

Bunker Play

Before making a stroke at a ball in a bunker, a player must not touch the sand with a club right in front of or behind the ball, in making a practice swing, or in making the back swing for a stroke – see Rule 12.2b(1). These actions, like the one you describe or touching the sand in front of or behind your ball, are prohibited even if accidental. If a player does touch the sand in one of the ways described above, that player would get the general penalty for doing so (loss of hole in match play or two penalty strokes in stroke play).