

Do you know the.....

.....things you may do in a hazard

With the rules changes in 2019 there is no longer a penalty for grounding your club in a hazard (except a bunker) or removing loose impediments in any hazard. You cannot touch the hazard with the intention of testing the condition or improving your lie.

Did you know that there is no penalty provided nothing is done that constitutes testing the condition of the hazard or improves the lie of the ball if you:

- Touch the ground as a result of or to prevent falling
- Touch the ground removing a moveable obstruction such as a rake, soda can, cigar butt, towel, lost glove, or any loose impediment.
- Carry 3 wedges into the bunker, lay your pitching wedge and sand wedge in the bunker and use your lob wedge to make your shot.
- Carry 2 wedges into the hazard select your 60 degree wedge for the shot, but then put it down in the bunker or water hazard and select 52 degree wedge already on the ground to make the shot.
- Enter the bunker without a club, take your stance to get a feel for which club you should use, and then exit the bunker, select your club, re-enter the bunker, again take your stance, change your mind again, leave the bunker, get another club, etc.

Note: In a bunker, if your club touches the sand *during the backstroke*, you have run afoul and are penalized because you touched the sand "before making a stroke" which is prohibited. If you touch the sand on the downswing there is no penalty since this is deemed as happened while you are making a stroke at the ball and is not prohibited.

THE KEEPERS

