



Summary Chart: All Proposed Changes in Penalties in the New Rules of Golf for 2019

The purpose of this chart is to identify in one place for ease of reference all of the proposed changes to penalties in the proposed new Rules of Golf for 2019, including the many penalties that have been eliminated.

Each entry identifies a particular action taken by a player and describes whether and how that action is subject to penalty under both the current Rules and the proposed new Rules. The chart is organized by the new Rule number in the proposed new Rules.

New Rule Number	Conduct	Current Penalty	New Proposed Penalty
1.2	Conduct in breach of any standards that the Committee has adopted.	The only penalty allowed is disqualification, and only if the conduct is determined to be a serious breach of etiquette.	Committee may adopt a Code of Conduct with penalties that are less than disqualification (such as a one-stroke penalty or the general penalty).
4.1	Using a club that was damaged during the round other than in the normal course of play.	Disqualification.	No penalty.
4.1	Using a club that was added to replace a club that was damaged in the normal course of play (where the player was responsible for that damage).	No penalty.	General penalty.
4.1	Carrying but not using a non-conforming club.	Adjustment of state of match in match play (maximum two holes per round); two strokes per hole in stroke play (maximum four strokes).	No penalty.



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4.2	Failing to (1) announce intent to another player before lifting a ball and / or (2) failing to allow another player to examine a ball after lifting it or to observe the lifting or replacement of the ball, when it is lifted to determine if it is unfit for play.	One-stroke penalty.	No penalty.
4.3	Use of Distance-Measuring Device (where relevant Local Rule not in place).	General Penalty for first breach and disqualification for second breach.	No penalty.
5.2	Practicing on the competition course on the same day after completing a stroke play round when the player will play the course on the next day or a later day in the competition.	Disqualification.	No penalty.
5.6	Unreasonably delaying play.	General penalty for first breach and disqualification for second breach.	One-stroke penalty (first breach); General penalty (second breach); then Disqualification.
6.2	Playing ball from non-conforming tee.	Disqualification.	General penalty for first breach and disqualification for second breach.
6.4	Two or more players in stroke play agreeing for one to play out of turn to give another player an advantage.	Disqualification for all players who are part of the agreement.	Two-stroke penalty for each player who is part of the agreement.



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7.1	Improving conditions affecting next stroke while searching for ball.	General penalty.	No penalty, except when the player did not fairly search (that is, took actions that exceeded what was reasonably necessary for a search); in that case, general penalty.
7.3	Failing to (1) announce intent to another player before lifting a ball and / or (2) failing to allow another player to observe the lifting or replacement of the ball, when it is lifted to identify it.	One-stroke penalty (if it turns out to be the player's ball).	No penalty.
7.4	Accidentally moving the ball during search.	One-stroke penalty (with limited exceptions).	No penalty.
10.1	Making a stroke standing astride the line of play behind the ball when the ball lies off the putting green.	No penalty.	General penalty.
10.1	Making a stroke at a ball moving in temporary water (known currently as casual water).	General penalty.	No penalty.
10.2/13.1	Touching the line of putt or the putting green in pointing out a target.	General penalty (with exceptions).	No penalty, but player remains subject to penalty for improving the conditions for the stroke; in that case, general penalty.



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10.2	Caddie deliberately standing behind a player at any time from when the player begins taking a stance for the stroke and until the stroke is made.	No penalty, unless caddie does not move away before the player makes the stroke.	General penalty.
10.2	Placing an object on the ground to assist the player in taking a stance to play the ball (for example, placing a club on the ground to help position the player's feet parallel to the target).	No penalty, as long as the object is moved prior to the stroke.	General penalty.
10.3	Having two caddies at the same time.	Adjustment of state of match in match play (maximum two holes per round); two strokes per hole in stroke play (maximum four strokes).	General penalty, with no maximum per round.
11.1	The player or the player's equipment accidentally deflecting his or her ball in motion.	One-stroke penalty.	No penalty.
11.1	An opponent or his or her equipment accidentally deflecting a player's ball in motion.	Option for the player to cancel and replay stroke.	No penalty; play the ball as it lies (except on the putting green where the stroke is canceled and replayed).



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12.2	Touching the sand in a bunker with a club or a hand.	General penalty (with various exceptions).	No penalty (except when done deliberately to test condition of bunker; or in making a practice swing, in grounding club in front of or behind ball, or in making the backswing for stroke; in that case, general penalty).
13.1	Touching the line of putt.	General penalty (with exceptions).	No penalty.
13.1	Repairing damage on the line of play on the putting green (other than ball-marks and old hole plugs), such as spike marks and animal damage.	General penalty.	No penalty.
13.1	Accidentally moving a ball or ball-marker on putting green.	One-stroke penalty (with exceptions).	No penalty.
13.2	Playing a ball from putting green with an unattended flagstick left in the hole and ball strikes the flagstick.	General penalty.	No penalty.
14.1	Marking the spot of the ball with a loose impediment.	No penalty.	One-stroke penalty.
14.1	Making a stroke without first removing a ball-marker that was used to mark the position of a ball that had been marked, lifted and replaced.	No penalty (unless ball-marker was left on the green for the purpose of indicating line of putt).	One-stroke penalty, regardless of reason.



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14.1	A caddie lifting and replacing a player's ball on putting green.	One-stroke penalty if done without player's specific permission each time.	No penalty, even if caddie does this without player's specific permission.
14.3	Dropped ball strikes the ground outside relief area but comes to rest in it and is then played from there.	General penalty.	One-stroke penalty.
14.3	Dropped ball accidentally strikes anyone or the equipment of any player, and is then played.	General penalty.	No penalty.
14.6	Dropping or placing a ball in a wrong place, incurring a penalty in relation to that ball in play (such as accidentally kicking the ball that had been dropped in a wrong place in the fairway), and then lifting the ball to put it into play in right place.	Player receives the penalty incurred while the ball was in play.	No penalty; correcting the mistake means the penalty for that ball while it was in play does not count.
15.1	Touching or moving loose impediments in a penalty area or a bunker.	General penalty.	No penalty.
15.3	Two or more players in stroke play agree not to lift a ball that assists one of the players.	Disqualification of all players who are part of the agreement.	Two-stroke penalty for each player who is part of the agreement.
17.1	Touching the ground in a penalty area.	General Penalty.	No penalty.



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19.3	Taking unplayable relief behind a bunker back-on-a-line.	Disqualification; in rare situations, general penalty.	Two-stroke penalty in both match play and stroke play.
N/A	Incurring a penalty after holing out in match play, when best opponent can do is halve the hole.	Current Rule 2-2 applies and the hole is halved.	The penalty that the player incurred is applied in all cases.