

ROG EXPLAINED: Interactive Learning Videos

TRAINER'S GUIDE

PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT
PART 2



Introduction to the Rules of Golf Explained: Interactive Learning Videos

Rules of Golf Explained is a collection of 12 short videos offering simple, straight-forward explanations of how to play by the Rules and what your choices are when applying the Rules in situations that happen while playing. The explanations should be familiar but each will probably contain a thing (or things) not previously known or realized by many golfers who view them.

The following information is provided to help you conduct a presentation approximately 20 minutes in length to a small group of golfers using any of the 12 Rules of Golf Explained videos as the center piece. Each presentation is divided into four parts:

- 1) **TEASER QUESTION** (1 to 2 minutes): Each video begins by showing an incident and asking a Rules question about it. Ask participants to consider the question and write down or remember their answer before continuing to view the video. This question will be reviewed and participants will have the opportunity to find out the correct answer at the end of the video. This teaser question is designed to focus the attention of participants on the topic covered in the video.
- 2) **VIDEO** (3 to 5 minutes depending on the video)
- 3) **TEASER QUESTION REVIEW AND ANSWER** (2 to 4 minutes): Most participants, after watching the video, should be clear on the correct answer to this question (even if they were not entirely sure prior to viewing the video). As the presenter, you will have the option to click the button for either the correct or incorrect answer.
 - a. If the correct answer is selected, a message communicating the answer is correct will appear.
 - b. If the incorrect answer button is selected, a message stating that the answer is incorrect will appear.

Regardless of which answer is selected, three buttons will appear.

- a. **<Back to Question>** allows the opportunity to review the question.
- b. **<Review>** will replay the portion of video that provides the answer to the question.
- c. **<Continue>** will advance to the next question without reviewing the answer to the question.

Notes are provided in the next section of this Trainer's Guide for this and the other three questions to help you as the presentation leader clear up any confusion participants might have with incorrect answers.

- 4) **THREE FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS** (5 to 8 minutes): The three additional follow-up questions are meant to reinforce other important points made in the video. As the presenter, you will once again have the opportunity to click the buttons for the correct or incorrect answers. As outlined above with the first question, you will always have the option to:
 - a. Review the question.
 - b. Replay the relevant part of the video.
 - c. Continue to the next question or the end of the video.

A note of caution: These videos are not comprehensive explanations of the Rules covered, but broad overviews meant to cover fundamental and commonly encountered aspects of each Rule presented. If questions come up that are not answered by the video, we recommend they be handled individually after the formal presentation session. If you know the answer and are comfortable answering, please do. If you are not, the USGA can be contacted at (908) 326-1850 or by email at Rules@usga.org.

Rules of Golf Explained – Play the Course as You Find It – Part 2

Two of the basic principles of the game of golf are **1) you play the course as you find it** and **2) you play your ball as it lies**. This segment reinforces what is presented in Play the Course as You Find It – Part 1, then introduces some exceptions to the prohibitions detailed in that segment necessitated by authority granted to players under other Rules and necessitated by the desire of the Rules to allow players to stand at, address and swing at their ball.

The primary messages of this segment are:

- It is against the Rules to make a change to the course in certain protected areas which gains you a potential advantage in your play relative to the stroke you are about to make:
 - where your ball lies
 - where you intend to take your stance
 - where you intend to swing
 - anywhere along your path to the hole AND a reasonable distance past the hole
 - anywhere you are going to drop or place your ball
- However, the Rules specifically allow you to make certain improvements AND allow you to make other improvements so you can stand at, address and swing at your ball.
- The Rules allow you to make improvements without penalty in protected areas by:
 - moving movable obstructions
 - moving loose impediments
 - fixing ball marks on the putting green
 - brushing and moving sand and loose soil on the putting green
 - grounding your club lightly to address your ball
 - moving or bending growing things as little as possible in order to take your stance
 - bending or breaking something when you make your backswing, downswing or follow-through, as long as you complete your stroke.

The secondary message of this segment is:

- Players should practice good course care etiquette, such as replacing divots, raking bunkers and fixing foot traffic damage on putting greens any time it can be done without making an improvement that will gain you or someone in your group a potential advantage.

Teaser Question (Question 1)

Q1.As LPGA Tour player Katherine Hull-Kirk takes her stance, is it a penalty if branches move slightly, even if the movement is the least possible in order for her to take that stance?

