the tree and completed the hole with 1 additional stroke for a 3. Also, Player B took unplayable relief in the bunker at a point that is farther away from the hole than A's ball, Player B played and holed his shot. When B and C tell A they have completed the hole and their scores, A says they are cancelling B and C's strokes. Both B and C dispute the cancellation, and note that there are now 2 groups waiting on the tee and they are going to the next hole. Player A plays his ball onto the green and then, to save time, B and C concede A's putt. All three players leave the green in doubt as to the result of the hole in each of the three matches. As they walk to the next tee, they ask a member of the Committee to help them decide the result of the last hole. What are the results for the hole?

- A. Player A ties Player B; Player B ties Player C; Player C ties Player A
- B. Player A wins vs Player B; Player B ties Player C; Player C ties Player A
- C. Player A wins vs Player B; Player B ties Player C; Player C wins vs Player A
- D. Player A wins vs Player B; Player B ties Player C; Player A wins vs Player C

13. Players A, B, C, & D are partners in a stroke play team event (best two of four partner's hole scores, all playing in the same group). After Player A mishit a tee shot on the 17th hole, she put another ball in play which she played 40 yards further down the center of the fairway and both remained in view the whole time. Player A abandoned the first ball and then hit the second ball to the front of the green, holing out in two putts. At the conclusion of the round, the team signed the official paper scorecard with A recording a 4 on 17. Shortly after the close of competition, several spectators checked the online leaderboard and noticed that Player A had returned a 4 as her score for the 17th hole and they reported this to the committee. When confronted, Player A admitted the "mistake", saying the marker for the group must have unknowingly transposed the scores with Player B who scored a 4 for the hole, but was recorded as a 6 on the scorecard. Players C & D each returned a score of 8 for the hole. Player A argued the total of these two lowest scores was the same, so it was a "wash" and regardless they won the event by 3 strokes. How should the Committee proceed?

- A. Replace Player A's score with the score of player C or D for the hole and that new result stands
- B. The original result stands, applying the exception under R 20.2e
- C. The team score should be adjusted by adding two penalty strokes and that new result stands
- D. The entire team should be disqualified

14. During the second round of a stroke play event where Model Local Rule G-9 is not in effect, a player starts the round with 14 conforming clubs. After completing the 1st hole, the player realizes the course conditions have changed dramatically due to overnight heavy rain and wishes to replace his sand wedge for one with more bounce. On the 2nd hole the player's ball lands on a relatively smooth cart path defined as an immovable obstruction which is made up of compacted small stones and shells. Rather than take nearby available free relief in the fairway, the player makes a stroke from the cart path with his sand wedge. Immediately afterwards, the player identifies some new scratches on the club face and sole of the club. The player then sends his caddie to the pro shop to procure a sand wedge with a different bounce, takes the wedge out of play and plays on. The sand wedge was used several times throughout the remainder of the round and play was not delayed. After the round, the facts of the situation are reported to the Committee. How many penalty strokes has the player incurred?

- A. There is no penalty
- B. Two penalty strokes
- C. Four penalty strokes
- D. A penalty of disqualification

15. On a Par 3 Players A and B see their tee shots roll onto a long sloping, undulating green near each other. They walk to the green and mark their balls. Player B's mark is just inside Player A's mark on almost the same line. Player A replaces the ball she marked and makes the putt. Player B replaces the ball she marked and takes 2 putts to finish the hole. When they reach their tee shots on the next hole Player A notices that she has played Player B's ball, and Player B confirms she has played Player A's ball. They agree that they must have marked the wrong balls on the previous green. What are Player A and Player B's scores for the hole?

- A. Player A scores 3, Player B scores 4
- B. Player A scores 4, Player B scores 5
- C. Player A scores 5, Player B scores 6
- D. Players A and B are disqualified

16. Players A, B and C are playing a narrow par 5 hole when play is suspended. When they return to the course, they see a large banquet tent from a neighbor's yard has been blown down and is lying on the ground near where their tee shots are. Player A's ball is in a penalty area behind the tent. Player B's ball is behind the tent in a bunker that is next to the penalty area. Player C's ball is under the tent in the rough in front of the bunker. They call over a Rules official and are told the tent is a temporary immovable obstruction.

Player A determines that he is not able to play over the tent and decides to play 2 balls, but does not declare which ball he would like to count. Player A takes relief going back to the point of maximum available relief in the penalty area and plays over the tent. Player A then returns to his mark, moves sideways into the bunker and plays over the tent. Player B decides he cannot play over the tent and takes relief by going back to the point of maximum available relief in the bunker and plays. Player C sees that if he moves sideways in the rough his shot will be blocked by a group of trees, and takes relief by going back on the line into the bunker to a point close to where Player B played from and plays.

