



## ***Canterbury Golf Referees Association***

### ***Rule of the Month – July 2025***

#### **The Game, Player Conduct and the Rules**

A round of golf consists of 18 or fewer holes as determined by the committee. It is played on a course starting on the allocated tee and completing the holes in the correct sequence until the round is completed or in the case of a match, the match is decided..

The course is played as it is found and the ball is played as it lies, unless there are exceptions as allowed within the rules. The local rules must also be read for each particular course and these may change from day to day.

Players are also expected to follow certain etiquettes of the game. Examples of these are : (1)Play in the spirit of the game by acting with integrity, for instance, applying a penalty that is appropriate if required. (2)Being considerate for others, such as maintaining a good pace of play and not distracting others while they are playing their shot. (3)Caring for the course such as raking bunkers and replacing or repairing divots as necessary.

Players must be aware of playing to the rules, and if in a competition, play within the terms of the competition . It is each player's own responsibility to apply the rules and be honest in applying those rules and penalties.

There are three levels of penalties that can be applied:

1. One Stroke Penalty – potential advantage is minor or there is relief being taken from a place different to where the original ball was.
2. Two Stoke Penalty – the potential advantage is more significant than where a one stroke penalty would apply, e.g. ball in a penalty area.
3. Disqualification – where there is serious misconduct or a breach of a major rule eg not putting out in a stroke match

There is little discretion in altering penalties.