

## **Rule 6-6d – R&A Policy on the Application of the Exception to Rule 6-6d**

### **General Position**

In a multiple round stroke play event, after the cut line has been established and the groupings and starting times for the next round have been “approved” by the Committee, no withdrawal, disqualification or imposed penalty will impact the calculation of the cut line or the groupings and starting times. A player with an imposed penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d will be removed from the field if the adjusted score results in the player missing the cut, but no players will be added to fill the open position.

If the groupings and starting times for the next round have not been “approved” by the Committee and a penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d comes to light, the Committee should always amend the player’s score and position before the groupings and timings are produced and approved.

**Note:** “Approved” means the point at which the Committee finalises the groupings/matches and starting times for the next round, which may be prior to the groupings/matches and starting times being published. Final approval is considered to be a more definitive cut off point, versus publishing (which may be dependent on when the information goes live on a website, is first posted on a notice board, etc.).

### **Application of the Exception to Rule 6-6d in Stroke Play Scenarios**

Various scenarios in stroke play are outlined below and prescribe how the Committee should proceed in situations where a player receives the general penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d following the cut.

For all scenarios, it should be assumed that the player had made the cut and then subsequently received a penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d. In situations where the player fails to make the cut and subsequently receives a penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d prior to the close of competition, the finishing score and positioning of the player should be amended for the final results.

#### **Scenario 1:**

The penalty strokes received do not push the player over the cut line.

##### **Action:**

- a. *If groupings and starting times have been approved by the Committee, no change is made other than the score for the player is adjusted. The approved groupings and starting times are maintained.*
- b. *If groupings and starting times have not been approved by the Committee, the score and positioning of all affected players should be amended before the groupings and starting times are produced.*

#### **Scenario 2:**

The penalty strokes received push the player over the cut line, but there is otherwise no impact on the cut.

##### **Action:**

- a. *If groupings and starting times have been approved by the Committee, no change is made other than the player is removed from the remaining stroke play field. The finishing score and positioning of the player should be amended for the final results.*
- b. *If groupings and starting times have not been approved by the Committee, the player’s finishing score and the positioning of all affected players should be amended before the groupings and starting times are produced.*

**Scenario 3:**

The penalty strokes received moves the cut line and creates a “plus ties” situation.

**Action:**

- a. *If groupings and starting times have been approved by the Committee, and the penalty strokes received result in the player missing the cut, the only change to be made is to remove the player from the remaining stroke play field (groupings and starting times will not be adjusted to include resulting “plus ties”). The finishing score and positioning of the player should be amended for the final results.*
- b. *If groupings and starting times have been approved by the Committee, and the penalty strokes received puts the player in a “plus ties” situation (i.e. on the adjusted cut line), the player is removed from the remaining stroke play field (groupings and starting times will not be adjusted to include resulting “plus ties”). The finishing score and positioning of the player should be amended for the final results.*
- c. *If groupings and starting times have not been approved by the Committee, the score and positioning of the player should be amended before the groupings and starting times are produced. The groupings would include all players affected and now impacted by the “plus ties” situation.*

**Scenario 4:**

The penalty strokes received moves the cut line and the player is the only person on the new cut line.

**Action:**

- a. *If groupings and starting times have been approved by the Committee, no change is made other than the score for the player is adjusted. The approved groupings and starting times are maintained.*
- b. *If groupings and starting times have not been approved by the Committee, the player’s finishing score and the positioning of all affected players should be amended before the groupings and starting times are produced.*

**Application of the Exception to Rule 6-6d in Stroke Play Qualifying followed by Match Play Scenarios**

Various scenarios in stroke play qualifying followed by match play are outlined below and prescribe how the Committee should proceed in situations where a player receives the general penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d following the cut.

For all scenarios, it should be assumed that the player had made the cut and then subsequently received a penalty under the Exception to Rule 6-6d. It should also be assumed that the player has not started his first round match, and thus the stroke play portion of the competition has not yet closed for the player (Rule 34-1b applies after a player has started their first round match).

**Scenario 1:**

The penalty strokes received do not push the player over the cut line (i.e. the player’s score with the penalty strokes still qualifies for match play).

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, the player is to proceed in the position produced by the original draw. The player’s stroke play score should be adjusted for historical purposes.*

- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw produced on the basis of the player's amended score.*

**Scenario 2:**

The conditions provide that a preliminary match play round is used to determine the final 64 when there is a 64 and ties situation.

The original stroke play results indicate that the exact number have qualified for the match play stages (e.g. 64 players qualify for 64 places); however, the penalty strokes received under the Exception to Rule 6-6d result in there being a 64 and ties situation.

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, the original draw is maintained with the exception that the player is removed from his original match play position. The player's first round opponent receives a bye.*
- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw should be adjusted accordingly (and would incorporate a preliminary match play round due to the fact that a 64 and ties situation has been created).*

**Scenario 3:**

The conditions provide that a preliminary match play round is used to determine the final 64 when there is a 64 and ties situation.

The original stroke play results indicate that more than the required numbers have qualified for the match play stages (e.g. 70 players qualify for 64 places). The penalty strokes received push the player out of the top 64 and ties.

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, the original draw is maintained with the exception that the player is removed from his original match play position. The player's first round opponent receives a bye.*
- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw should be adjusted accordingly.*

**Scenario 4:**

The conditions provide that a play-off is used to determine the final 64 when there is a 64 and ties situation.

The original stroke play results indicate that a play-off is not required (e.g. 64 players qualify for 64 places); however, the penalty strokes received under the Exception to Rule 6-6d result in a play-off for the final match play position.

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, a reasonable effort should be made to conduct a play-off to fill the player's original position in the match play field. If the player is included in the play-off (i.e. the adjusted score after the penalty strokes places the player in a tie for the final match play position), he should be assigned in the final play-off grouping. If it is not reasonable to conduct a play-off, the player's first round opponent receives a bye.*

- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw and the number of final match play positions available in the play-off adjusted accordingly.*

**Scenario 5:**

The conditions provide that a play-off is used to determine the final 64 when there is a 64 and ties situation.

The original stroke play results indicate that more than the required numbers have qualified for the match play stages (e.g. 70 players qualify for 64 places). The penalty strokes received push the player out of the top 64 and ties.

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, the player is withdrawn from the match play portion of the competition. If the breach is discovered prior to the conclusion of a play-off for the final match play position, the player's match play position is awarded to the lowest scorer in the play-off. If there was not otherwise a play-off, or the play-off has already concluded, the player's first round opponent receives a bye.*
- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw and the number of final match play positions available in the play-off adjusted accordingly.*

**Scenario 6:**

The conditions provide that a play-off is used to determine the final 64 when there is a 64 and ties situation.

The penalty strokes received puts the player in the play-off for the final match play position(s).

**Action:**

- a. *If the Committee has approved the stroke play results and the match play draw, the original draw is maintained with the exception that the player is removed from his original match play position. The player is assigned to the final grouping for the play-off and the player's original match play position is awarded to the lowest scorer in the play-off (note: the player must be present and ready to play at the assigned starting time for the play-off – see Rule 6-3). If the play-off has already concluded, the player's first round opponent receives a bye.*
- b. *If the Committee has not yet approved the match play draw, the player's score should be amended and the match play draw and the number of final match play positions available in the play-off adjusted accordingly.*