



Rule of the Month: What You See is What You Get

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Part 1: Course Played as It Is Found — Allowed Actions

Questions: True / False

1. In the teeing area, a player is allowed to alter the surface of the ground and remove dew, frost or temporary water.
2. Just prior to making a 150 yard approach shot, the player replaces a divot a few yards in front of his or her ball and on the intended line of play. The player incurs the general penalty for improving the line of play.
3. Without penalty, sand in a bunker may be smoothed by the player prior to making a stroke from the bunker.
4. During the backswing for the stroke, which is then completed, a player breaks a branch with the club. The player incurs a penalty for improving the area of the intended swing.
5. Damage on the putting green—including ball marks, spike marks and animal tracks—may be repaired even when the ball is not on the putting green.
6. While searching for a ball, the player moves long grass around the ball which improves the conditions affecting the stroke. The player incurs the general penalty for improving the conditions affecting the stroke.
7. Loose impediments, including leaves, twigs, cones and branches, may be moved anywhere on the course, including bunkers and penalty areas, to improve the line of play.
8. In an attempt to take a stance for a stroke, the player carefully backs into a bush and pushes several branches out of the way. The player is allowed to back into the bush, but gets a penalty for improving the area of the intended swing.
9. Sand on the putting green, but not elsewhere on the course, may be removed to eliminate interference on the line of play.
10. After playing a ball from the fairway, a player replaces the divot created by the stroke. The ball is subsequently found out of bounds, requiring the player to proceed under stroke and distance. Because the player had replaced the divot, there is a penalty for improving the relief area where the player must drop a ball.