



## **R & A Rules Relating to Robotic Mowers**

The Robotic Mower is an Outside Influence: relief is available under Rules 9.6, and 11.1b(1).

Rule 9.6 covers a ball lifted or moved by an Outside Influence.

If it is known or virtually certain that an outside influence lifted or moved a player's ball at rest:

There is no penalty; and

The ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated). This applies whether or not the player's ball has been found. But if it is not known or virtually certain that the ball was lifted or moved by an outside influence and the ball is lost, the player must take stroke and distance relief.

Rule 11.1a covers when a ball in motion accidentally hits an outside influence.

If a ball in motion actually hits an Outside Influence there is no penalty to the player.

Rule 11.1b covers where the ball must be played (other than if the ball was on the putting green) – the ball must normally be played as it lies.

BUT if the ball comes to rest on any moving outside influence, the ball must not be played as it lies. The player must drop the original ball or another ball:

Reference point: the estimated point right under where the ball first came to rest on the moving outside influence.

Relief area: one club length.

Location of relief area: must be in the same area of the course and must not be nearer the hole.

If the ball had come to rest on the mower when on the putting green, the ball would be placed under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.

Should the Mower break down and be impossible to move it will be classed as an Immovable Obstruction. Free relief under Rule 16.1b will apply.