



The R&A
International Golf
Conference 2023

GOLF'S **GOLDEN** OPPORTUNITY

GRANT MOIR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE

R&A



GOVERNANCE, EQUIPMENT & TURF

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To govern responsibly with a focus on
the integrity and **enjoyment** of the sport

R&A PLAYBOOK

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Post-2020 Handicapping Landscape As at April 2023



Handicapping:

- Golf's unique selling point
- WHS global coverage
- Future WHS and course rating enhancements



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R&A USGA

Rules of Amateur Status

Effective January 2022




ROLEX
PROUD SUPPORTER OF
THE GAME OF GOLF



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Changes for Elite Amateurs:

- Removal of sponsorship restrictions
- Cash prizes in scratch competitions
- Reduction in periods awaiting reinstatement



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Amateur Status and Access:

- Programmes approved by national governing bodies
- New R&A backed GB&I initiative



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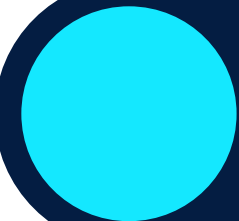
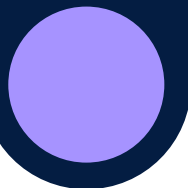
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“If you obey all the
rules you miss all the
fun”

KATHARINE HEPBURN



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Access to Rules of Golf:

- Rules App



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A Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf

Access to Rules of Golf:

- Rules App
- New Quick Guide video



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IT'S OKAY TO PLAY GOLF FOR FUN

GUILTLESS WAYS TO MAKE GOLF MORE FUN WHILE LEARNING



1. It's okay to not keep score.
2. It's okay to play from the shortest tees or start at the 150 yard marker.
3. It's okay to give yourself a better lie by rolling the ball around a little. It's okay to tee the ball up anywhere when you are first learning.
4. It's okay to only count swings when you make contact with the ball.
5. It's okay to throw the ball out of a bunker after one try.
6. It's okay to forget about a ball that may be lost or out of bounds. It's okay to drop a ball where you think it might be...or where you wanted it to be.
7. It's okay to play a scramble with your group...scrambles are very popular.
8. It's okay to just chip and putt on a hole when you feel like it.
9. It's okay to pick up in the middle of the hole and enjoy the outdoors and scenery.
10. It's okay to skip a hole if you need to take a break.
11. It's okay to play less than 9 or 18-holes and call it a round of golf.
12. It's okay to move your ball away from trees, rocks or very hilly lies.
13. It's okay to hit the same club for the entire round, while using a putter on the putting green.
14. It's okay to play golf in your sneakers. Be comfortable!
15. It's okay to get enthusiastic! (High fives, fist pumps and big smiles are encouraged)
16. It's okay to talk on the golf course...enjoy a nice conversation or tell a few jokes.
17. It's okay to bring your kids to the course, whether they are 5 or 35.
18. It's okay to **PLAY GOLF JUST FOR FUN!**

When you are ready, see your local PGA/LPGA Golf Professional or visit [usga.org](https://www.usga.org) to learn and play by the USGA Rules of Golf.

Access to Rules of Golf:

- New Quick Guide video
- Rules App
- It's OK approach for new golfers – under discussion



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Rules of Golf:

- Inclusion
- Education
- Collaboration



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