Status of the Ball—Key Concepts

In Play
- Ball in play when hole started
  - Unless lifted, out of bounds, lost or substituted for.
  - Unlifted or replaced ball is in play, even if ball-marker in place

Wrong Ball
- Any ball in the world, other than
  - the player’s ball in play,
  - a provisional ball,
  - or second ball when permitted in stroke play
Status of the Ball—Key Concepts

Substitute
• Substituted Ball becomes the ball in play even if the substitution was not allowed.

Lost
• Ball lost when not found in 3 minutes.
• Search starts when player, player’s caddie (or partner or partner’s caddie) start to search.
• Temporary interruptions for good reason do not count in search time.
Rule 6.3 – Notable Changes

• Substitution permitted under any relief procedure.
• Determining whether another player has played your ball as a wrong ball is specifically noted as its own known or virtually certain situation.
• Wrong ball moving in temporary water now exempt from penalty.
Rule 6.3 – Key Concepts

6.2 Substitution of Another Ball While Playing Hole
- Player may substitute whenever taking relief, including placing (but not replacings) on the putting green.
- Substituted ball becomes the ball in play, even if it wasn’t allowed.
- General Penalty for incorrect substitution.

6.3 Wrong Ball
- Playing a wrong ball is the general penalty.
- Stroke Play = Must correct or DQ