

Preferred Lies:

When conditions warrant using Preferred Lies through the General Area, the following Local Rule will be used.

General Area

A ball lying on a closely mown area in the general area may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within **one club-length** of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a penalty area and not on a *putting green*.

A ball lying outside the closely mown area in the general area may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within **six inches** of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a penalty area and not on a *putting green*.

A player may place his ball only once. It is *in play* when it has been placed (Rule 14.2b(2)). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, it must be replaced (Rule 14.2e). If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies. (Rule 9.2)

If the player **fails** to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, **player incurs a penalty of one stroke.**

Note: The "General Area" covers the entire area of the course except for the following:

1. The teeing area the player must use in starting the hole (Rule 6.2),
2. All penalty areas (Rule 17),
3. All bunkers (Rule 12), and
4. The putting green of the hole being played (Rule 13).

Note: "Closely mown area" means any general area including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

Exception: A player may not take relief under this Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke at his ball in its original position. Player would then proceed under Unplayable Ball Rule (Rule 19)