

Rule 17 – Notable Changes

- Penalty areas are not limited to just open water courses, Committees can mark areas without water features as penalty areas.
- Relief on the opposite side of a penalty area is only available by Local Rule.
- Any penalty area can be treated as a no play zone.
- The terms “hazard” and “water hazard” are eliminated
- The term “margin” is replaced by “edge”

Rule 17 – Key Concepts

17.1 Options for Ball in Penalty Area

- Must be known or virtually certain.
 - Yellow = Two penalty relief options
 - Red = Additional lateral relief option (two club-lengths)

17.2 Options After Playing Ball from Penalty Area

- May take normal relief outside penalty area
 - Based on where last crossed edge of penalty area the ball lies in
- May take relief where last stroke made outside penalty area.
- When ball outside penalty area, but must or may take stroke-and distance:
 - May drop first then drop outside penalty area using previous options
 - May directly drop outside penalty area
 - Both result in two total penalty strokes.

17.3 No Relief Under Other Rules for Ball in Penalty Area

- No free relief in penalty areas (except dangerous animal condition)