



2024 MGA RULES AND COMPETITIONS

RULES AND PROCEDURES EXAM

1. Which one of the following is FALSE about a ball touching two areas of the *course*?
 - a. If a ball touches both the general area and a penalty area, the ball is in the penalty area.
 - b. If a ball touches both the bunker and a penalty area, the ball is in the bunker.
 - c. If a ball touches both the general area and the putting green, the ball is on the putting green.

2. A player accidentally moves her ball while searching for it in a red *penalty area*. She does not know its original location. What is the ruling?
 - a. There is no penalty. The player must estimate the ball's location and replace it at that spot.
 - b. There is no penalty for moving her ball, but the player must take penalty area relief.
 - c. The player receives one penalty stroke for moving her ball, and must estimate the ball's location and replace it at that spot.

3. In *stroke play*, a player places a ball in the *relief area* when he should have dropped it and makes a *stroke* at the ball. What is the ruling?
 - a. There is no penalty.
 - b. The player receives one penalty stroke.
 - c. The player receives the general penalty.

4. Player A has a 1:20 p.m. tee time at an Ike Qualifier. He arrives at 10:00 a.m. at the golf *course* and approaches the Starter at the first tee looking to go off earlier. There is a twosome on the tee waiting to tee off at 10:10 a.m. The Starter should:
 - a. Radio the Staff-In-Charge to inform them of Player A's request and wait for further guidance.
 - b. Let Player A join the group at 10:10 a.m. and inform the Staff-In-Charge later in the day.
 - c. Do not let Player A join the group at 10:10 a.m. and tell them that they must tee off with the group at 1:20 p.m.

5. In *stroke play*, a player's ball is outside of a *bunker* in the *general area*. She takes relief from a sprinkler head and the ball comes to rest in the proper *relief area*. Before making her next *stroke*, the ball moves, coming to rest inside the *bunker*. It is not known or virtually certain what caused the ball to move. She plays the ball from its new position in the *bunker*. What penalty, if any, does the player receive?
- No penalty.
 - One penalty stroke.
 - The general penalty.
6. Players A, B, and C are playing in a group at a Met Open qualifier. Player B is looking to withdraw after the 13th hole. Player B is marking for Player A in the group and has their *scorecard*. Player A flags down an official that is on the 14th hole. The official should:
- Let Player B leave the group, and drive her to the parking lot. Mention the situation to the Staff-in-Charge later on.
 - Tell Player B that this is unacceptable, and that they must finish the round.
 - Have Player B sign and attest for the holes he marked while radioing the SIC to alert them about the situation and await additional guidance.
7. In *match play*, Player A's ball is in a *bunker*; he touches sand in the *bunker* with his club while making a practice swing. The opponent (Player B) reminds Player A of the Rule but says that he is overlooking the breach and will not apply a penalty. What is the ruling?
- There is no penalty.
 - Both players are disqualified.
 - Player A receives the general penalty.
8. A player hits her tee shot on the 9th hole, the ball hits the fairway and comes to rest one-inch short of a divot. She arrives to the ball and notices the divot was not replaced properly. She adjusts and presses down the divot, and plays her next shot on to the green. Player A two-putts and completes the hole. What is Player A's score for the 9th hole?
- 4
 - 5
 - 6

