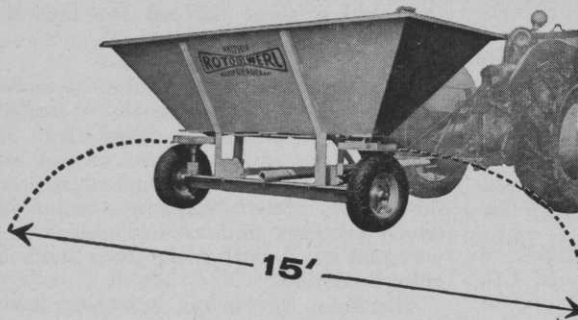


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USGA Reverts to Old Lost Ball Rules

After a year's trial, the USGA has abandoned the more liberal provisions of the Rules of Golf that were tested in 1960. The organization's rules committee is reverting to the old regulations because it says there were serious weaknesses in the 1960 lost ball rule. As of Jan. 1, these rules are effective:

1. Stroke and distance for balls lost, out of bounds, unplayable and in water hazards;

2. Option of dropping a ball, under penalty of one stroke, in a prescribed area where the original ball became unplayable or went into a water hazard or went out of bounds if the club adopts a local rule.

The USGA says the 1960 "soft" penalty of loss of distance only for a lost ball tended to discourage diligent search. Under the new rules, the player may declare his ball lost without searching for it the required five minutes.

If a club committee considers the penalty for a ball out of bounds unduly severe on its courses, it may adopt a local rule for the entire course to ameliorate the situa-

tion. If this is done, the committee should seek a change in its course rating from its district golf assn.

Royer Again WGA President

James M. Royer, Knollwood CC, Lake Forest, Ill., was re-elected pres. of the Western Golf Assn. He is the 26th man to hold the presidency of WGA which was founded in 1899. Other officers for 1961 are: William P. Cagney, Jr., Norman G. Copland, Fredric H. Corrigan, Cameron Eddy and George H. Webb, vps; William F. Souder, Jr., treas.; Ralph A. L. Bogan, Jr., sec.; and Adolor J. Petit, Jr., counsel. WGA has 440 former caddies attending 24 colleges on Evans Scholarships. More than 33,000 golfers contributed \$350,000 to the Evans fund in 1960.

Golf Day Distribution

Members of the National Golf Fund, Inc., will meet in Clearwater, Fla., Feb. 20, to distribute net proceeds of about \$60,000 from 1960 National Golf Day. This will bring to approximately \$800,000 the total distributed by NGF in nine years.