

NEW RULES 2019

So -you are in the Hazard -what can you do?

No You are not in the Hazard ! you are in a “**Penalty Area**” – that’s the new name. It is either a “Red Penalty Area’ or a “Yellow Penalty area’ You can tell which one by the colour of the pegs around it.

At Benalla the **Red Penalty Areas** are:

- Between the 11th and 17th
- Around the big hole on the left hand side of the 12th



The only **Yellow Penalty Area** is in the creek/scrub area between the 2nd and 16th. Unless you are way off track on the 2nd it doesn’t come into play for ladies

What are the new rules if your ball is in a Penalty Area?

In a penalty area you can ground your club, move loose impediments and take practice swings without penalty, just as you can on the fairway or in the rough. Be careful though – if you accidentally move your ball (except on the putting green) you must replace it under a one shot penalty. (on the putting green it can be replaced without penalty)

Well if there is no difference why have Penalty Areas?

On most courses the penalty areas will have water in them. (water hazards!) The difference lies in where you can take relief (under a one shot penalty) -the options are slightly different to the relief available for an unplayable ball – and between red and yellow areas, but are essentially the same as before the 2019 rule changes.

What about in bunkers?

In bunkers you can move loose impediments but you cannot touch the sand with your club in the area right in front of or right behind your ball, during your backswing or in taking a practice swing.

A few others that keep cropping up

- No penalty for a double hit -it only counts as one stroke
- No penalty if your ball accidently hits you or your equipment accidently after a stroke. Play it from where it comes to rest
- Time to search -**3 Minutes** not 5 Minutes.

Local Rules : are on the back of the card and heaps more on the Golf Shop notice board. A suggestion is that you take photos of the ones on the notice board with your phone. Most playing groups will have at least one person with a phone.