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# Preferred Lies

When a player's ball lies on a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, it may be lifted once without penalty, and may be cleaned. They must replace the original ball, or another, on a spot within a relief area.

- Reference Point: The spot of the original ball.
- Relief Area: The size of the relief area is up to 6 inches (150 mm) from the reference point, not nearer the hole than the reference point, and which is in the general area.

In proceeding under this local rule the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing the ball under rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.

Penalty for breach of Local Rule: General Penalty (Matchplay: loss of hole, Strokeplay: two stroke penalty)

Note: When lifting a ball it is recommended that a player marks the position of the ball to establish a fixed reference point.

Please see below stages that will help to simplify the process:

1. Qualifying Course - Play the ball as it lies general play area
2. Qualifying Course - Preferred Lies - Pick wipe and **place** on the fairway & Pick wipe and **replace** in the general area (Ball Cleaning)
3. Non-Qualifying Course - Pick wipe and place through the green/general play area.

## Factors we consider

Preferred lies - When conditions such as wet ground throughout parts of the course may cause mud to stick to the ball or standing water.

Pick wipe and place through the green (Non-Qualifying) - When conditions such as wet ground prevents the greenstaff from cutting the fairways and it becomes difficult to identify the edge of fairways.

Regards,

David Laffar  
Director of Golf

