

The Rules Applied – Feb 2022

Today's rule addresses a matter which happens frequently . . .

I'm in a stroke play event and proceed to hit my tee shot on hole 10 into the barranca on the right. Now what?

Under the Debell local rules, barrancas are red-tipped penalty areas. If you find your ball and wish to play it, you may do so. You may even ground your club and move loose impediments (but you may not move the ball).

If you do not find your ball, or do not want to play from there, you have three options, all of which involve a 1-stroke penalty – (a) you may re-hit from your original position (if you hit your tee shot in the barranca, you may go back to the tee and hit again; (b) you may drop your ball in a spot which is on a line stretching from the pin to the point of entry into the barranca **and** no closer to the hole (this option is not available on Hole 10, because there is no point on such a line, unless you go into the barranca); or (c) you may drop your ball within 2 club lengths of the point of entry into the barranca. To do this, first determine the place where the ball entered the penalty area and mark it with a tee. From there, measure 2 club lengths no nearer the whole using your longest club (putters are not allowed) and marking the spot with a tee. The relief area is the arc between the relief point and the penalty area, going away from the hole. Drop a ball in the relief area (knee high drop). If the ball comes to rest in the relief area the ball is in play, pick up the tees and proceed with a penalty of 1 stroke. If the ball rolls out of the area, then drop a second time. If it rolls out a second time, then place your ball where the previous drop landed. Once again pick up the tees and proceed with a penalty of 1 stroke. Hence you hit your tee shot, took a drop (1 stroke penalty) and are now hitting your third shot.

Would I ever use that option (a) – rehit?

You might use it on Hole 1, if your tee shot was yanked straight to the left or on Hole 13, if you shanked it right.

How about option (b) – that straight line back thing?

That could come into play if you hit your tee shot right on Hole 11, although you may have to go back a bit.

rule 14.3

