

Do you know the rule differences.....

.....abnormal ground conditions

On the final hole of their nine hole match, Jed and Jethro teed off on No. 9 of the South. Jed's ball came to rest in a gopher hole on the right where the top of the ball is about four inches below the surface of the ground. Jethro's ball lands a little further up in the right rough and ending up in a six-inch deep hole down dug by the Club's border collie which had violently dug up the earth to uncover a delicious beetle nest.

Each guy took relief from an *abnormal ground condition*, dropping their balls within one club length from the nearest point of relief not nearer the hole. Halving the holes with bogies, they moved to No. 10. Before either teed off, Jed claimed that Jethro lost the hole for taking undeserved relief.



Jed is correct in that under Rule 25 an *abnormal ground condition* is defined under the rules as casual water, marked ground under repair or a hole made by a "burrowing animal, a reptile or a bird". A dog searching for snacks is not a burrowing animal so Jethro was not entitled to relief. His penalty in match play is loss of hole, or 2 strokes in medal play. NOTE: Had either teed off on No. 10 before Jed called the penalty Jed would be deemed to have waived the penalty.

THE KEEPERS



(You can find further information on Rules 25 in the USGA Rules Handbook)