

GN LOCAL RULES

AERATION HOLES

If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

Model Local Rule E-4

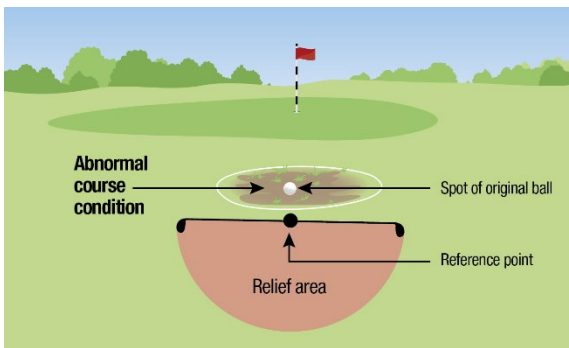
"If a player's ball lies in or touches an aeration hole:

(a) **Ball in General Area.** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another aeration hole the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.

(b) **Ball on Putting Green.** The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the aeration hole only interferes with the player's *stance* or area of intended swing or, on the *putting green*, on the player's *line of play*.

DIAGRAM 16.1B: FREE RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION IN GENERAL AREA



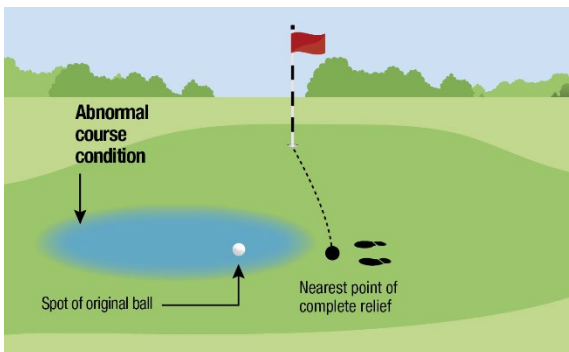
Free relief is allowed when the ball is in the general area and there is interference by an abnormal course condition.

The nearest point of complete relief should be identified and a ball must be dropped in and come to rest in the relief area.

The relief area is one club-length from the reference point, is not nearer to the hole than the reference point and must be in the general area.

When taking relief, the player must take complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition.

DIAGRAM 16.1d: FREE RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION ON PUTTING GREEN



The diagram assumes the player is left-handed.

When a ball is on the putting green and there is interference by an abnormal course condition, free relief may be taken by placing a ball on the nearest point of complete relief.

The nearest point of complete relief must be either on the putting green or in the general area.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS (Red Stakes with Green Tops)

Golfers are not allowed to enter these areas for any reason including playing or retrieving a golf ball. Also, may not stand inside the margins of the ESA to play a ball outside the area.

Options with a 1-stroke penalty:

Play the ball from where it was last played,

Drop the ball within 2 club lengths of where the ball last crossed the margin of the ESA

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OUT OF BOUNDS

Are defined by white stakes or lines.

When a ball comes to rest on or beyond any road, it is OB, even if it comes to rest on another part of the course.

ANIMAL DAMAGE

Areas of damage caused by animals are treated as GUR and free relief is granted at nearest point of total relief.

Examples are footprints, digging of holes, scratches etc...

NEWLY PLANTED TREES (Identified with Color Wrap or Support Cables)

If a player's ball lies anywhere on the course and it lies on or touches such a tree or such tree interferes with the player's intended stance or intended swing, the player can take free relief at the nearest point where stance and swing are not affected.

OUT OF BOUNDS OFF THE TEE

If a player hits a tee shot that goes OB, in non-tournament play the ball may be dropped in the edge of the fairway at the point where the ball last crossed the margin of the OB and hit their 4th shot. (This local rule not in effect for any tournament or competitive round, only casual play)

SPRINKLER HEADS NEAR PUTTING GREEN (Immovable Obstruction)

If there is a sprinkler head that lies within 2 club lengths of the edge of the putting green and your ball lies within 2 club lengths of that sprinkler head you may take stance, lie of ball, or line of play relief.

SOD SEAMS

"If a player's ball lies in or touches a sod seam or interferes with the player's area of intended swing:

(a) **Ball in General Area**. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1b. If the ball comes to rest in another sod seam the player may take relief again under this Local Rule.

(b) **Ball on Putting Green**. The player may take relief under Rule 16.1d.

But interference does not exist if the sod seam only interferes with the player's *stance*.

FLOWER BEDS AND ORNAMENTALS

Any flower bed or decorative ornamental areas will be deemed immovable obstructions and free relief will be allowed at the nearest point of total relief. Wood chips (beauty bark) are generally considered loose impediments according to USGA rules. This means a player can remove them without penalty under Rule 15.1a. If the ball moves while removing a loose impediment, a 1-stroke penalty will be incurred, and the ball must be replaced to its original position. They are not considered part of the ground under repair or an obstruction, so they do not trigger specific relief options.

Local Rules are under constant review and subject to change.