# ANCHORING THE CLUB—UNDERSTANDING RULE 14–16

The USGA and The R&A, golf's governing bodies, have proposed changes to Rule 14-1 of the Rules of Golf that would prohibit anchoring the club in making a stroke. The change would not go into effect for three years, giving golfers who use anchored strokes time to adjust their game.

## WHAT WOULD CHANGE?

The proposed new entry— Rule 14-1b —would prohibit strokes made with the club or a hand gripping the club held directly against the player's body or with a forearm held against the body to establish an anchor point that indirectly anchors the club.



# WHAT THE RULE SAYS

In making a stroke, the player must not anchor the club, either "directly" or by use of an "anchor point."

#### NOTE 1:

**PROHIBITED** 

ANCHORED

LONG PUTTER

The club is anchored "directly" when the player intentionally holds the club or a gripping hand in contact with any part of his body, except that the player may hold the club or a gripping hand against a hand or forearm.

### NOTE 2:

2011

2012-

An "anchor point" exists when the player intentionally holds a forearm in contact with any part of his body to establish a gripping hand as a stable point around which the other hand may swing the club.

## **PERMITTED**

LONG

NOT

**PUTTER** 

**ANCHORED** 











**FOREARM** 



# REVIEW AND TIMETABLE

Between 2011 and 2012

Golf's governing bodies begin observing a dramatic increase in the use of anchoring at all levels of the game.

#### February 2012–February 2013

The USGA announces it is taking a "fresh look" at the anchored stroke; review continues throughout 2012. In November, the proposed Rule is announced. Prior to final action, the USGA and The R&A will accept questions and comments.



#### Early 2013

The USGA and The R&A expected to take final action on proposed Rules change.

#### Early 2013 – December 2015

Transition period in which



players may adapt their stroke, if necessary.



# January 1, 2016

Rule 14-1b would take effect in accordance with the regular four-year cycle for changes to the Rules of Golf.

2016-

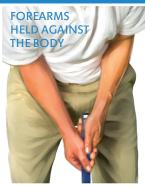
For more information, or to comment on the new Rule, visit

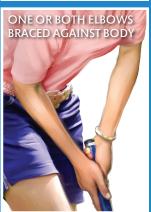
www.usga.org/anchoring



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# THIS IS NOT AN EQUIPMENT RULE

Conforming equipment, including belly-length and long putters, would remain permissible provided they are not anchored.



**GRIP** RESTING

**AGAINST**