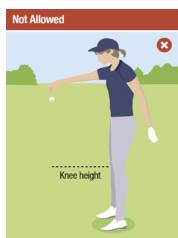


THE NEW RULES OF GOLF – EFFECTIVE 1/1/2019

# The Main Changes

The 2016 Rules continue to apply up to 31/12/2018

1. **New dropping height.**  
All drops must be from knee height.
2. **New dropping procedure.**  
Ball must land in and come to rest in relief area.
3. **Time reduced for search.**  
Ball is lost if not found within 3 minutes.
4. **Putting with flagstick in.**  
Hitting unattended flagstick in hole now allowed when putting.
5. **Spike mark repair on green.**  
Repair of almost any damage to green now allowed.
6. **Ball or ball-marker moved on green.**  
No penalty for accidental movement of ball or ball-marker on green.
7. **Ball accidentally moved while searching.**  
Replace ball with no penalty.
8. **Loose impediments in bunker or penalty area.**  
Removal of loose impediments in bunker or penalty area now allowed.
9. **Touching line of play on green.**  
Touching line of play on green now allowed.
10. **READY GOLF** (in Stableford, Stroke Play, Par). The new Rules actively encourage Ready Golf.



Go to [www.golf.org.au/newrules](http://www.golf.org.au/newrules) to see the details plus a series of short videos on the main changes.

View your handicap record  
at [www.golf.org.au](http://www.golf.org.au)