



## 2026 ADDENDUM TO THE NOTICE TO PLAYERS

### Preferred Lies: One Scorecard Length

MODEL LOCAL RULE E-3 OF THE RULES OF GOLF COMMITTEE PROCEDURES IS IN EFFECT AND IS MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once using a preferred lie by placing the original ball or another ball in this relief area:

- Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.
- Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: ONE SCORECARD LENGTH from the reference point, but with these limits:
- Limits on Location of Relief Area: Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point and must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e. But for the purposes of applying Rule 14.2e, the player has only chosen the spot on which to place the ball once the ball has been set down and the player has let go of the ball with the intent for that ball to be in play.

After a ball has been placed and is in play under this Local Rule, if the player then proceeds under another Rule that provides relief, or is resuming play after stopping, this Local Rule may be used again.

Under this Local Rule, a ball is in the relief area when it is placed no nearer the hole and within one scorecard length of where the ball originally came to rest.

**Penalty for Playing Ball from a Wrong Place in Breach of Local Rule:  
General Penalty Under Rule 14.7a.**

PGA TOUR RULES COMMITTEE  
PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS RULES COMMITTEE  
KORN FERRY TOUR RULES COMMITTEE  
PGA TOUR AMERICAS RULES COMMITTEE



## 2026 PREFERRED LIES SUMMARY (LIFT, CLEAN & PLACE)

- **BALL MUST LIE IN THE GENERAL AREA THAT IS CUT TO FAIRWAY HEIGHT OR LESS.**
- **ORIGINAL BALL OR ANOTHER BALL MUST BE PLACED IN THE GENERAL AREA WITHIN A SCORECARD LENGTH OF THE ORIGINAL SPOT NOT NEARER THE HOLE.**
- **THE SPOT CHOSEN TO PLACE THE BALL IS ESTABLISHED ONCE THE BALL HAS BEEN SET DOWN AND LET GO WITH INTENT FOR THE BALL TO BE IN PLAY.**
- **PLAYER MAY PLACE THE BALL ONLY ONCE, BUT IF THE BALL DOES NOT COME TO REST ON THE CHOSEN SPOT, IT MUST BE REPLACED ON THAT SPOT A SECOND TIME.**
- **IF THE BALL DOES NOT STAY ON THAT SPOT AGAIN, THE BALL MUST BE PLACED ON THE NEAREST SPOT WHERE IT WILL STAY AT REST THAT IS NOT NEARER THE HOLE.**
- **AFTER A BALL HAS BEEN PLACED AND IS IN PLAY UNDER THIS LOCAL RULE, IF A RULE SUBSEQUENTLY PROVIDES RELIEF, OR A PLAYER IS RESUMING PLAY, THIS LOCAL RULE MAY BE USED AGAIN.**
- **PENALTY FOR PLAYING FROM A WRONG PLACE:  
LOSS OF HOLE IN MATCH PLAY  
2-STROKE PENALTY IN STROKE PLAY**

2026 FINAL