

MOS Rules

1. Border line

The border line is identical with the markings of the tee-off area in playing direction. As soon as the ball has correctly left the tee-off area, it is considered to have crossed the border line and is in play. If the ball returns back over the border line after having first successfully passed it, **the ball can be placed anywhere on the tee-off area for the next stroke.**

Lanes, on which an obstacle or a hazard covers the lane in its complete width, can have the border line at the end of this obstacle. If the ball returns back over the border line after having first successfully passed it, the general sport rules are applied (play is continued from the place, where the ball returned back over the border line, however under consideration of general repositioning rules).

2. Ball leaving the lane

General sport rules are applied: If ball leaves the lane after having correctly passed the border line, play is continued from the place where the ball left the lane, under consideration of repositioning rules and rules for ball leaving the lane. A specific course rule can be applied, if the players would gain unfair advantage by playing the ball intentionally out of the lane. If the specific course rule is applied, the next stroke will be played from the position of the previous stroke.

a. Brick, rock or similar boundaries

The ball is considered to have left the lane when it is outside the boundaries. The ball touching the top of the boundary and returning to the lane is still in play.

b. Boundaries with elevation, covered with longer turf ("rough")

The ball is considered to have left the lane when it has passed the highest point of the elevated boundary. In places where it is possible to play by using a "shortcut" just outside the boundary, the boundary line should be marked clearly.

c. Boundaries without elevation, covered with longer turf ("rough")

The ball is considered to have left the lane when it has crossed the boundary marking.

3. Repositioning

If a ball comes to rest close to a boundary it can be repositioned only with the hand at 90 degrees angle to the boundary **at up to 20 cm** from the boundary.

If a ball comes to rest near an obstacle (in any direction; behind, in front of or next to), it can be repositioned only with the hand at 90 degrees angle to the obstacle **at up to 30 cm** from it.

Repositioning direction: The ball is generally to be repositioned at 90 degree angle to the boundary or obstacle. A specific lane-ruling can apply, i.e. if the player would gain unfair advantage with the general repositioning rule. The so called “line-of-sight” rule must be applied always when player would gain a free playing line to the hole with the general repositioning rules. This means that if there is no free playing line to the hole from the position of the ball, the repositioning must be made in an imaginary line drawn from the middle of the hole over the centre point of the ball.

Balls in the obstacle (if they have not passed the obstacle completely) can be repositioned to the direction of the tee-off area under the consideration of general repositioning rules. This also applies for balls returning back into the obstacle after having once passed it correctly.

4. Repositioning rules for different boundary types

a. Brick, rock or similar boundaries

Balls leaving the lane or balls at the boundary are repositioned according to general repositioning rules.

b. Boundaries with elevation, covered with longer turf (“rough”)

Balls leaving the lane are repositioned at the highest point of the elevated boundary. Balls at the boundary are repositioned according to general repositioning rules from the beginning of the elevation.

c. Boundaries without elevation, covered with longer turf (“rough”)

General repositioning rules are not applied. Balls leaving the lane are repositioned on the boundary marking. Balls at the boundary marking are played from their current position. Optical bunkers and water hazards (areas made of same turf than the playing surface, but in different colour) are not considered as hazards. General repositioning rules are applied also when the ball stops in such a position, but the repositioning can never lead to leaving the optical hazard. In similar way, repositioning can not lead to leaving a rough, if the ball has stopped in the rough. In such situations the repositioning must be less than 20 cm or sideways (to be defined by a course rule).

Penalty strokes are never used when a ball is leaving the lane.

5. Ball in hazard

In general the player has two options:

1. To play out of the hazard under consideration of the general repositioning rules, as long as the repositioned ball does not leave the hazard as consequence of the repositioning.
2. The next stroke will be played **from the position the previous stroke was played from**.