

The Never Ending Story of Hole 12

Longtime members of our ladies group have heard story after story about the confusing rulings on hole number 11. It's come up again, so for new and old members here's the lowdown!

Scenario 1: Your ball comes to rest on the cart path.

The cart path is an immovable obstruction and as such a player gets to move their ball, if they wish, and drop at their nearest point of "complete" relief, no closer to the hole. **No penalty**

Scenario 2: The balls roll onto the cart path and comes to rest in the wood pilings that line the cart path. Again, these pilings are immovable obstructions and are NOT in the penalty area (water). Again free relief to the cart path and then again free relief from the cart path, as above. **No penalty**

Caution, be sure you take COMPLETE relief, if even a tiny part of your heel is on the path you will be penalized two strokes.

Scenario 3. Your ball rolls down, and down, and down the cart path and comes to rest on the bridge.

The bridge is actually IN the penalty area so any ball lying on the bridge is considered to be IN the penalty area (water). You may, if you want, hit the ball from where it lies on the bridge with **NO penalty** and, as the bridge is considered to be an OBSTRUCTION, you are allowed to ground your club.

Scenario 4: The ball rolls onto the bridge and comes to rest in the pilings lining the bridge.

The pilings here are an integral part of the bridge so if you can get a club on the ball, and ~~WANT~~ to try a shot, you may, and ground your club, **no penalty.**

Scenario 5: You decide you don't want to try shot from the bridge or from against the pilings lining the bridge.

You use the relief options for a ball lying in a penalty area lined with red stakes **under penalty of one stroke.** Rule 17.

1. Play from where you made your last stroke
2. Draw an imaginary line from the hole, through your ball and beyond and drop a ball anywhere on this line BEHIND the penalty area
3. Drop a ball within two club lengths from where your ball last crossed the penalty area, aka the bridge.

IF you ever are not sure how to play a ball under a Rule in stroke play you can always play two balls, 20.1c (3)

The player must decide which ball they want to count if allowed by the Rules and MUST report the situation to the Committee before turning in their scorecard. The player will be disqualified if they fail to do so. Yikes!

I hope this helps you ALL!

Hilary