

# Rule 15 – Notable Changes

- Loose impediments may be removed from bunkers and penalty areas.
- Player will drop a ball into a relief area when taking relief for a ball in or on a movable obstruction.
- Lifting a “helping” ball only applies to a “helping” ball on the putting green.
- Balls and ball-markers are treated equally with respect to helping or interfering.
- Agreeing to leave a helping ball in place is the general penalty.

# Rule 15 – Key Concepts

## 15.1 Loose Impediments

- Natural objects that may be moved anywhere.
- But, there is a penalty if the ball is moved.

## 15.2 Movable Obstructions

- May be moved anywhere.
- No penalty if ball is moved in the process.
- If ball is in or on obstruction, drop in relief area based on point directly underneath ball.
- If ball is not found, but is known or virtually certain to be in a movable obstruction, free relief may be taken using the spot where the ball last crossed the edge of the obstruction for a reference point.

# Rule 15 – Key Concepts

## 15.3 Ball or Ball-Marker Helping or Interfering with Play

- A ball may be considered helping on the putting green only.
- A helping ball may be lifted or required to be lifted.
- In stroke play,
  - A player may play first rather than mark and lift
  - Player may not agree to leave a helping ball in place: General penalty.
- If off the putting green, a lifted interfering ball may not be cleaned.
- May lift a ball for interference only by request.
- Ball-Marker treated the same as ball with regard to this Rule, but may be moved to the side if interfering.
- Refusing to lift, or not waiting for a ball to be lifted will get the general penalty.