

From Tee to Green and all Between: **Recoverability & Rough**

Each month we will go over a separate Obstacle Factor. These are all of the details beyond the length of a hole that impact play and difficulty.

This month's topic is **Recoverability & Rough**. **R & R** is an evaluation of the probability of missing the fairway landing zone or the green, and the difficulty of recovering if either, or both, is missed.

A small green that is surrounded by multiple mounds or highly sloped ground will have a higher level of difficulty of recovery than a larger green with not much surrounding it. Areas off of the green that are either hardpan or will cause the ball to roll a considerable distance should be acknowledged as well.



An example of Mounds, Old Macdonald #18, "Punchbowl"

If there are Mounds in the fairway and/or around the green, the Course Rating team will take into account the severity, number and location of the mounds. One small mound that is not near a Landing Zone may not be acknowledged. If the fairway has mounds lining both sides of the fairway of a Par 5 hole, the mounds may be factored in multiple times.

R & R ratings are based on:

- Difficulty of the Green Target
- Type of rough grasses (warm or cool season grasses) and their height
- Rise and drop around the green
- Mounding along the fairway or at the green
- Other rough conditions such as sand dunes, waste areas (not bunkers), brush, iceplant, hardpan, tree roots, swales, rocks, lava, desert, heather, gorse
- Any difference (if any) of the rough in a specific landing zone or at the green as compared to the general rough height
- Greens that have a **Water** Surround adjustment may also receive an increase in the **R&R**

Here is what **R & R** is not:

- It is not prepared Bunkers (i.e. if there is a rake, it is a bunker, if it is a sand dune, it is **R&R**)
- It is not grass over 6" deep, that is assessed as **Extreme Rough**
- Shrubs and trees over 6 feet are rated under **Trees**

Next month, we'll go over **Bunkers**.

If you have any questions, please contact Gretchen Yoder, Manager of Handicapping and Course Rating

gretchen@oga.org