

## The Front Nine: Basic Questions on Rule 8 of the Rules of Golf

1. In stroke play, a stake supporting a small tree interferes with your swing. It cannot be readily removed, so you break it. What is the ruling?
  - a. There is no penalty.
  - b. You get one penalty stroke.
  - c. You get the general penalty.
2. Which one of the following does not result in you getting a penalty when doing so improves the conditions affecting the stroke?
  - a. Scooping a small amount of temporary water from the hole with a paper cup without touching the hole.
  - b. Before playing a stroke from the general area near the putting green, you remove a small amount of dew from just in front of your ball on the line of play.
  - c. Moving a natural object to see if it is loose so long as you return it as nearly as possible to its original position if found not to be loose.
3. You may take reasonable actions to mark the spot of your ball even if doing so improves the conditions affecting the stroke.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. Before taking your stance, you remove a stake defining out of bounds that interferes with your line of play. You replace the stake before your stroke. What is the ruling?
  - a. There is no penalty.
  - b. You get one penalty stroke.
  - c. You get the general penalty.
5. Before playing an approach shot over a greenside bunker to a tucked hole location, you walk 30 yards from your ball and into a greenside bunker to assess your line of play. While you are returning to your ball, your caddie rakes your footprints. What is the ruling?
  - a. There is no penalty.
  - b. You get one penalty stroke.
  - c. You get the general penalty.
6. In Four-Ball stroke play, you take an action in relation to your partner's ball that improves your partner's conditions affecting the stroke. The action taken does not improve your conditions. What is the ruling?
  - a. Your partner gets the general penalty; you get no penalty.
  - b. You get the general penalty; your partner gets no penalty.
  - c. You and your partner both get the general penalty.

## The Front Nine: Basic Questions on Rule 8 of the Rules of Golf

7. Which one of the following statements is false?
  - a. In a penalty area, you may improve the area of your intended swing in fairly taking your stance.
  - b. In the general area, you may improve the lie of your ball in pressing down a replaced divot.
  - c. Within the teeing area, you may remove a weed growing in the teeing area to prevent it from interfering with your backswing.
  
8. You intend to take relief for a ball that lies in ground under repair on a slope. Before taking relief, you break off a branch from a bush that is located a few yards from the relief area and down the slope because you are concerned your ball might roll down the hill after taking relief. Which one of the following is true?
  - a. There is no penalty. You have not improved the conditions affecting your stroke.
  - b. You can avoid penalty, but only if you decide not to take relief and play your ball as it lies in the ground under repair.
  - c. You get the general penalty.
  
9. After your ball came to rest in the general area near a bunker, your conditions affecting the stroke are worsened by a dog that ran through the bunker and kicked up some sand. Which one of the following is false?
  - a. You may restore the original conditions as nearly as possible.
  - b. If sand ended up on the ball when the conditions were worsened, you may mark the spot of the ball and lift, clean and replace the ball on its original spot.
  - c. If the worsened conditions cannot be easily restored, you may place the original ball or another ball in the nearest spot that is not nearer the hole and within one club-length of the original spot where the conditions affecting the stroke are most similar.