

Rules 13.1 & 13.3 – Notable Changes

- Almost all damage to the putting green may be repaired.
- No penalty for any accidental movement of a ball or ball-marker on the putting green.
- If player's ball has been lifted or moved, and the ball then moves after being replaced, the ball “owns” that spot. The player will play from that spot no matter what caused the ball to move.
- Interference from a wrong green now includes the player's stance and area of intended swing.

Rules 13.1 & 13.3 – Key Concepts

13.1 Actions Allowed or Required on Putting Green

- Ball may be marked, lifted and cleaned.
- Damage may be repaired, sand and loose soil may be removed.
- Accidental movement of ball or ball-marker=no penalty.
- Cannot deliberately test putting green surface.
- Wrong green interference is a mandatory relief situation.

13.3 Ball Overhanging Hole

- Allowed reasonable time plus 10 seconds.
- After 10 seconds, play ball or it falls in, result is the same.
- If ball removed before 10 seconds, ball deemed at rest, but
 - If opponent or another player removed it without player consent, in match play ball is holed, in stroke play other player is penalized two strokes.

Rule 13.2 – Notable Changes

- Player may leave the flagstick in the hole when playing from anywhere, and gets no penalty if the ball in motion strikes it.
- No penalty for accidentally striking attended or removed flagstick or flagstick attendant.

Rule 13.2 – Key Concepts

13.2 The Flagstick

- Flagstick may be left in the hole before stroke from anywhere on the course.
- No penalty for hitting unattended flagstick in hole after stroke from putting green.
- May not remove flagstick from hole while ball is in motion if not attended.
- May have flagstick removed or attended.
- No penalty if flagstick or attendant accidentally hit by ball in motion.
- Deliberate deflection results in penalty.
- Ball resting against flagstick is holed if any part of the ball is below the hole.