

## Some U. S. Golf Association Decisions on the Rules of Golf

How and in what order do matches take precedence? Does a threesome have right-of-way over a foursome?

Decision.—It is assumed that by “threesome” and “foursome” reference is made to three-ball and four-ball matches. Neither of these takes precedence over the other, as under the Rules of Golf three-ball and four-ball are not properly constituted matches.

A stream runs nearly parallel with one of our holes. When a ball is driven into the stream we drop back on the side from which the ball entered. Is that right? Some players contend that the hazard should be kept between the player and the hole and that the ball should be dropped on the other side.

Decision.—Unless your local committee has ruled that the stream is a “parallel water hazard,” in which case the ball could be dropped on the nearer side of the stream, the player on this hole would have to be governed by the provisions in Rule 27.

What is the proper procedure in the case of a ball being sliced or pulled to and stopping upon the putting green of a hole that is not the hole being played?

Decision.—There is no rule in golf covering the situation you describe. It is, however, the custom for local committees to make provision for dropping a ball off a putting green other than the one that is being played.

May the club be soled in a road crossing a fairway, the road being a hazard?

Decision.—As the road is a hazard the club may not be soled. Refer to page 6, definition 6, in the book of golf rules.

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## Clearing a Lake or Pond of Vegetation

Vegetation of two kinds is often troublesome in lakes or ponds, namely (1) scums, which consist of minute plants of the algae group and which cause bad odors and flavor in the water, and (2) water weeds, which root in the bottom and rise above the surface of the lake. Scums can be removed by dragging a sack of copper sulfate, or bluestone, back and forth through the water, either from the stern of a boat or from the end of a pole handled from the shore. This chemical, if not used in excessive amount, will not injure fish in the water nor make the water unfit for drinking purposes. Copper sulfate should be used at a rate not to exceed 1 pound to 125,000 gallons of water. In order to calculate the approximate number of gallons in a lake or pond, the product of the average length, breadth, and depth of the body of water in feet may be multiplied by 6.25.

As regards water weeds, no chemical has been found which may be used successfully in killing weeds rooted in the bottom of a lake. The methods usually employed to rid water of such weeds are scraping out the plants from the bottom of the lake, occasionally cutting them at considerable depths below the surface of the water, alternately raising and lowering the surface of the lake by drainage and