

Rules 16.1– Key Concepts

- Interference is for:
 - Lie of ball
 - Area of intended stance
 - Area of intended swing
 - On the putting green only: line of play.
- Reference point is the nearest point of complete relief, drop within one club-length no nearer the hole.
- Relief is not available if
 - Playing the ball is clearly unreasonable due to some other condition
 - Interference only occurs through clearly unreasonable stroke, stance or direction.
- When ball not found, but known or virtually certain to be in ACC:
 - Ball is treated as lying where it last crossed the outermost limits for the purpose of determining the nearest point of relief.
- When ball inside no play zone in abnormal course condition, or outside a no play zone, but interfered with by the no play zone – must take relief.

Rules 16.2-16.4– Notable Changes

- Dangerous animal condition decision made into a Rule. The similar bunker option for relief is eliminated.
- Embedded ball now applies to whole general area by default, Local Rule may restrict relief to fairway cut or less.
- Embedded ball relief drop is into a relief area, not on a spot.
- Decision allowing player to lift to determine if Rule applies now Rule 16.4 and requirement to announce or involve others when proceeding is eliminated.

Rule 16.2-16.4– Key Concepts

16.2 Dangerous Animal Condition

- Nearest point of complete relief = nearest point that avoids the danger
- Relief procedures as if normal abnormal course condition, except relief in penalty area permitted.

16.3 Embedded Ball

- Ball embedded in its own pitch-mark when part of ball below ground.
- Drop within one club-length of spot immediately behind where embedded.
- Relief available in whole general area, except in sand (not in area of fairway cut)

16.4 Lifting Ball to See If It Lies in Condition Where Relief Allowed

- If reasonable belief a free relief Rule may apply (movable obstruction, abnormal course condition or embedded ball), ball may be marked and lifted.
- Ball may not be cleaned when lifted
 - Unless relief is allowed and player takes relief.