The players complete the hole with 3 additional strokes with each ball. What are the player's scores for the hole?

- A. Player A scores 7, Player B scores 5, Player C scores 5
- B. Player A scores 5, Player B scores 7, Player C scores 5
- C. Player A scores 5, Player B scores 5, Player C scores 7
- D. Player A scores 7, Player B scores 7, Player C scores 7

17. The 18th hole is parallel to a red penalty area, the opposite edge of which coincides with a boundary edge of the course. Player A hits her tee shot and it flies across the penalty area, landing out of bounds, rolling down across the boundary edge and coming to rest in a red penalty area. Using her laser range finder, Player A estimates the equidistant reference point on the course side of the penalty area, drops a ball (Ball X) within the two club-length lateral relief area, and plays a shot toward the green. Player B points out that Player A proceeded improperly so she returns to the teeing area to play another ball (Ball Y). Player A declares Ball X to count for her score, plays Ball Y into the fairway, and then plays the next stroke towards the green on a similar line to Ball X. Player A sees both balls have come to rest in different areas of a no play zone marked as a red penalty area. Player A first plays Ball X, then goes forward 40 yards and finds and plays Ball Y. Both were played as they lie in the no play zone, both subsequently coming to rest very near each other on the green. Upon arrival on the green Player A realizes she cannot tell which is which. Player A holes out one ball in one putt and the other one in two putts, then returns her card and reports this to the committee. What was Player A's score for the hole?

- A. Player A scores 10
- B. Player A scores 11
- C. Player A scores 12
- D. Player A is disqualified

18. Players A and B are playing a match and as they arrive at the 17th tee, Player B is 1 up. After 2 strokes, Player A is in a deep green-side bunker and Player B is on the green lying 4 about 20 feet from the hole. Player A sees that a blade of grass is sticking to his ball in the bunker and, without touching or moving his ball, pulls the blade of grass off of it. Player B, standing next to Player A, observes this as Player A then blades his next stroke out of the bunker toward the green. Player B, feeling confident that he will win the hole on talent, advises Player A that although Player A had breached a rule, Player B is not going to act on the breach. Player B offers to rake the bunker while Player A prepares for his next stroke. As Player B finishes raking the bunker, Player A discovers that his ball has struck the flagstick and is one foot from the hole. Player A marks and lifts his ball and calls out to Player B, conceding Player B's 20-foot putt. Seeing where Player A's ball has landed, Player B tells Player A that he has changed his mind about overlooking the penalty and that he is now calling the penalty. Player A requests a ruling, claiming that Player B cannot revoke his statement overlooking the penalty. The Committee should rule:
- A. Player B cannot revoke his overlooking of the penalty, and Player A's concession of Player B's putt stands. Player A has a one-foot putt to win the hole.
 - B. Player B can revoke his overlooking of the penalty, but this allows Player A to withdraw the concession of Player B's putt. Player B is away, putting for 5.
 - C. Player B can revoke his overlooking of the penalty. Player B wins the hole and the match 2 and 1.
 - D. Player B can revoke his overlooking of the penalty, but Player A's concession of Player B's putt stands and cannot be withdrawn. Player A has a one-foot putt to tie the hole.
19. Players A & B are partners in a four-ball event. On the 1st hole, Player A, a partially sighted but legally blind player, has her caddie lay down an alignment rod to assist them in lining up their second shot to the green from a bunker. Player A lightly grounds the club behind the ball, touching the sand. The rod remains in place during the stroke and the ball lands on the green. Player B, who is Player A's partner and also her aide, assists Player A in lining up her putt, then watches Player A putt while standing on an extension of the line of play behind Player A's ball, which happens to be on the same line as Player B. Player A sinks her putt and Player B then holes out her own putt for a three. What are Player A and Player B's scores for the hole?
- A. Player A scores 3, Player B scores 3
 - B. Player A scores 5, Player B scores 3
 - C. Player A scores 3, Player B scores 5
 - D. Player A scores 5, Player B scores 5

20. In individual stroke play, a player's tee shot comes to rest in a no play zone (NPZ) in a yellow penalty area (YPA). The player takes abnormal course condition relief from the NPZ and drops the original ball in the YPA. The player then plays the original ball back into the same NPZ. The player realizes his mistake and abandons the original ball, proceeding back 50 yards and properly taking back-on-the-line relief outside both the YPA and the NPZ to correct the mistake. The player takes 4 more strokes to hole out the ball dropped outside the YPA. At the conclusion of the round, the player returned his score card without comment. Before the competition closes, the Committee is made aware of the situation. What is Player A's score for the hole?
- A. Player A scores 8
 - B. Player A scores 10
 - C. Player A scores 12
 - D. Player A is disqualified