

The difference between the cases mentioned is that, in the first case, the ball is in play, and in the second case the ball is not in play until dropped.

Question.—In a match play knockout tournament played in foursomes, A and B as partners played C and D as partners. In playing to the third hole, the ball of the former couple went into the bunker, into which sand was being wheeled at the time, and it lay between two loads of sand which had not been raked down. After consulting together they agreed to lift out of the bunker and count two strokes. On playing, A and B lost the hole and also the match. Should C and D be disqualified from the competition under Rule 3 of Special Rules for Match Play Competition for allowing A and B to lift as above instead of (1) playing the ball where it lay or (2) dropping it in the hazard as in Rule 11 if it was considered that that part of hazard was under repair?

Answer.—The ball should have been lifted and dropped in the hazard under rule 11 (last paragraph) without penalty. A and B lost the hole by lifting the ball from the bunker. Stroke rule 11 does not apply to match play. C and D can not be held to have infringed rule 3 of Special Rules for Match Play Competitions, and are not disqualified.

Question.—In a match a ball played toward a certain hole pitched on the fairway of another hole, lying parallel to the hole played at. Before the ball had stopped it struck a horse mowing-machine which was at work coming toward the player on the adjoining fairway; the knives of the machine cut a large piece off the cover of the ball, and the roller of the machine went over the remainder of the ball, forcing it into the ground. The ball, because of the piece sliced off, became unplayable. What should the player do?

Answer.—The player was, in equity, entitled to assume that the ball came to rest before being rolled into the ground. Rule 17 (3) applies. The player could therefore have dropped another ball.

Let Us Repeat

1. Don't use commercial humus. It looks good but really is worth very little.
2. Don't sow seed at a heavier rate than the Green Section advises.
3. Never build greens in layer-cake fashion. Artificial layers of any kind are not advisable.
4. Sowing seed on old turf is usually of no avail. There are two exceptions. Bent will catch on turf of any other grass in the north. In the south carpet grass may be sown on any low-lying soil on old turf and a good catch will result.
5. Never buy mixed fertilizers.

Peat or Humus as a Water Holder

There is no question that peats hold water with great tenacity. This feature, however, can not be practically utilized when moist peat is mixed with soil. Peat material in a finely divided condition contains large amounts of water but it holds the water so strongly that plants can not secure it. As a matter of fact, plants resist drought better on heavy clay loam soils than on any others. Furthermore, most peats are peculiar in that once dried they become practically waterproof. This means that dry or artificially dried peat mixed in soil does not become a water reservoir. If mixed while wet into the soil it will serve as a water holder, but the grass can not get the water which the peat holds.