

## Wrong Ball and Disqualification

In a round a player hit her tee shot left towards some bushes on the 10th hole. Unsure if the ball could be found, she played a provisional down the center of the fairway. The player reached the area where her original ball is likely to be and after a brief search (less than 3 minutes), a fellow player finds her ball in a bush. The player then determined the ball was unplayable and mistakenly decided to play her provisional ball. *Remember – a provisional ball is ONLY for a ball that is lost or out of bounds. The moment you find your original ball within three minutes and it is not out of bounds, your provisional ball no longer exists.* When the player played the ball from the fairway she played a wrong ball, incurring a two-stroke penalty and she must correct the error. The player finished the hole with the provisional ball and teed off on the 11th hole. A Rules official was told of the incident, the Official met with the player, and since she did not correct the error before teeing off on the 11th hole she was disqualified. (Rule 6.3c)

Note: To play a provisional ball you **MUST** announce you are playing a provisional ball. If you play a second ball and you have not announced you are playing a provisional you are proceeding under Stroke and Distance. Your original ball is no longer in play it is lost - if you play it the same as the incident above you are playing a wrong ball and you must correct with a two stroke penalty or you are disqualified.

**Stroke and Distance:** Playing a ball from where the previous stroke was made

The term stroke and distance means that the player both:

- Gets one penalty stroke and
- Loses the benefit of any gain of distance towards the hole from the spot where the previous stroke was made