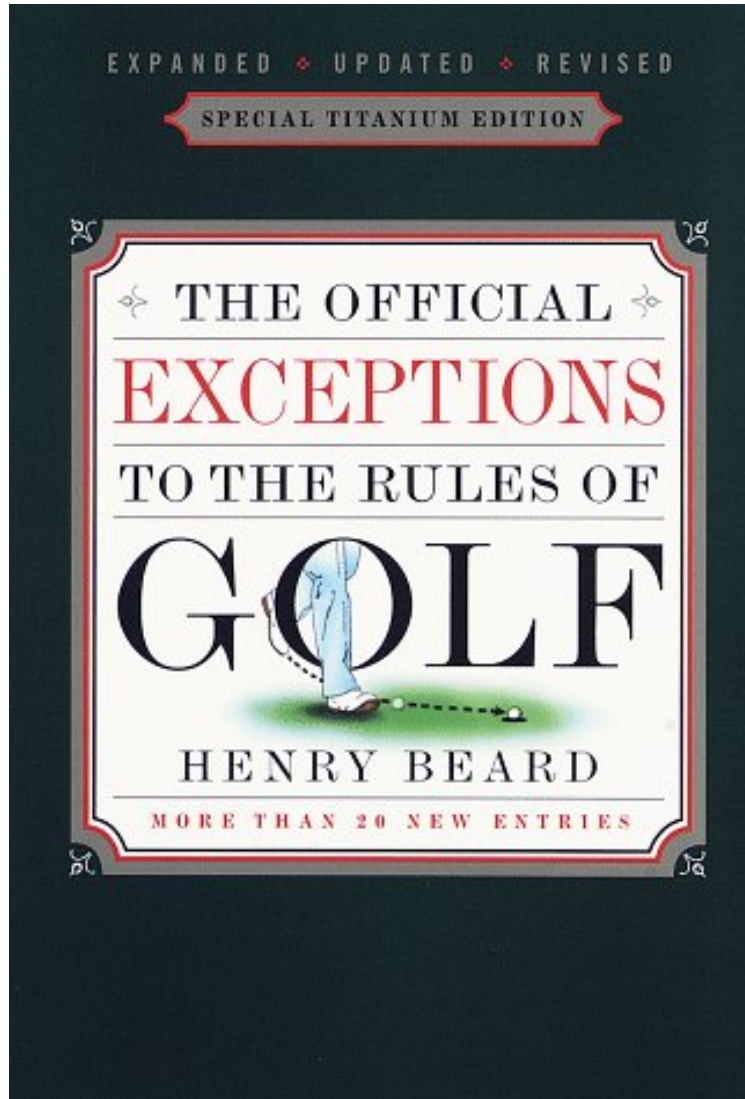


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# The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf

Henry Beard

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#1697788 in Books 1997-11-25 1997-11-25 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .50 x 5.50l, #File Name: 0679741232140 pages | File size: 15.Mb

**Henry Beard : The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Delightfully entertainingBy LadyWritten in true "lawyer-ese" the language and concepts are delightful, believable, and worthy of sharing with all golfing friends (and foes).Some of these rules should definitely be enacted!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious - relatable by all golfersBy Brad ConteThis book is hilarious. Henry Beard does a great job of capturing all the unwritten rules of golf, rules we wish we could change, and rules we should follow if we decide to "bend" the official rules. The book is

organized into several sections, dealing with lost balls, hazards, etc. No golfer hasn't independently wished at least a couple dozen handful of his 62 "official" exceptions (plus appendices) were true. What do you do if you (unfairly) lose your ball in middle the fairway? What if you hit a mulligan that's worse than your original tee shot? What if your partner is cheating? What about weird ground conditions? Missed "gimme" putts? Beard answers all those questions, and more. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. SCORE one for ExceptionsBy vipdtWhen this 'funny' of golf arrived on book shelves I received one as a 'gift' at a charity golf tournament. Reading whilst playing that tournament served as a PERFECT backdrop for the penning of this tomb of the sport. One CAN'T stop laughing at or with ANYONE whom enjoys puttering around in the woods of this grand old game. It really is a fantastic turn of VERY staunch rules and the REAL look at how the masses actually DO play the game. Having long since passed my cop along, (and then recalling it recently whilst chatting with a golf 'pro'), I procured a copy to regard again and quite enjoy. FORE Stars (or was it FIVE?!)

