

# 2019 USGA Major Rule Change of the Week...

Major Rule Change - Alternate local rule for a ball that is hit out of bounds.

Model Local Rule E-5

When a player's ball has not been found or is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under stroke and distance.

For two penalty strokes, the player may take relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this relief area (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

- Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball is estimated to have: Come to rest on the course, or Last crossed the edge of the course boundary to go out of bounds. (and within two club-lengths to the outside of that line)
- Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the hole being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, but is not nearer the hole than the ball reference point. (and within two club-lengths to the outside of that line)

[Click here to watch the](#)

[explanation of this model local rule](#)



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Each of these rules changes will take effect on January 1, 2019.

Our hope is to make as many golfers knowledgeable of the upcoming rules changes before the new year.

Good Luck & Play Well!

