

LOCAL RULE: ACCIDENTAL MOVEMENT OF A BALL ON THE PUTTING GREEN

WHAT IT MEANS: *The committee in charge of a competition or course now has the option to adopt a Local Rule that eliminates the penalty for **all** circumstances when a player, an opponent or either of their partners, caddies or equipment **accidentally** moves a ball or ball marker on the putting green.*

HOW IT WORKS | The following are examples where the Local Rule would apply:

IF: When preparing to play a stroke, a player accidentally causes the ball to move...



THEN: No penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

IF: A player accidentally drops his/her ball, which hits and moves the ball marker...



THEN: No penalty, and the ball marker must be replaced.

IF: A player accidentally drops his/her ball marker, which hits and moves the ball...



THEN: No penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

IF: A player accidentally kicks and moves his/her ball...



THEN: No penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

HOW IT DOESN'T WORK | The following are examples where the Local Rule would not apply:

IF: A player accidentally moves his/her ball that is lying through the green (fairway, rough, etc.)...

THEN: One-stroke penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

IF: A player intentionally moves or lifts his/her ball on the putting green without first marking its location...

THEN: One-stroke penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