9. With no Model Local Rules in effect, if a player's ball lies in a *penalty area*, there is no relief allowed under the *abnormal course conditions* rule, the *embedded ball* rule, or the *unplayable ball* rule.
- True
 - False
10. In stroke play, player A's ball lies behind an *immoveable obstruction*. The obstruction does not interfere with his lie, *stance*, or swing. Player A believes that he is entitled to *line of play* relief. He calls over to a nearby Official to ask for a ruling. The Official states that he is only entitled to relief for lie, *stance*, and swing. Player A does not agree with this and asks for a second opinion. The Official radios for the Official-in-Charge; however, the OIC is not available to assist in a timely manner. The Official should:
- Tell the player the OIC is unavailable and his ruling stands.
 - Have the player play two balls because a second opinion will not arrive in time to avoid a delay in play and report the situation at the scoring tent. Inform the OIC of this outcome.
 - Tell the players they can decide on their own, leave the area and mention the situation in passing later to the Staff-in-Charge.
11. A player's ball lies on the *putting green*. As he is lining up his putt, he realizes a sprinkler head is on his *line of play*. However, his nearest point of complete relief will take him off the putting green into the general area. Due to no relief options on the putting green, the player is not entitled to relief.
- True
 - False
12. Player A and Player B are both playing in a *stroke play* qualifier. Player A chips onto the *putting green* and places his wedge on the fringe as his bag is not close by. Player B is next to play, also chipping from just off the *putting green*. Player B's ball lands on the green, rolls past the *hole*, hits Player A's wedge and comes to rest on the green. What is the ruling?
- Player A receives the general penalty for leaving his wedge on the green and causing Player B's ball to stop.
 - There is no penalty for either player, Player B must replay their stroke from the previous spot.
 - There is no penalty for either player, Player B's ball is in play as it lies.

13. A player *drops* a ball while taking relief from an *immoveable obstruction*. The ball is *dropped* properly but plugs into the soil. The player may now take *embedded ball relief*.
- True
 - False
14. A player's ball lies in a red *penalty area*. She decides to take lateral relief from the *penalty area*. Before dropping the ball in the *relief area*, she takes reasonable actions to clear all the leaves and sticks from the area. What is the ruling?
- There is no penalty.
 - The player gets the general penalty and cannot avoid it by restoring the original conditions.
 - The player can avoid the general penalty by restoring the original conditions before the next stroke.
15. After a wayward tee shot, a player properly declares and plays a *provisional ball* with identical markings to the original ball. Both balls are found within 5 yards of each other, and the player cannot identify which ball is the original ball or the *provisional ball*. What is the ruling?
- The player must choose one of the balls to be treated as the provisional ball.
 - The player must choose one of the balls to be treated as the original ball.
 - The player must abandon both balls and go back to the tee.
16. A player hits his tee shot (Ball A) deep into a heavily wooded area, and he is unable to tell where the ball may have come to rest. He declares and hits a provisional ball (Ball B) down the middle of the fairway. As he arrives to begin to search for Ball A, he finds that this wooded area is marked as a red *penalty area*, which he was unaware of. He is not able to locate Ball A within 3 minutes. What is the ruling?
- The player can take penalty relief for Ball A, or continue play with Ball B.
 - The player must abandon Ball B, and take penalty area relief for Ball A.
 - The player must abandon Ball A and Ball B, go back to the tee and hit again.

17. Which of the following actions are permitted on the *putting green*?
- Removing sand.
 - Fixing an aeration hole.
 - Removing a small weed.
18. A player makes a *stroke* at an incorrectly *substituted* ball. How many penalty strokes does that player receive?
- The general penalty.
 - One stroke penalty.
 - The player is disqualified.
19. A player *marks* their ball on the *putting green* and sets it aside one foot away from the mark without intending for it to be *in play*. By mistake, the player putts the ball from the spot where it was set aside. The player has played from a *wrong place*, receives the *general penalty*, and must continue on without correction of the mistake.
- True
 - False
20. An MGA Official is in the scoring tent collecting and verifying scorecards. A player who signed their scorecard and left the scoring area returns to the scoring tent 20 minutes later and states that his score on the 18th hole may be incorrect. The official should:
- Allow the player to look over and correct any mistakes on the scorecard.
 - Tell the player there's nothing they can do, and the scorecard is final.
 - Radio the Staff-In-Charge to notify them that a player may have signed for an incorrect score, locate the player's scorecard, and inform the player they must await further guidance.

