

LOCAL RULES CHANGE BUT GAME'S THE SAME

Odd Rules
from Odd Places

Under the heading "The local rules change from course to course, but the game's the same all over the world," Time magazine has assembled in a brochure the weirdest collection of local rules from remote lands which has come to our attention. For example:

**BOMBAY PRESIDENCY GOLF CLUB, LTD.,
BOMBAY, INDIA:**

"The area known as The Elephant Pit is a water hazard whether or not it contains water . . . The usual 'fee' for a ball returned by an outside chokra is two annas. Members are requested not to encourage these chokras onto the course to hand over balls, but to collect these personally or through their caddies at the course boundaries."

**NYANZA CLUB, KISUMU, KENYA,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA:**

"If a ball comes to rest in dangerous proximity to a hippopotamus or crocodile, another ball may be dropped, at a safe distance, no nearer the hole, without penalty."

DARWIN GOLF CLUB, AUSTRALIA:

"Ball may be lifted and dropped without penalty . . . from Wallaby and Bandicoot Scrapes, Crab Holes, Stone Outcrops, Tractor Marks and Genuine Earth Cracks."

Also, please note: (1) Early morning golfers are cautioned that they may frequently be joined by wallabies and kangaroos; (2) huge mangrove crabs invade the Darwin course from adjacent tidal swamps, and burrow holes big enough to swallow a golf ball; (3) balls are often stolen by hawks and crows; (4) Darwin club members can only play for six months of the year, spend the remaining time forming working bees to get the course back into shape after monsoonal rains flood it and send spear grass shooting eight feet high; (5) determined golfers at Alice Springs and Ten-

nant Creek frequently play in dust-storms. Fore!

**REGAL GOLF CLUB, CALGARY, ALBERTA,
CANADA:**

"A ball played into a gopher hole must be recovered or treated as a lost ball. If recovered in gopher hole, it may be lifted and dropped without penalty."

**UNZEN PUBLIC GOLF COURSE
NAGASAKI, KYUSHU, JAPAN:**

"Replay is permitted when ball is snatched away by birds."

Ornithological note: Birds are the biggest hazard at this course. Big crows nest in the vicinity, and it is quite common for the crows to sweep suddenly on a ball in flight, catch it and fly off. At other times, alert birds descend to the ball on the ground, snatch it up and take off. Caddies have to be alert to frustrate the birds and scare them off. Caddies hold periodic searches of the woods for the nests, and have found as many as 20 balls in one nest.

BOLARUM GOLF CLUB, HYDERABAD, INDIA:

"(Hazards) Stones which obstruct a stroke in hazards (usually thrown there by herdsmen accompanying cattle grazing over the course, and children playing in and around bunkers) may be removed free of penalty, and in this case treated as Loose Impediment under Rule 18. . . . (Free Picks) A ball lying on any of the footpaths, cutcha roads, cattle and cart tracks, in runnels adjoining them, in hoof marks or dung on the course, may be lifted and dropped without penalty."

**EVERLY PARK GOLF COURSE, KOGARAH,
NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA:**

"Dress of intending players shall be supervised by starters. Where shorts are worn, long hose and shoes shall also be worn. No suspenders (Aussie form for garters) are to be showing. If jeans are worn, they are to be worn full length and not rolled."