Tired of being beaten by an honest game of golf, self-proclaimed hacker Henry Beard figured that he didn't need a new swing--his game just needed a new set of rules. With *The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf*, he created a bible for the sensible golfer who doesn't have time to lose. You'll learn how to cope with pesky influences: missed shots and lost balls that wreak havoc on your score. Did you search unsuccessfully for your ball in the fairway? Don't panic. All you have to do is declare that it is a Ball Missing in Fairway But Obviously Not Lost (Exception #6) and drop another ball into the approximate spot where it must have landed. What could make more sense? Filled with fair rules, this is the book that every practical golfer must have.

From the Inside Flap Tired of being beaten by an honest game of golf, self-proclaimed hacker Henry Beard figured that he didn't need a new swing--his game just needed a new set of rules. With *The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf*, he created a bible for the sensible golfer who doesn't have time to lose. You'll learn how to cope with pesky influences: missed shots and lost balls that wreak havoc on your score. Did you search unsuccessfully for your ball in the fairway? Don't panic. All you have to do is declare that it is a Ball Missing in Fairway But Obviously Not Lost (Exception #6) and drop another ball into the approximate spot where it must have landed. What could make more sense? Filled with fair rules, this is the book that every practical golfer must have. About the Author Henry Beard is the founder of the National Lampoon. He is the author and co-author of many books, including *French for Cats*, *Latin for All Stupid Occasions*, *O.J.'s Legal Pad*, and *Leslie Nielson's Stupid Little Golf Book*. Combined, his Villard backlist titles have over 1.2 million copies in print. He lives in New York. Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Introduction How many times has this happened to you? Your tee shot takes a bad bounce into rough thick enough to smother a buffalo, or you split the fairway with a perfect 250-yard drive, only to find that it came to rest in a divot hole so deep that if it were on the moon someone would give it a Latin name. Naturally, you tap your ball out of those ridiculous lies and onto a nearby stretch of reasonably playable turf where you have at least a fighting chance of hitting a halfway decent shot. After all, this isn't the Masters--it's just a friendly game of golf. And anyway, you know perfectly well that your playing partners in the opposite rough and on the other side of the fairway are doing exactly the same thing you are. Why then do you feel this nagging sense of guilt for simply having corrected what is obviously a totally unfair playing condition? Why? Well, every golfer knows the answer to that question. It's all because of a deadly little booklet called "The Rules of Golf"--over a hundred brain-numbing pages filled with batty commandments, nitpicking definitions, idiotic distinctions, and blatant contradictions, which, taken as a whole, are about as relevant to the game of golf that most people actually play as Escoffier's classic haute cuisine recipes are to microwave cookery. You see "The Rules of Golf" as they now stand (and they have been much amended over the years) have come to serve only one real purpose, and that purpose is not to establish a universal standard of fair play and sportsmanship for golfers of varying skills anywhere in the world. No, the purpose of "The Rules of Golf" is to ensure that during the opening round of a multimillion-dollar tournament, a modern professional golfer with a bag full of custom-made, individually swing-weighted clubs, the build of a linebacker, the concentration of a mongoose, and a close personal relationship with God, cannot step out onto a lush, manicured, overwatered, rarely played, divot-free, lovingly maintained sod farm of a golf course, like Augusta National, and score a 21-under par on the first 18 holes. Now, you've seen pros like that on TV complaining about some course you'd kill to play on. And when they bitch and moan because the fairways haven't been cut close enough to let their drives carry 300 yards, or because the stuff in the bunkers isn't actual jewelers' pumice so they can't put a sand wedge a foot from the cup, or because they had to settle for a couple of 2-putts on greens with their own zip codes due to a spike mark or two, you must sometimes say to yourself, "Hey, I'm not playing the same game these guys are." Well, you're right. You're not. And so it also stands to reason that you shouldn't be playing by their rules either. You should be playing by your rules--hackers' rules--or, as they are more formally known, "The Official Exceptions to the Rules of Golf." Most golfers know a handful of these unwritten but customary exceptions--the mulligan, winter rules, gimmes--but the book you are now holding represents the first serious effort to collect and codify in one handy, easy-to-use volume all 62 of the time-honored, generally recognized modifications of, and exemptions from, "The Rules of Golf." Each exception has been rendered into

precise, quotable prose, illustrated with simple-to-understand drawings describing the particular extenuating circumstances the exception covers, and presented in the natural order of play from tee to green so that the appropriate remedy for any situation is always right at your fingertips. So now it's up to you. Are you going to play the game as it was originally played and was always meant to be played, with a little common sense based on the simple fact that just hitting the ball is hard enough already, so players are entitled to a break once in a while? Or are you going to follow a set of hairsplitting rules drafted by a bunch of fussy budget country club WASPs who think that a municipal course is a period during which one studies tax-free bond issues, whose idea of fun is serving on a committee trying to decide whether a meteorite is a loose impediment or an outside agency, and who basically regard the game of golf not as an enjoyable pastime, but rather as a form of protracted litigation undertaken outdoors? P.S. They also think that blushing pink and lime green are complementary colors. Happy hacking.