- Yes
- No** (correct answer)

Question answered correctly: "That's correct!"

Question answered incorrectly: "Sorry, that's not correct"

Choose between the three options:

- **<Back to Question>** allows the opportunity to correctly answer the question, or
- **<Review>** to replay that portion of the video which answers this question, or
- **<Continue>** to go to Question 2.

Three Follow-up Questions (Questions 2, 3 and 4)

Q2.If your ball is NOT on the green, do the Rules permit you to fix a ball mark that IS on the green and in your way?

- Yes** (correct answer)
- No

Question answered correctly: "That's correct!"

Question answered incorrectly: "Sorry, that's not correct."

Choose between the three options:

- **<Back to Question>** allows the opportunity to correctly answer the question, or
- **<Review>** to replay that portion of the video which answers this question, or
- **<Continue>** to go to Question 3.

Q3.There is no penalty if you knock down leaves or break a branch with your backswing as long as you keep swinging and complete your stroke?

- True** (correct answer)
- False

Question answered correctly: "That's correct!"

Question answered incorrectly: "Sorry, that's not correct."

Choose between the three options:

- **<Back to Question>** allows the opportunity to correctly answer the question, or
- **<Review>** to replay that portion of the video which answers this question, or
- **<Continue>** to go to Question 4.

Q4. Which of the following are you allowed to do even if it improves your lie, stance, swing, or shot to the hole?

- Move an out of bounds stake
- Move a movable obstruction** (correct answer)
- Move a loose impediment** (correct answer)
- Replace or press down a divot

If both correct answers are chosen: "That's correct!"

If only one of the two correct answers is chosen: "That's correct! However, there are two correct choices out of the four offered."

Question answered incorrectly: "Sorry, that's not correct. You are not allowed to do this if it improves your lie, stance, swing or shot to the hole."

Choose between the three options:

- **<Back to Question>** allows the opportunity to correctly answer the question, or
- **<Review>** to replay that portion of the video which answers this question, or
- **<Continue>** to go to the video's conclusion.

Resources:

Video Script:

► – VIDEO CLIP WITH INTRODUCTORY QUESTION

PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

Golf is a game in which you play your ball as it lies and you **PLAY THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT**.

PART 2 – PROTECTED AREAS

As discussed in Part 1 of this video, it is against the Rules to make a change to the course which gains you a potential advantage in the following places:

- where your ball lies,
- where you intend to stand,
- where you intend to swing,
- anywhere along your path to the hole ... and a reasonable distance past the hole, and
- anywhere you are about to drop or place a ball.

PART 3 – PERMITTED ACTIONS

The Rules specifically allow you to make certain improvements and to make other improvements out of practical necessity so you can **STAND AT, ADDRESS, and SWING** at your ball.

- You are allowed to move **MOVABLE OBSTRUCTIONS** and **LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS** that interfere with your play.
- **BALL MARKS** anywhere on the **PUTTING GREEN**, may be fixed **AT ANY TIME** (even before you've hit your ball onto the green)... and
- **SAND** and **LOOSE SOIL** on the **PUTTING GREEN**, but not anywhere else, may be brushed away, because on the putting green they are considered loose impediments....
- While pressing a club down is not allowed, out of practical necessity you are allowed to ground your club **LIGHTLY** to **ADDRESS YOUR BALL** ("lightly" means resting no more than the weight of the club on the ground or grass), even if doing so leaves an impression....
- While you aren't allowed to bend a branch out of your way, if in order to take your stance it is impossible to avoid bending something growing, you won't be penalized as long as you bend it only as little as possible . . . and
- If you bend or break something when you make your swing, you won't be penalized as long as you keep swinging and complete the stroke.

PART 4 – GOOD ETIQUETTE

In practicing good etiquette, players should replace divots, rake bunkers and fix foot traffic damage. While doing so can at times conflict with **PLAYING THE COURSE AS YOU FIND IT**, by consciously paying attention to both, they can exist nicely side-by-side. Good course care etiquette should be observed any time it can be done without making an improvement that will gain you or someone in your group a potential advantage.

PART 5 – QUESTIONS

For more information on playing the course as you find it, see Rule 13-2 in the Rules of Golf and the video *Play the Course as You Find It - Part 1* in this series.

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The USGA and the R&A jointly govern the game worldwide, administering the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status, Equipment Standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings.