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The GolfHouse

GOLFER'S LIFE

BANGLADESH OPEN 2018 SPECIAL ISSUE



শাহ সিমেন্ট

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সর্বাধিক বিক্রিত সিমেন্ট

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It is a matter of great honour and privilege for us that the Asian Tour, the apex golf tour of the Asian continent, is making its fourth appearance in Bangladesh through the AB Bank Bangladesh Open 2018.

The Asian Tour's continuation in Bangladesh is the result of relentless effort and dedication of the golfers, golf administrators and corporate sponsors. I am more than certain that the AB Bank Bangladesh Open 2018 will exceed the success of the previous three editions. I believe there are plenty talented golfers around the country who will be able to showcase their talent and make their mark on the golfing map of Asia and beyond as more tournaments of such stature are held in Bangladesh.

I am glad to mention that with the growth of the game, golf publication has come a long way too. TheGolfHouse, the first ever golf magazine in the country, has been a leading light in showcasing the promise of golf in Bangladesh and acknowledging the dedication of golfers and golf administrators.

I wish all the success of the magazine in coming days.



General Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiul Huq
President
Bangladesh Golf Federation













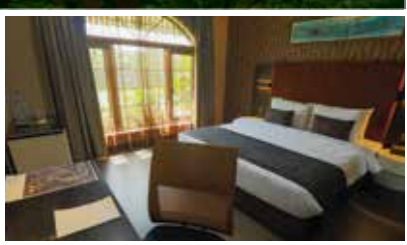

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The GolfHouse GOLFER'S LIFE

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Foreward



Cover Concept: Nazrul Hosen Ayon
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Dear readers,
We have waited for three years, but are yet to see a Bangladeshi golfer clinch the title of the Bangladesh Open. First year it was Singaporean veteran Mardan Mamat who took the title of the 300,000-dollar event. The following year young Thitiphun Chuyaiprakong of Thailand took home the title while it was another Thai youngster, Jazz Jannewattananond, who broke the hearts of the home crowd last year. However, the performances of the local golfers have gradually improved over the three years, with Siddikur Rahman coming second last time around. The two-time Asian Tour winner is in good form. Also in good form are Sajib Ali and Jamal Mollah, the latter finishing second in the just-concluded BTI Open.

As the number of international events growing and more and more sponsors coming to the game, the progress of our local golfers is quite visible, reflected in the upward curve of their performance in local and regional tours.

We feel this could be the year that Bangladesh gets its first winner on home soil in an Asian Tour event.

Enjoy the AB Bank Bangladesh Open 2018 at Kurmitola Golf Club from May 9 to 12.

See you on the fairways.