**Exception 7 Ball Not Put Fully into Play (Topped Ball)** A player may replay any tee shot once, without assessing a stroke, if his ball fails to pass beyond the forward edge of the raised mound or grassy area comprising the ladies' tees, or if, as a result of his ball having contacted any artificial fixed equipment found on or near the teeing ground, such as tee markers, informational signs, ball-cleansing devices, benches, litter receptacles, drinking fountains, or his or his fellow players' golfing equipment or carts, it comes to rest in a place farther from, or no nearer to, the hole than the point where it was teed up prior to being hit.

**Exception 8 Audible Interference with Swing (Spookies)** A player may replay his shot without assessing a stroke if at any time during his backswing or downswing, and prior to the moment when he strikes his ball, he shall hear a distracting sound or noise, including, but not limited to: a) a horn, siren, bell, gong, or chime; b) a backfire, tire squeal, or engine whine; c) a cheer, shout, groan, or whoop; d) a bang, clap, crack, crash, slam, or snap; e) a blast, rumble, or roar; f) a thud, click, clunk, rattle, or clatter; g) a bark, bellow, whinny, bleat, or howl; h) a squawk, quack, cackle, cluck, chirp, honk, mew, or coo; i) a cough, hiccup, snuffle, snort, or sneeze; or j) a giggle, chuckle, chortle, snicker, or guffaw.

**Exception 9 Protection Against Double Penalty (Two-Dollar Ball)** If a brand-new, high-quality ball just removed from a sleeve, box, or carton is struck by a player from the teeing ground of any hole directly into water, deep woods, impassable terrain, or ground out-of-bounds under circumstances that appear to foreclose the possibility of its recovery, the loss of that ball shall be deemed good and sufficient punishment for any infraction of the rules, and the player may hit a second ball without assessing a stroke or incurring any further penalty.

**Exception 15 Ball Renounced in Flight (Shapiro)** A player who hits a long, high drive that immediately travels in a clearly undesired direction may disown the ball while it is still in flight and instantly tee up and hit another without assessing a stroke for the first wayward shot, but he must begin his swing at the second ball before the first ball hits the ground, and he must remain in continuous motion throughout this procedure, thereby establishing that both shots took place during a single unbroken period of ball-striking during which he hit duplicate balls concurrently using a dual movement and a double-action swing, rather than hitting a pair of individual balls consecutively with two separate and distinct swings.

**Exception 18 Temporary Insanity (John Daly Drive)** If a player attempts to hit a drive an unprecedented distance through the use of an excessively long, fast, or forceful swing in which his torso is abnormally contorted, or his club shaft goes well past parallel in his backswing, or he audibly grunts or moans during the downswing, or either or both of his feet come out of his shoes at the conclusion of his follow-through, and the resulting shot is unsuccessful, he may tee up and hit another ball without assessing a stroke, but before doing so he must return his driver to his golf bag and replace it with a 3-wood or a long iron, and he must then swing that club in a restrained, prudent, and judicious fashion, with a compact arc, a measured pace, and a moderate body movement. However, if he once again employs a wild and uncontrolled swing, he forfeits his right to replay under this exception, even if he should claim that this fresh instance of overswinging was caused by a reasonable desire on his part to make up for the fact that the second ball was being hit with a club of less inherent power than the driver, and hence to achieve his customary length off the tee, he had no choice but to strike it with a greater-than-normal velocity and ferocity.

**Exception 19 Providential Ball (Found Ball)** If during an unsuccessful search for his ball a player shall find another ball that does not belong to him or to one of his fellow players and that does not appear to be currently in play from an adjacent hole, he may treat that ball as a "providential ball" and substitute it for his own ball if: a) it lies reasonably close to the point where he believes his own ball came to rest, b) it is not an obviously different color, and c) it is not a range ball. In playing this providential ball, the player need not assess a penalty stroke, since the award of one minus stroke for having found a ball cancels out the penalty stroke for having lost his original ball.

**Exception 30 Unsolicited Advice as to Choice of Club or Method of Play (Buttinskies)** Any player who, as a result of unwillingly receiving and reluctantly acting upon an unasked-for tip, pointer, or suggestion from a fellow player, selects a club other than the one he intended to use, or changes his set-up, grip, stance, or swing, and then proceeds to hit a ball that falls far short of or carries well over his target, or that sharply hooks or slices, is entitled to replay that one shot without assessing a stroke or incurring any penalty, but he must at once cease applying the unsought advice to his game, and any additional ...