

## Officiating 101 Giving a Ruling Lesson Summary

### Where You Belong

- √ Keep your distance and wait for the player to ask you for assistance.
- √ Do **NOT** hover or crowd the player!
- √ Be nearby and observant when:
  - timing a player (for Rovers)
  - the player has picked up the ball
  - the player's ball is in a questionable area

### How to Interact with Players

- √ Be **calm**, and talk softly and slowly.
- √ The player will most likely assume she's entitled to **relief without penalty**.
- √ Remember who imposes the penalty and provides the player's options—it's not you, **it's the Rules**.
- √ Timing Officials and Check-Point Officials: in a timing situation, clearly and accurately **communicate the facts and the consequences**.

### What to Say

- √ "How can I help you?"
- √ "That ball is in play." [following a drop or place]
- √ "Before lifting the ball, would you like to review your options?"
- √ "Tell me what happened."
  - "Who was involved?"
  - "Where did it happen?"
  - "What were you trying to do? What was intended?"
  - "Anything else? Are there any subsequent events?"

### Six Signs of a Good Ruling

1. You are clear and concise.
2. You take your time to get it right, and you're sure you have all the facts.
3. You use the string when you have to—but you eyeball it if you can.
4. If you aren't sure of the ruling, you use your radio to get help.
5. If it's a lengthy ruling, you let the following groups play through.
6. You do not touch the player's clubs, ball, or equipment.

### **Five Rulings You Should Handle without Help**

1. Determining the nearest point of relief (Rules 24 and 25)
2. Water hazard relief options (Rule 26-1)
3. Ball lost or out-of-bounds (Rule 27)
4. Ball Unplayable (Rule 28)
5. Ball assisting or interfering with play (Rule 22)

### **Four Tips for Improving Your Officiating Skills**

1. Learn the Rules. Your Rules knowledge should be a given.
2. Develop a calm and confident manner.
3. Practice your officiating skills. Volunteer to officiate as many events as your schedule will allow.
4. Put yourself in the player's shoes. Approach players and speak to them as you would like to be treated.