



## **THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE RULES OF GOLF 2019**

1. **SEARCH TIME – REDUCED FROM 5 MINUTES TO 3 MINUTES** Rule 18.2a
2. **BALL MOVED DURING SEARCH – REPLACE NO PENALTY** Rule 7.4
3. **EMBEDDED BALL – FREE RELIEF ANYWHERE THROUGH THE COURSE** Rule 16.3
4. **MEASURING A DROP – USE LONGEST CLUB (EXCEPT PUTTER)** Definitions
5. **DROPPING – DROP FROM KNEE HEIGHT RATHER THAN SHOULDER** Rule 14.3
6. **TAKING STANCE ON WRONG GREEN IS NOT PERMITTED** Rule 13.1f
7. **BALL UNINTENTIONALLY HITS PLAYER OR EQUIPMENT – NO PENALTY** Rule 11.1
8. **DOUBLE HIT – NO PENALTY. NOW ONLY COUNTS AS ONE STROKE** Rule 10.1a
9. **TOUCHING SAND IN BUNKER INCIDENTALLY IS PERMITTED** Rule 12.2b
10. **LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS CAN BE REMOVED ANYWHERE INCLUDING HAZARDS** Rule 15
11. **DROPPING A BALL OUT OF A BUNKER – 2 PENALTY STROKES** Rule 19.3
12. **WATER HAZARDS – NOW CALLED “PENALTY AREAS”** Definitions
13. **TOUCHING GROUND IN PENALTY AREA – NO PENALTY** Rule 17
14. **BALL MOVES ON GREEN AFTER BEING MARKED – REPLACE, NO PENALTY** Rule 13.1d
15. **BALL ACCIDENTLY MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN – REPLACE, NO PENALTY** Rule 13.1d
16. **ALL DAMAGE TO GREEN CAN NOW BE REPAIRED** Rule 13.1c
17. **POSITIONING A CLUB FOR ALIGNMENT IS NOW NOT PERMITTED** Rule 10.2b
18. **CADDIE ASSISTING WITH ALIGNMENT IS NOW NOT PERMITTED** Rule 10.2b
19. **PUTTING WITH FLAG STICK IN HOLE IS NOW PERMITTED** Rule 13.2a
20. **BALL WEDGED AGAINST FLAG STICK AND SIDE OF HOLE IS DEEMED AS HOLED** Rule 13.2c

For more information and useful links visit R&A website and club websites:-

[ramsdaleparkgolfclub.co.uk](http://ramsdaleparkgolfclub.co.uk) - [ramsdaleseniors.co.uk](http://ramsdaleseniors.co.uk) - [ramsdaleladies.co.uk](http://ramsdaleladies.co.uk) – [par3club.co.uk](http://par3club.co.uk)