

**The Board of Governors for SGC have voted to allow a new Local Rule. This is regarding sprinkler heads near the putting greens.**

**Purpose.** When a ball lies anywhere other than on the putting green, an immovable obstruction on the player's line of play is not, of itself, interference under [Rule 16.1](#). Free relief is normally not allowed.

But if the aprons or fringes of putting greens are cut short enough that putting from off the green is likely to be a common choice of stroke, immovable obstructions that are close to the putting green may interfere with such strokes.

In that case, the Committee can choose to give an extra relief option under [Rule 16.1](#) when a player's ball lies in the general area or on the putting green and an immovable obstruction close to the putting green is on the player's line of play.

The Committee may limit such relief to certain situations, such as only for particular holes or obstructions, or only when the ball and the obstruction are in part of the general area cut to fairway height or less.

#### **Model Local Rule F-5**

"Relief from interference by an *immovable obstruction* may be taken under Rule 16.1.

The player also has these extra options to take relief when such *immovable obstructions* are close to the *putting green* and on the *line of play*:

**Ball in General Area.** The player may take relief( 1 club length, no closer to the hole) under Rule 16.1b if an *immovable obstruction* is:

- On the *line of play*, and is:
  - Within two *club-lengths* of the *putting green*, and
  - Within two *club-lengths* of the ball.

**Exception – No Relief If Line of Play Clearly Unreasonable.** There is no relief under this Local Rule if the player chooses a *line of play* that is clearly unreasonable.