Nazrul Hosen Ayon
Editor

EDITOR'S CHOICE



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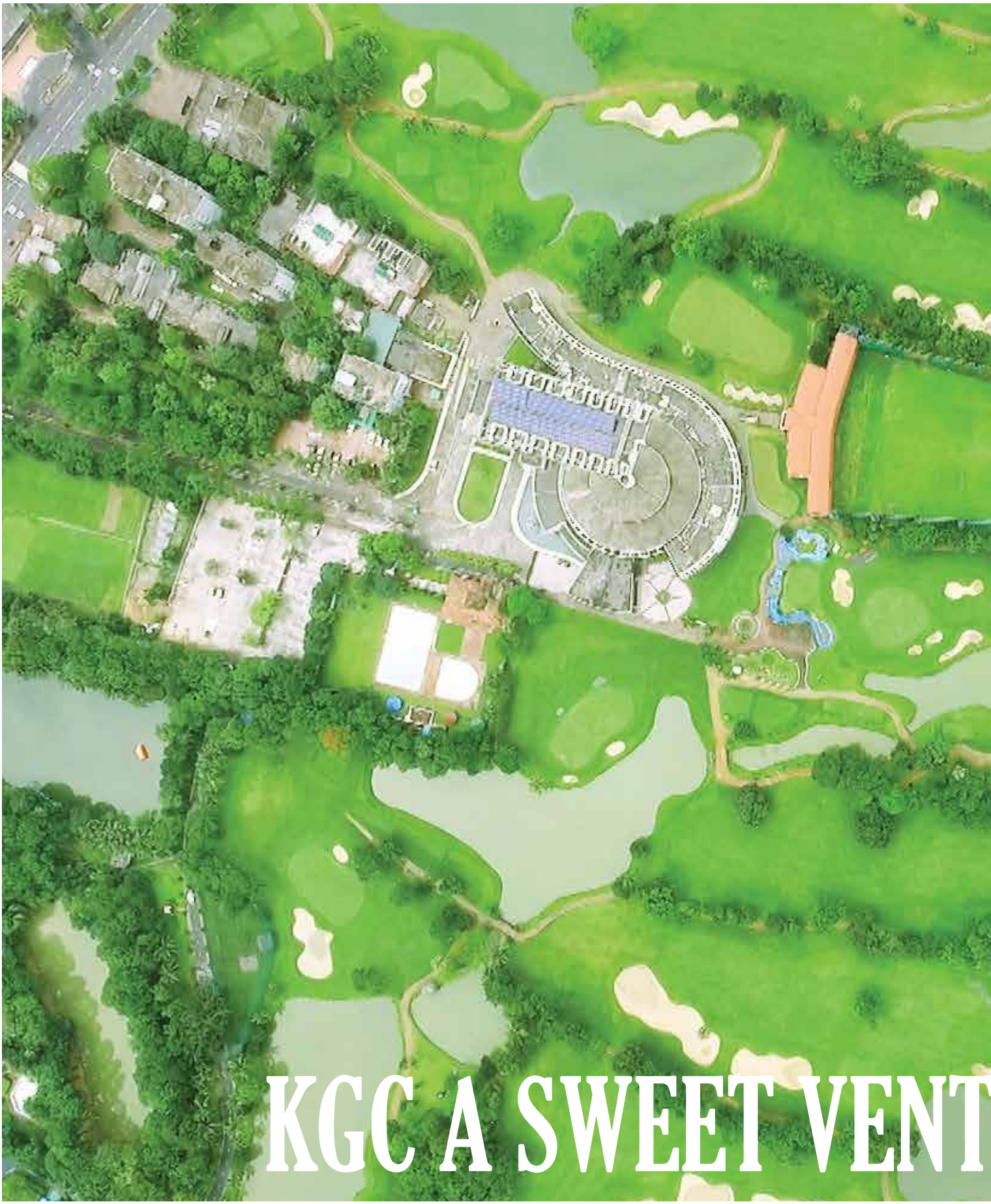
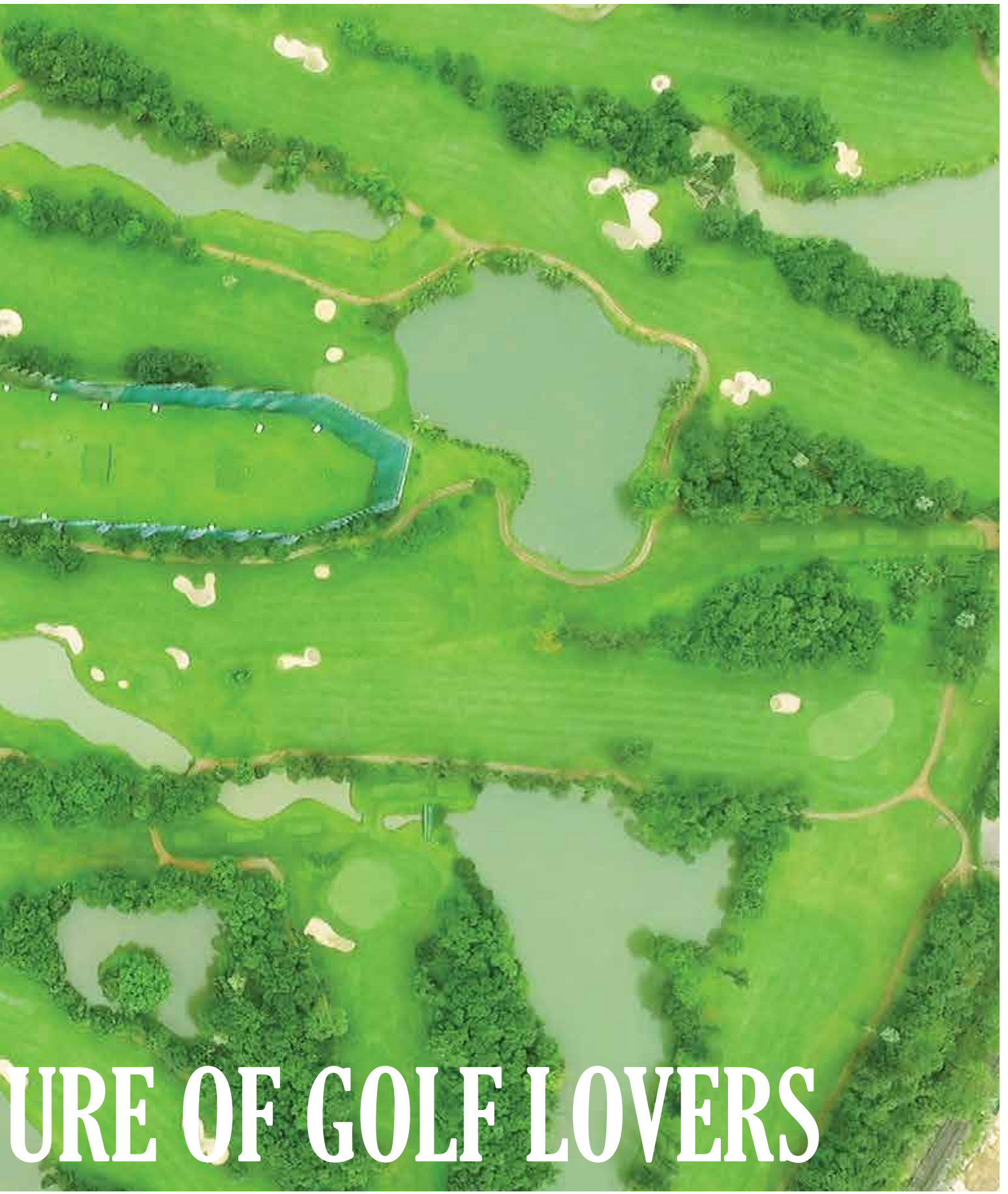


