

## Improvements Allowed on Putting Green

### RULE 13.1C(2)

Video link:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=repairing+animal+tracks+on+putting+green&&view=detail&mid=E311C7F1C572F9C4029EE311C7F1C572F9C4029E&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Drepairing%2Banimal%2Btracks%2Bon%2Bputting%2Bgreen%26FORM%3DHDRSC3>

Rule 13.1c(2) allows repair of almost any damage on the green:

- "Damage on the putting green means any damage caused by a person or outside influence **except** aeration holes, natural surface imperfections, or natural wear of the hole.

#### Summary of Rule: Improvements Allowed on Putting Green

A player may repair damage on the putting green without penalty by taking reasonable actions to restore the putting green as nearly as possible to its original condition, but only:

- By using his or her hand, foot or other part of the body or a normal ball-mark repair tool, tee, club or similar item of normal equipment, and
- Without unreasonably delaying play (see Rule 5.6a). **(1 stroke penalty)**
- But if the player improves the putting green by taking actions that exceed what is reasonable to restore the putting green to its original condition (such as by creating a pathway to the hole or by using an object that is not allowed), the player gets the general penalty for breach of Rule 8.1a. **(2 stroke penalty or loss of hole)**

| Can Be Fixed / Moved                          | Cannot Be Fixed*(penalty below)                    |
|---|--|
| Animal tracks                                 | Dew or frost                                       |
| Ball-Marks                                    | Natural surface imperfections (e.g. bare areas)    |
| Damage to the hole (by player or equipment)   | Natural wear of the hole                           |
| Embedded Objects (e.g. stones, acorns, tee)   | Normal maintenance practices (e.g. aeration holes) |
| Indentations caused by equipment or flagstick | Temporary water from irrigation or rain            |
| Old hole plugs                                |  |
| Sand and loose soil                           |  |
| Scrapes from maintenance tools or vehicles    |  |
| Shoe damage (spike marks)                     |  |
| Turf plugs or seams of cut turf               |  |

**\*General Penalty (2 strokes in stroke play/loss of hole in match play)** for making these improvements to any conditions affecting the stroke