



RDGA

Allied Golf Association of the **USGA**

RULES UPDATES FOR 2025 GOLF SEASON

FOR THOSE PLAYING IN 2025 RDGA EVENTS -

Please go to the RDGA website and review the “Local Rules and Terms of Competition for 2025 Rochester District Golf Association Tournaments”. This provides a list and explanation of the USGA Local Model Rules which are in effect for all RDGA Tournaments.



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FOOTWEAR –

Model Local Rule G-7 is in effect. This model local rule prohibits the wearing of footwear which have metal spikes. This is also a model local rule in effect for RDGA tournaments in 2025.



UNACCEPTABLE



ACCEPTABLE



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IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION CLOSE TO THE PUTTING GREEN – Model Local Rule F-5.2

APPLICATION: This model local rule only applies when both the ball and the obstruction are in part of the general area of the golf course, cut to fairway heights or less.

RELIEF from interference by an immovable obstruction may be taken, without penalty, under this model local rule when the immovable obstruction is:

1. **On a CLEARLY REASONABLE** line of play;
2. **AND**, is within 2 club-lengths of the putting green;
3. **AND**, is within 2 club-lengths of the ball.

COMPLETE relief must be taken which includes both physical and line of play interference. Relief must be in the General Area of the course.



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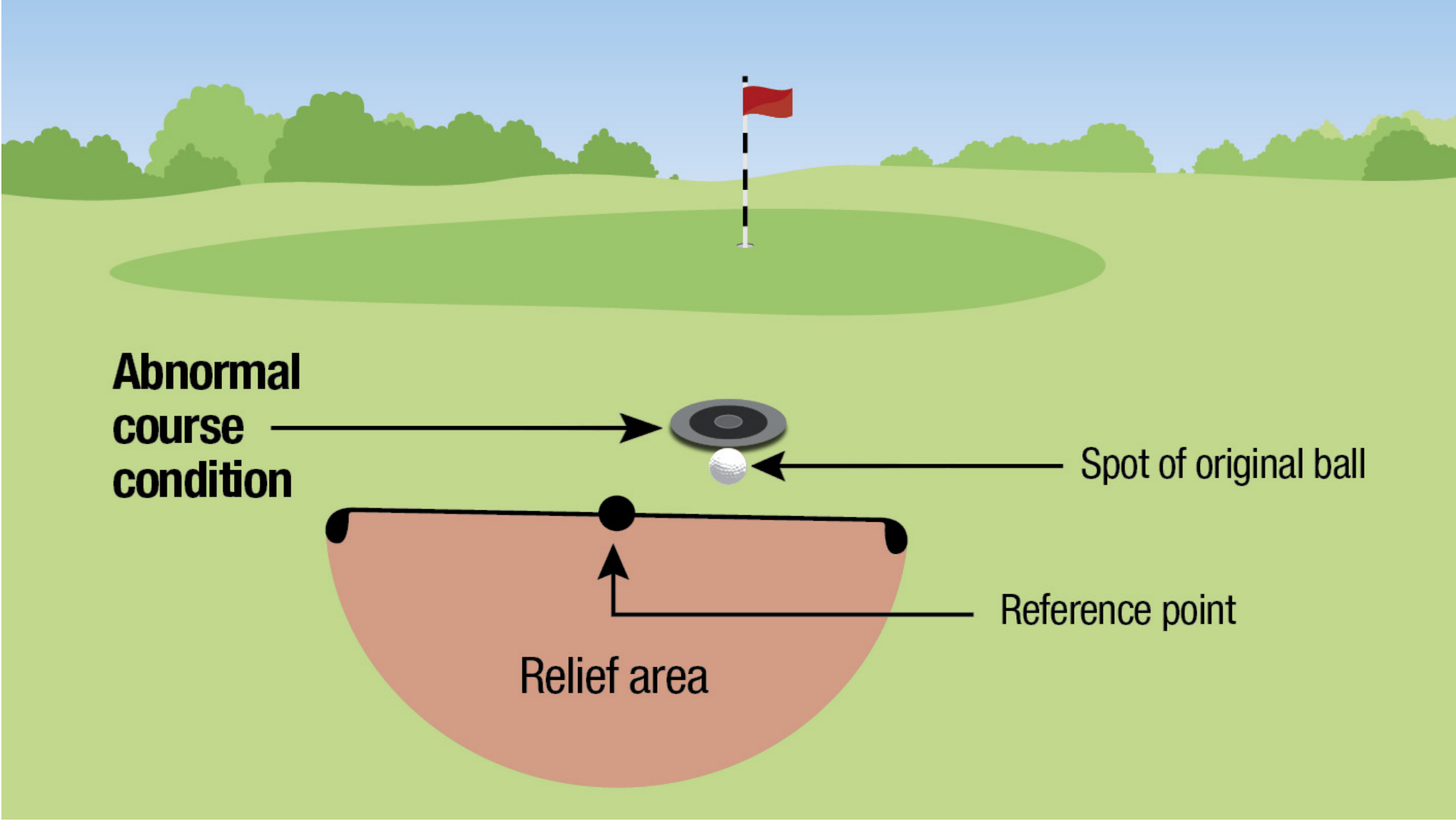
IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION CONTINUED

EXAMPLE: Ball in play comes to rest near a sprinkler head. The sprinkler head is on a clearly reasonable line of play; **AND** it is within 2 club-lengths of the putting green; **AND** it is within 2 club-lengths of the ball.

OPTIONS:

1. Play the ball as it lies with which ever club you select.
2. Take COMPLETE relief under Rule 16.1b
(Free relief from abnormal course condition in general area.)

*****TIP: To measure 2 club-lengths, we should be using the longest club in our bag, which is not your putter!***



**Abnormal
course
condition**

Spot of original ball

Reference point

Relief area



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IMMOVABLE OBSTRUCTION CONTINUED

Once you have taken relief, this is now considered a new stroke. You can use whatever club you would like. As was true with your choice of club when you started this whole process.

TO BE CLEAR...this local rule can be applied even if you had chosen to chip to begin with!

AND FINALLY: If once you have taken your relief, and the immovable obstruction is still “in play” (say, you are now standing on the sprinkler head with one foot), you can take relief again, without penalty, which starts the process over again.