



Rule of the Month

May 1, 2018

Margin of Error

Margins and Boundaries

Answers: (All correct answers may be found in the definition section of the Rules.)

1. **False.** Both out of bounds and water hazard margins extend both vertically above and below the ground. These are the only two margins that extend in both directions.
2. **True.** A ball must touch the putting green to be considered on the green. A prudent player will not lift the ball if there is any doubt as to the actual location of the ball.
3. **False.** If any part of the ball touches a hazard, it is considered to lie in the hazard as the line itself is considered to be in the hazard. The player may take relief from the hazard with a one-stroke penalty or may choose to play the ball as it lies, provided play from the hazard is allowed.
4. **True.** When both stakes and lines are present, the lines determine the margin and the stakes serve only as a method of identifying the hazard or indicate the presence of out of bounds.
5. **True.** While the margins for ground under repair do not extend upwards from the ground, the definition of "Ground under repair" notes, in part, that "All ground and any grass, bush, tree or other growing thing within the ground under repair is part of the ground under repair." Therefore, the player may take relief as the bush within the ground under repair interferes with the area of his intended swing.
6. **False.** If any part of the ball lies on the course, the ball is in bounds and may be played as it lies.
7. **True.** When only stakes are used to define a margin, the margin is determined by the outside edge of the stakes. This puts the entire stake in the hazard. An easy way to remember this is to remember that every stake is in the condition it defines. For instance, ground under repair stakes are in the GUR and out of bounds stakes are out of bounds.
8. **False.** If any part of the ball touches the ground under repair it is considered in the GUR. The player may choose to play the ball as it lies or take relief without penalty for interference from the ground under repair.
9. **False.** Any ground within the margin of a bunker that is covered with grass is not part of the bunker.
10. **False.** If the ball lies on bare earth within the margin of a bunker, it is considered in the bunker.

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