

LOCAL RULES OF IHGC

1. **Out of Bounds (OB):** OBs are defined by white stakes. Further the following are designated as OB:-
 - Thimphu River; Tennis Court; Golf Hut Complex
 - 2nd / 11th Hole – The chain link fence behind the road and the rose garden
 - 4th / 13th Hole – Fence on right side / Right of the white OB stakes
 - 6th / 15th Hole – Left of the white stakes and the rose garden behind the green
 - 18th Hole – Left of white stakes

2. **DROP**
 - a) **Free Drop:** In case of a free drop, after dropping the ball, the ball has to be played as it lies. A player may obtain relief on the fairway by dropping the ball within one club length from where it lies with no penalty or in a designated drop area, away from the hole, under Rule 24-2(b) from:
 - Cricket Pitch.
 - Marked Saplings / Marked Flowers beds / Tee markers demarcated by white lines.
 - Sprinkler heads / Control boxes

 - b) **Penalty Drops:** In case of a penalty drop, the ball can be dropped and placed with the club head *only on the designated drop zone*.

3. **1st/3rd/8th/10th/12th/17th holes** – A player to lose a stroke if the ball crosses the blue stakes on the right side.

4. **Putting from the green:** While putting from the green, if the ball descends down from the green or around the green, the golfer has the option to play the ball as it lies or place the ball at the original spot & play with a loss of a stroke. *This rule shall be applicable for all the greens.*

5. **Wooden Bridge Over Water Hazard/Stream/Drain: R&A - Under Rule No: 26: *THERE WILL BE NO FREE RELIEF.*** If the ball is lodged in the wooden bridge, the player has the option to play the ball as it lies or take a drop, with a loss of a stroke/with preferred lie. Rule 13-4: It allows a player to ground his club on the wooden bridge if he chooses to play the ball.

ADDITION TO LOCAL RULES

1. A player may declare a ball unplayable anywhere on the course with loss of a stroke and play it no closer to the Green and as far behind as he wishes.

2. A player on the 2nd / 11th hole, whose ball come to rest next to the chain link fence / road, he has the option to play the ball as it lies or drop the ball at the designated drop zone with preferred lie with a loss of a stroke.

3. A player on the 6th hole and 15th hole whose ball come to rest next to the fence of the rose garden may take a drop at the designated drop zone with a loss of a stroke with preferred lie.

4. A player whose ball lands in the lateral water hazards / below the chalk line determining the water line, while playing the 8th/17th hole, the player has to take a compulsory water drop in the designated drop zone/with preferred lie/with a loss of a stroke. However, the player has the option to play the ball as it lies from the stream/drain.
5. A player whose ball lands in the lateral water hazards surrounding the 8th and 17th hole while playing the 3rd and 12th hole may drop the ball as far behind as he wishes/*with preferred lie*, with a loss of a stroke.
6. A player while playing the 3rd and 12th hole, if his ball lands in the stream/drains on either side of the road/in the drain next to the 8th/17th hole green, he has the option to play as it lies or take a drop at the designated drop zone, play the ball with preferred lie, with a loss of a stroke.
7. A player whose ball lands at the water hazard near the green at 1st, 4th, 5th, 10th, 13th & 14th hole, shall take the drop in the designated drop zone, play the ball with preferred lie with a loss of a stroke.
8. The boundary wall is an integral part of the course and there is no relief.
9. All foot paths in the golf course are considered as Artificial Obstruction. You are entitled for free relief if: it impacts your stance / swing / lie of your ball. Relief point will be one club length left / right / behind, drop the ball and play as it lies. ***No preferred lie.***
10. Lateral water hazard near the 3rd/12th hole have been defined by red stakes. If the ball is in the water hazard a player may drop the ball behind the hazard/with preferred lie/with a loss of a stroke.
11. Apart from the local rules, the game will be played in accordance with the rules of Golf as approved by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland.
12. ***Any dispute or doubtful points on the rules shall be referred to the IHGC committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.***