

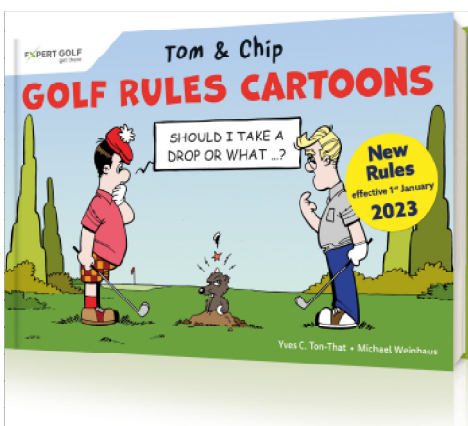
SITUATION: Tom's ball lands in muddy ground under repair ...



QUESTION: Is Tom penalized for cleaning his ball before dropping it?

ANSWER: When a ball's picked up for a relief procedure and is to be dropped, it may be cleaned, and the player's even allowed to use a new ball. There's no penalty for Tom. Rules 14.1c and 14.3a.

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