KGC A SWEET VENT



URE OF GOLF LOVERS



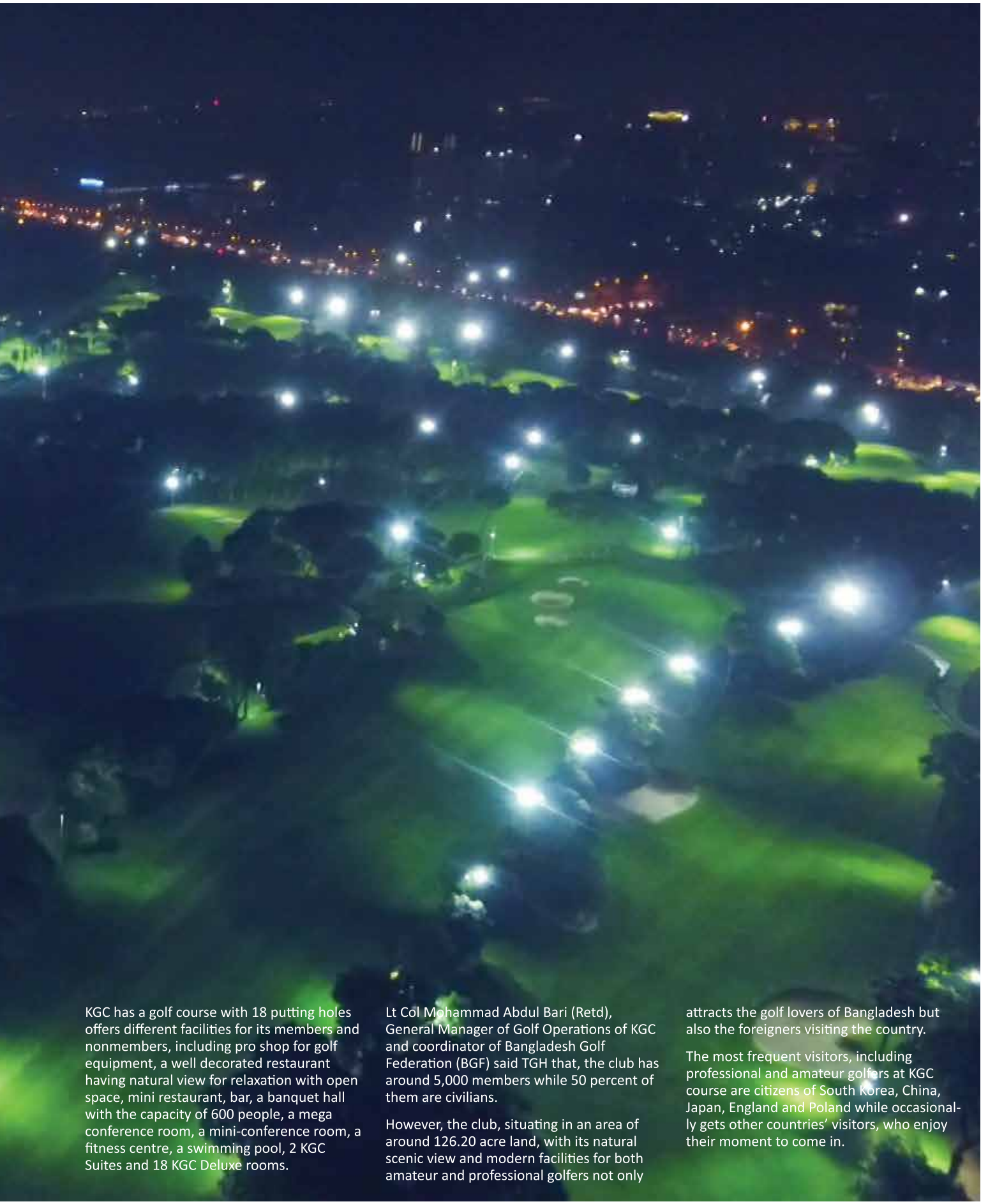
The recent scenario of discussion on sports among Bangladesh's people mostly missed out the event of golf, but it comes under limelight as trailblazing golfer Siddikur Rahman carried the national flag as competitor in Olympic in 2016.

Many know the story of country's two-time Asian Tour winner Siddikur, who lactated as a petite caddy-boy at Kurmitola Golf Club (KGC) is now singly representing Bangladesh in the world event.

KGC is a member-club in Dhaka Cantonment area operated by Bangladesh Army, where high-ranked army personnel, government officials and elite class civilians of home and abroad come to furnish their golf skill or for better utilization of their leisure period.

KGC has its own history, first traced back in 1950 as Dhaka Golf Club at Suhrawardy Udyan, before it was shifted to abandon Kurmitola Airfield in 1955 due to the increase of interest in golf, finally the golf course shifted to its present location with an area of around s 126.20 acres in 1966.

KGC is organizing events on a regular basis after the independence of the country and got an international appearance with Bangladesh Amateur Golf Championship (BAGC) a tournament is being held KGC since 1982.



KGC has a golf course with 18 putting holes offers different facilities for its members and nonmembers, including pro shop for golf equipment, a well decorated restaurant having natural view for relaxation with open space, mini restaurant, bar, a banquet hall with the capacity of 600 people, a mega conference room, a mini-conference room, a fitness centre, a swimming pool, 2 KGC Suites and 18 KGC Deluxe rooms.

Lt Col Mohammad Abdul Bari (Retd), General Manager of Golf Operations of KGC and coordinator of Bangladesh Golf Federation (BGF) said TGH that, the club has around 5,000 members while 50 percent of them are civilians.

However, the club, situating in an area of around 126.20 acre land, with its natural scenic view and modern facilities for both amateur and professional golfers not only attracts the golf lovers of Bangladesh but also the foreigners visiting the country.

