

Rule 18 - 2 (Ball at Rest Moved)

(R & A Decisions on the Rules of Golf 2010 – 2011)

NOTE: These examples ONLY deal with a teed ball (Practice Swing) and ball moved accidentally by Practice Swing other than on the tee.

18-2a/19 BALL MOVED ACIDENTLY BY PRACTICE SWING PRIOR TO TEE SHOT

Q: Before playing from the teeing ground, a player took a practice swing, in the course of which he accidentally struck and moved the teed ball with his club. Did the player play a stroke or incur a penalty?

A: The player did not make a stroke – see Definition of “Stroke”. Since the ball was not in play – see definition of “Ball in Play” – he incurred no penalty under Rule 18-2a. The player must put a ball into play from the teeing ground.

18-2a/20 – BALL IN PLAY MOVED ACCIDENTLY BY PRACTICE SWING

Q: A player makes a practice swing and accidentally moves his ball in play with his club. Has he made a stroke?

A: **NO.** He had no intention of moving the ball – see definition of “Stroke”. However, he incurs a penalty stroke under Rule 18-2a for moving his ball in play, and the ball must be replaced.