

Myths And Such

Has this ever happened to you? You are playing golf with a friend. On the 1st hole your putt comes up a few inches short of the hole. You walk up, remove the flag and while still holding it, tap in the putt. At this point your friend yells, “you can’t do that. It’s a penalty” Well no it isn’t. It’s a MYTH.

Later in the round you are chipping from off the green and you ask your friend to attend the flag. She says, “you can’t do that. It’s a penalty. Again, no, it isn’t It’s a MYTH.

On the fifth hole you miss your putt by a few inches; walk up and standing on the other side of the hole tap it in. Again your friend says, “you can’t do that” Well, yes you can. Another MYTH.

Here are a few more.

Playing out of turn in stroke play incurs a penalty. Not so

Two players are in a bunker at the same while one hits. No Penalty

When using a club for measuring, if the player leaves the club on the ground when dropping and the ball hits the club, the player incurs a penalty. Not so. She must re-drop. Pick up the club before dropping. Another Myth.

Cleaning a ball by rubbing it on the green is a penalty. Not a good idea but it is not a penalty.

While removing a rake from a bunker a player slips a club head under the rake to lift it up and while doing so touches the sand. The claim often heard is she is testing the sand. Not so. No penalty. Another Myth.

In Match Play my ball is about 4 feet from the hole. My opponent who is 20 feet away putts and her ball strikes my ball. I yell, “that’s a 2 stroke penalty”. Not so in Match Play. Another Myth.

And the most important one. People with the loudest voices know all the rules. Biggest Myth of all.

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