

FAQ 1:

What am I allowed to do if my ball lands on the stones in the hazard surrounding the 13th green?

Applicable Rule(s): Local Rule 7 (Island Green - Hole 13)

A ball coming to rest on the stones, water lining (but not the wall) or entering the water surrounding the 13th green must with a penalty of one stroke be a)

Dropped in the designated drop zone, or

b) On the teeing ground – The ball to be played must be played from within the teeing ground and may be teed. c) Through the green – The ball to be played must be dropped and when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.

Answer:

What the local rule means is that you have two options (and only two options), both of which incur a penalty of one stroke. You may:

1. drop the ball in the dropping zone (see also FAQ 2), or
2. drop the ball as near as possible to the spot from where you played the ball that ended up in the water. This is commonly known as “Stroke and Distance”.

You do **not** have the option that is normally available with a water hazard, namely going as far back as you wish on a line keeping the point at which the ball last crossed the boundary of the hazard in line with the hole. **Nor do you have the option of entering the hazard and playing the ball as it lies.**

If it was your tee-shot that ended up in the hazard and you elect to use the “stroke and distance” option instead of using the dropping zone, you may play the new ball from anywhere within the teeing ground and may tee-up the ball. Note that the “teeing ground” is the rectangular area two club-lengths in depth, the front and sides of which are defined by the outside limits of the two tee-markers.

An extreme example of this could be that you are over-zealous in putting a ball that is on the green and manage to send it all the way across the green and into the water. You still have only two options, at the cost of a penalty stroke, you either use the dropping zone, or you place another ball on the putting green (you never drop a ball on the putting green) as close as possible to where the previous ball was when you putted it.

Please be aware that the drainage ditch on the 13th hole is not part of the water hazard that surrounds the green and as such the “normal” rules for dropping the ball apply. If a ball lands in here, the dropping zone is **not** an option.