

2019 USGA Major Rule Change of the Week...

Major Rule Change - *Ball accidentally struck more than once during stroke*

Under Rule 10.1a

- *If a player's club accidentally hits the ball more than once during a single stroke there will be no penalty and the ball will be played as it lies.*

USGA "Reasons for Change"

- *When a double hit occurs as a part of a single stroke and was not the intention of the player, it was felt unfair and unnecessary for the player to be penalized.*
- *Just as there is no penalty if a player's ball accidentally deflects off his or her body, equipment or caddie, there is no need for a penalty when a player accidentally strikes his or her own ball.*
- *Accidental deflections are, by definition, an accident.*
- *The outcome in such cases is random and unpredictable, and it results in a disadvantage for the player as often as it results in an advantage.*

[Click here to read the explanation of Rule 10.1a](#)

GOLF'S NEW RULES: EVOLUTION OF KEY CHANGES
The continuous evolution of the Rules of Golf is one of the game's central traditions.

On March 1, 2017, The R&A and the USGA released a set of proposed changes to the Rules of Golf, which started a six-month period of public feedback on the proposals. We received and listened to more than 30,000 comments from golfers around the world, which helped inform further analysis, review and updates.

The new Rules were then finalized and are set to take effect on January 1, 2019. See how three topics evolved from the current Rule to last year's proposed modification to the final Rule scheduled to take effect in 2019.

	Current Rule	Proposed Rule (March 1, 2017)	New Rule (January 1, 2019)
Dropping a Ball	SHOULDER HEIGHT	ANY HEIGHT	KNEE HEIGHT
Taking Relief	CLUB-LENGTHS	FIXED DISTANCE	CLUB-LENGTHS
Double Hit	ONE-STROKE PENALTY	ONE-STROKE PENALTY	NO PENALTY

Each of these rules changes will take effect on January 1, 2019.

Our hope is to make as many golfers knowledgeable of the upcoming rules changes before the new year.

Good Luck & Play Well!

