Embassy of India Thimphu

Press Release: India House Golf Tournament 2021 - Prize Distribution

Today, the Prize Distribution Ceremony for the India House Golf Tournament 2021 was held at the Embassy of India, Thimphu. The Chief Guest of the function was HRH Dasho Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck. The event was also attended by Dasho Palden Y. Thinley, Dasho Ugen Junay Wangchuck as well as Lyonpo Tandi Dorji, Foreign Minister of Bhutan, and Lt. General Batoo Tshering, Chief Operations Officer of the Royal Bhutan Army.

The India House Golf Tournament is held annually since 1995 to mark the auspicious birth anniversary celebrations of the Fourth Druk Gyalpo. A Juniors Category is also held alongside the main tournament to celebrate the Coronation Ceremony of His Majesty the King of Bhutan. This year, the Juniors Tournament was held on 07 November 2021 and the Main Tournament was held from 24 to 28 November 2021.

The 2021 edition witnessed the participation of 195 golfers from across Bhutan! Out of these, 33 golfers below the age of 20 participated in the Juniors category. Dasho Ugen Junay Wangchuck, the youngest golfer of the tournament at 7 years of age, was the first to tee-off at the India House Golf Tournament 2021. He was closely followed by 12 year old Tenzin Biddha. Norbu Wangmo and Dorji Wangmo won the Junior Girls category and Tandin Wangchuk and Sonam Tamang won in the Junior Boys category.

The 2021 edition saw participation of 05 women golfers, the maximum ever in any edition of the India House Golf Tournament. To promote golf among women in Bhutan and to make the game more inclusive, this year the best woman golfer is being given a special prize of Nu. 100,000 and the second best woman golfer is being given a prize of Nu. 25,000. Pema Chenzom won the Best Woman Golfer prize and Jamyang Lhamo was the Second Best Woman Golfer of the tournament.

This year's edition also saw the introduction of a 'Caddie Category' - to recognise the hardwork and skills of support staff in other golf courses in Bhutan - the Royal Thimphu Golf Club, the Drakpoi Golf Club and the Haa Nature Park Golf Club. Sonam Yeshi from the Royal Thimphu Golf Course took home the Caddie Category Prize.

There were 26 golfers over the age of 60 who played in the tournament and put up a tough fight. Yeshe Norbu, who has the best net score in the tournament among golfers over 60 years of age won the 'Veteran Category' prize. Another star player of the tournament, Dasho Bap Yeshey Dorji aged 80, took home the 'Super - Senior Citizen Category' prize, which is given to the most experienced and spirited golfer above 75 years of age.

To promote the sport of golf among young and upcoming golfers, 10 amateur players participated under the 'Amateur Category'. The category winners are Dechen Dorji and Nim Dorji Tamang.

The Champion of the India House Golf Tournament 2021 is Tshering Dorji Rai, who takes home a cash prize of Nu. 250,000. The over all gross winner of the tournament Budha Singh Tamang won a cash prize of Nu. 150,000.

The India House Golf Course was re-opened after a gap of 20 months on 01 November 2021. The revamped Golf Course, Club House and a new India House Golf Course logo were inaugurated by Lyonpo Dr. Tandi Dorji, Foreign Minister of Bhutan and Lt. General Batoo Tshering, Chief Operations Officer of the Royal Bhutan Army. A new website indembthimphu.gov.in/Golf was also launched as a one-stop portal for Tee-Off Slots bookings, Membership and Tournament Registration.

Speaking at the function, Smt. Ruchira Kamboj, Ambassador of India to Bhutan highlighted the role of India House Golf Course in furthering sporting links between the two countries and augmenting the people to people ties which lie at the heart of the India-Bhutan friendship.

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