

# 2019 USGA Major Rule Change of the Week...

Major Rule Change - *Ball in motion accidentally deflected.*

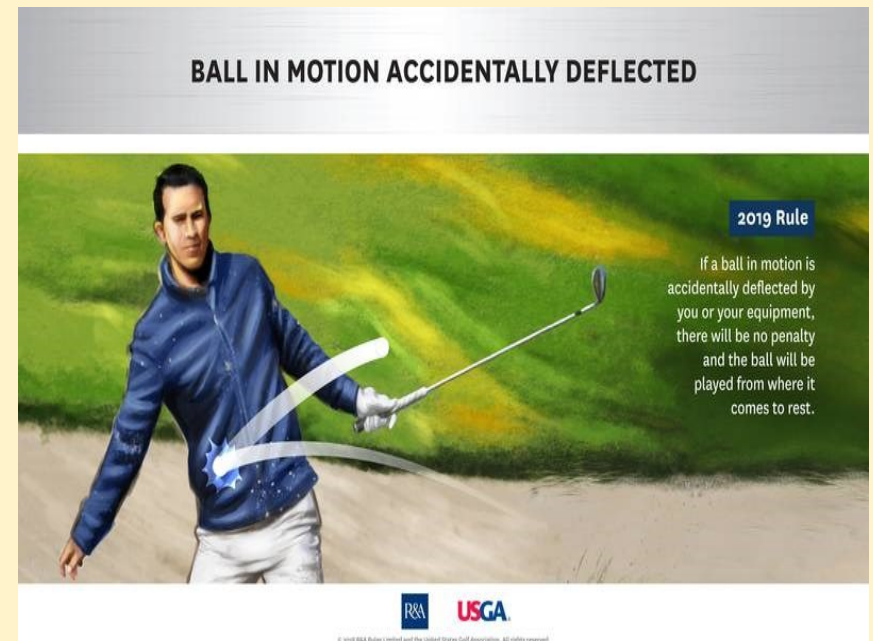
Rule 16.3 - *Under Rule 11.1, for all accidental deflections, including when the ball hits the player or opponent or their equipment or caddies.*

- *There will be no penalty and the ball will be played as it lies (with limited exceptions).*

## USGA “Reasons for Change”

- *Many objects, person and animals are present on a golf course during play; it is inevitable that a ball in motion will sometimes hit them before come to rest, and a player is generally required to accept the outcome (whether good or bad.)*
- *Just as there is not penalty in stroke play if one player accidentally deflects another player’s ball, there is no need for a penalty when a player accidentally deflects his or her own ball*

[Click here to read the full USGA Explanation of Rule 11.1](#)



*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!*