21. In *stroke play*, a player decides to take *unplayable* ball relief. After weighing each of her options, she decides to take *back on the line relief*. The player begins walking backwards, no closer to the *hole*. She finds her preferred distance on the line and *drops* a *substituted* ball from knee height on the line of relief. The ball lands and rolls forward, but stays within *one-club length* of where the ball was dropped. The player then hits her next shot and continues play of the hole. In addition to the one-stroke penalty incurred under Rule 19.2, what is the ruling?
- The player receives an additional general penalty.
 - The player receives an additional one-stroke penalty.
 - The player proceeded correctly, there is no penalty.
22. In taking relief from an *immovable obstruction* in the *general area*, a player uses his driver to measure the *relief area*. The player *drops* a ball correctly which lands in the *relief area*, but the ball rolls into a *penalty area*. What is the ruling?
- The player must drop again.
 - The ball is now in play, and the player must play the ball as it lies.
 - The player must place the ball on the spot where the ball first touched the ground.
23. In the *general area*, a player makes a practice *stroke* and accidentally moves the ball; the player gets a one stroke penalty and must play from where the ball came to rest.
- True
 - False
24. While taking a *stance* in the *general area*, a player notices that there is a small clump of sand from the nearby *bunker* just behind the ball. She bends down and brushes away the sand, then takes her *stance* again. What is the ruling?
- There is no penalty for this action.
 - The player may avoid a penalty by removing the restoring conditions prior to their stroke.
 - The player receives the general penalty (two penalty strokes), which cannot be avoided by recreating the lie.

25. During a Semifinal match of the Met Amateur, Player A and his opponent Player B hit tee shots into the right rough. Player A's *caddie* begins the search as the players leave the tee. During his search, A's *caddie* finds a ball but cannot identify it. He lifts it and realizes this is not Player A's ball. Player A's *caddie* calls out to Player B and asks him if the ball is his, which B confirms. What is the ruling?
- There is no penalty, and the ball must be replaced.
 - The player receives a one-stroke penalty for his caddie's actions by picking up Player B's ball, and the ball must be replaced.
 - The player receives the general penalty for picking up Player B's ball, Player B wins the hole.
26. In *stroke play*, a player's ball has come to rest in a *bunker* surrounded by leaves. He carefully removes the leaves, but while doing so a clump of sand is removed that was right in front of the ball. What is the ruling?
- The player receives one penalty stroke.
 - The player receives the general penalty.
 - There is no penalty.
27. It is *virtually certain* that a player's tee shot is *lost* in a red *penalty area*. The player uses *reasonable judgement* to determine the estimated point where their original ball (Ball A) last crossed the edge of the *penalty area* and *drops* a second ball (Ball B) within two *club-lengths* of the *reference point* for lateral relief option, not nearer the *hole*. After playing Ball B, Ball A is found outside the *penalty area*. What is the ruling?
- The player must abandon Ball B and continue play with Ball A, without penalty.
 - The player may choose to continue play with either Ball A or Ball B.
 - The player must continue play with Ball B, Ball A is out of play.

28. *In stroke play*, a player takes lateral relief from a red *penalty area* on Hole #5. Frustrated by her play, she measures the *relief area* and reaches into her bag for a new ball, tossing it towards the *relief area* where it lands in and comes to rest. She quickly plays, finishes out the hole, and tees off on Hole #6 when she realizes her mistake. In addition to the one stroke penalty under Rule 17.1d(2), what is the ruling?
- The player receives an additional one penalty stroke.
 - The player receives an additional general penalty.
 - The player is disqualified.
29. During a U.S. Amateur Four-Ball qualifier, Player A and Player B are partners. During play of Hole #14, Player A (who is putting for par), and Player B (putting for birdie), decide that A, who is closer to the *hole* but on a similar line, will putt first. Player A misses and taps in for 5. Player B makes the putt for a 3. What is the team's score for the hole?
- 5
 - 3
 - The team is disqualified.
30. During a Met Junior quarterfinal match, both players decide before the start of the *round* that they will concede all putts within 3 feet to keep the match moving. On the 1st green, Player A picks up his two-foot putt and then Player B picks up his one-foot putt. What is the penalty?
- There is no penalty for either player.
 - Player A would get the general penalty (loss of hole).
 - Both players are disqualified.