

January 1, 2023 Rule Change

Situation: Ball played from the putting green accidentally hits a person or outside influence (Rule 11.1)

First there is no change in the fact that if your ball putted from the green hits another ball at rest on the green you get the general penalty (2 strokes) in stroke play.

But there is a change in what you have to do if your putt hits something else:

When a ball played from the putting green ACCIDENTALLY hits a person or outside influence	
A) PLAY THE BALL AS IT LIES if the ball strikes:	B) REPLAY THE STROKE if the ball strikes:
- Player (you) - Person attending the flagstick	-Any other person
-The club you have used to make the stroke -Ball at rest (and you get general penalty in stroke play) -Ball marker -Flagstick	-Any other moveable object ie -another player’s club ie- another club of the player (wedge) ie -hole liner that came out of the hole when flagstick was removed
-Any animal that is a loose impediment eg an insect or worm or a dead bird	-Any other animal eg a live bird or squirrel
-Any other Outside Influence	

(A) If you replay the stroke when you were required to play the ball as it lies you get the general penalty for playing from a wrong place and the stroke counts.

Example: your putt played from the putting green accidentally hits the flagstick left lying on the green some distance from your intended line of play. You must play the ball as it lies – no penalty. If, by mistake, you replaced the ball in its original spot and replayed the putt you would get a 2 stroke penalty in stroke play / loss of hole in match play for playing from a wrong place.

(B) If you do not replay the stroke and play the ball from where it came to rest you get the general penalty and the stroke counts. You have not played from a wrong place.

Example: your putt hits another player’s club lying on the green. The putt was your 4th stroke. You should have replayed the stroke BUT if instead you just played your next putt from where the ball came to rest after hitting the club you would then have had a 5th putt and on top of that a 2 stroke penalty

If you have read all this then you deserve to be entered into a draw for a gift certificate to the Proshop! Email your name and the word “contest” to tgaube@sasktel.net before February 2, 2023. Good Luck!