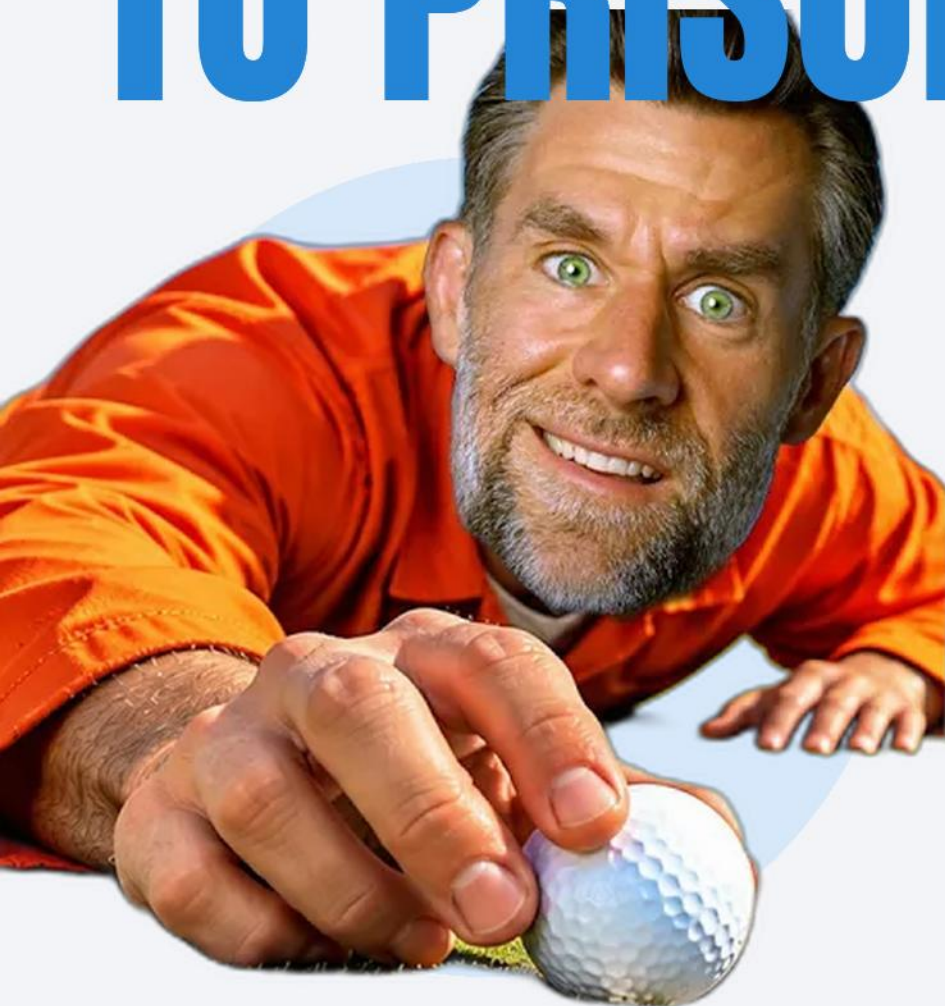


A HOLE-IN-ONE CAN SEND YOU TO PRISON



Real cases.
Real courts.
Real jail.

SWIPE →

Last month a former college golfer had to "take a call from his gravely ill grandmother."

Then his ball was in the hole. A miracle ace.

The footage showed him dropping the ball in with his hand.



A golf problem. Not a legal one... →

ADD A PRIZE AND IT'S FRAUD

"Once we put a prize on the hole backed by an insurance company, the exact same hand in the cup move might get you thrown in jail."

Odds of an amateur acing a hole

12,500 to 1



Which brings us to Andy →

1985 • ILLINOIS

THE BRIBE

He "palmed one of Andy's golf balls, put his hand in the cup, and displayed the ball." A pretty creative way to deliver a bribe.

is quite a thrill because it happens so infrequently--perhaps one chance in 40,000 in bowling. But Andy's chances were close to 100%, because his father was mayor of Chicago, and the mayor's support was needed for a bond offering to finance an apartment building. Robert Krilich--who sponsored the contest, pulled the ball out of the hole, and became the star of this criminal case. Krilich and Mayor Sarallo agreed to use the golf tournament as a bribe. Krilich palmed one of Andy's golf balls, put his hand into the cup, and displayed the ball. The bribe in this way enabled Krilich to shift the cost to the National Hole-In-One Association. He secured insurance. Thus fraud and bribery were coupled. Krilich admitted this scheme in a letter to the United States Attorney, and he also conceded bribing the mayor to alter the zoning of so that it would facilitate the extraction of funds from municipal bond offerings. The bonds--Industrial Development Bonds, on which is not taxable to the investors--were sold to finance Krilich's development.

United States v. Krilich, 7th Cir.



Then it gets expensive →

2015 · WEST VIRGINIA

THE \$200,000 MISTAKE

Two pros aced the 18th. Fans were owed \$200,000. "The hole played at 137 yards" and the policy "guaranteed a minimum of 150."

Policy required

150 YDS

Hole actually played

137 YDS

-13

Talbot v. Old White Charities, 4th Cir.



A car this time →

1987 • PENNSYLVANIA

THE SIGN

He aced the 9th next to a "win this car" sign. The dealer refused because "the sign was left over from an event 2 days earlier." Court: that's an offer.



Cobaugh v. Klick-Lewis, Pa. Super. 1989



Golf has an appeals process →

INDIANA

THE MULLIGAN

"Spinks used his mulligan. And you guessed it, he hit a hole in one." The mayor said no. The court: "everyone knows what a mulligan is."



Wright v. Spinks, Ind. Ct. App. 2000



So what's the lesson? →

In golf, you measure
twice, swing once.

READ TWICE.
SIGN ONCE.

"You can't claim surprise over a clause you
didn't bother to read."



Want the full story? →

WANT THE FULL STORY?

Courts have been dealing with hole-in-one lawsuits for decades. The full 20 minutes is on YouTube.

[Link in bio](#)

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