

AUGUST 2008 RULES REMINDER

Submitted by Ginger Babb

It has been brought to my attention that there is some confusion on the correct action to take when you have an unplayable lie. This month we will cover the **USGA Rule 28: Ball Unplayable**.

The player may deem his/her ball unplayable at any place on the course **except in a water hazard**. The player is the sole judge as to whether his ball is unplayable.

If the player deems his/her ball unplayable, he must **under penalty of one stroke**:

- a. Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played (see Rule 20-5): or
- b. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the *hole* and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped; or
- c. Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole.

If the unplayable ball is in a **bunker** the player may proceed under clause a, b, or c above. If he elects to proceed under clause b or c, a ball must be dropped **in the bunker**.

When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.