

RULE OF THE MONTH with Tom & Chip



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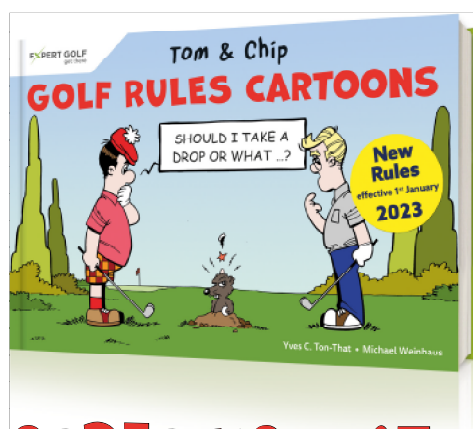
SITUATION: Chip's ball is resting against a rake just outside a bunker ...



QUESTION: Was Chip allowed to remove the rake? And does he have to play from the bunker, or can he replace his ball?

ANSWER: The rake is artificial and therefore a "movable obstruction." These may be removed everywhere. If the ball moves as a result, the ball must be put back without penalty. Therefore, Chip isn't just permitted to replace his ball on its original spot, he has to replace it. Rule 15.2a(1) and definition "Movable Obstruction."

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