

## Golf Lessons Learned – SWGA R9H 2012

SWGA plays [Modified 4-ball Stroke Play](#) for all R9H & Par 3 league play. For rulings, please make sure to assess Stroke Play Penalties for all situations.

**Situation:** Player A plays the wrong ball after a wayward TEE shot; “A” does not notice ball difference until just short of the Green (same hole). The ball is not a competitor’s ball, but a ‘found’ ball.

Player A played TEE shot off to the side. “A” and an opposing team member (Player C) went to look for the ball. “C” asked “A” what brand of ball was being played. “A” stated “Taylormade”. “C” finds a ball but it is a Titleist, but “A” states that is their ball. “A” plays the ball towards the green. Just short of the green of the same hole, “A” notices that the ball is NOT the correct ball. “A” continued play with found ball and should have been assessed a 2-stroke penalty. Player B (captain of team) conceded hole due to Match Play ruling rather than Stroke Play ruling.

PENALTY: **2 STROKES** to be added to Player A stroke count for the hole where the wrong ball was played.

**Player A should have VERIFIED that ball was actually the correct ball.**

**USGA Rule: 12-2:** MARK the location of the ball with tee, announce to everyone that you are lifting ball for identification purposes. Replace ball as close to same condition as you found it, do not clean ball.

### **USGA RULE 15: 15-3B (Wrong Ball)**

<http://www.usga.org/Rule-Books/Rules-of-Golf/Rule-15/>

#### **b. Stroke Play**

If a competitor makes a stroke or strokes at a wrong ball, he incurs a penalty of **two strokes**.

The competitor must correct his mistake by playing the correct ball or by proceeding under the Rules. If he fails to correct his mistake before making a stroke on the next teeing ground or, in the case of the last hole of the round, fails to declare his intention to correct his mistake before leaving the putting green, he is disqualified.

### **USGA RULE 31: 31-6 (Wrong Ball)**

[http://swga.sandia.gov/Modified\\_4\\_ball\\_stroke\\_play-1.pdf](http://swga.sandia.gov/Modified_4_ball_stroke_play-1.pdf)

If a competitor makes a stroke at a wrong ball that is not in a hazard, he incurs a penalty of two strokes and must correct his mistake by playing the correct ball or by proceeding under the Rules. His partner incurs no penalty even if the wrong ball belongs to him.

If the wrong ball belongs to another competitor, its owner must place a ball on the spot from which the wrong ball was first played. (USGA) (SWGA)

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