The most frequent visitors, including professional and amateur golfers at KGC course are citizens of South Korea, China, Japan, England and Poland while occasionally gets other countries' visitors, who enjoy their moment to come in.

Bangladesh with clubs --Wood, Iron, Pitching wedge, Sand wedge and Putter -- to make comfortable their tour.

"The overseas golfers prefer the KGC due to its cheaper cost compare to other courses," MA Bari added.

The club is whole heartedly ready to serve its members and non-member golfers. The location, though, is still a major challenge as the access of road and transportation in cantonment area is not easy for movement, said M A Bari.

The club offers its members with many facilities while the opportunity to develop golf skill is better here than other places.

"The golf course of Kurmitola Golf Club has more level of difficulties than other courses of the country, which make the game more challenging. As a result this club is more preferable to develop the skill", said the amateur golfer who has been practicing the game for the last five years in this club. However, the non-member golfers have access at the KGC only two days' in a week with a stipulated fees.

Mentioning the club as member friendly, he added that, this place offers more opportunities for socialization and interaction with other members, which is a good way to enjoy the leisure time for its members and get connected with others among army personnel and civilians.

The club has a course facilitated with four kinds of tee boxes for --Professionals, Amateur, Senior [above 60] and Lady Golfers.

The two --Front and Back -- lines of the course has -- nine putting holes in each line



-- a par-format of 72 usually, but varied as per tournament requirements where stipulated areas are: 6579 yards for professionals, 6291 yards for amateur, 5494 yards for seniors' and 5090 yards for lady golfers.

The club has also a Driving Zone for the beginners, who want to make their score-line into zero to get the tag of professionals.

The course's fairway with green and sandy surface under sunny day has got a combination of local and diversified green trees between the gaps, what deeply attracts visitors' attention.

Benches and washroom facilities are also there in the course to make the members feel comfortable. One can also enjoy watching deer roaming around in an open space at one corner of the club.

Having several entry points with strong security, this club is also a peace to the eye having greeneries of different shades with smooth cut-way for the spectacles.

A good amount of staffs remains busy all day long to maintain the preferred grass-length and keep the area clean and sophisticated. Small pools linked with each other through small footbridges throughout the green course added beauty and offer cool breeze to the visitors as well.



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Chief guest and BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon (C) unveils the AB Bank

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BANGLADESH OPEN



Bangladesh Open trophy during a ceremony at the Kurmitola Golf Club recently.

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AB Bank will title sponsor the Bangladesh Open when the tournament returns for its fourth consecutive edition on the Asian Tour at the Kurmitola Golf Club from May 9 to 12.
AB Bank, one of Bangladesh's leading banks, will enter its first foray into professional golf by supporting the country's National Open, which offers a prize purse of US$300,000.
The tournament has welcomed many worthy champions since its inaugural edition in 2015 where Singapore's Mardan Mamat claimed his fifth Asian Tour victory.
In 2016, Thitiphun Chuayprakong of Thailand earned a sensational first win while his countryman Jazz Janewattananond scripted an inspiring victory last year.
AB Bank Limited was delighted to title sponsor the Bangladesh Open and give an opportunity to local golfers to follow in the footsteps of Bangladeshi hero Siddikur Rahman, who is a two-time Asian Tour winner.

"AB Bank is proud to be the title sponsor of the Bangladesh Open, an event which holds high prestige in the country. We look forward to working together with the Asian Tour and Bangladesh Golf Federation to ensure another highly successful tournament," said President and Managing Director AB Bank Ltd. Moshiur Rahman Chowdhury.

"Siddikur (Rahman) is an inspiration to many people in Bangladesh. We salute his passion for the game and hope that he will lead a new generation of golfers from Bangladesh who will contend regularly on the Asian Tour," he added.

Asian Tour Chief Executive Officer Josh Burack said AB Bank's title sponsorship is testament that golf is enjoying a growing popularity in the country.

"On behalf of our talented members, we would like to welcome AB Bank as the new title sponsor of the Bangladesh Open, an event which has grown in popularity since 2015. A big thank you to AB Bank for their vision and sponsorship which goes a long way to promote the game of golf in Asia," said Burack.

Senior Vice President of the Bangladesh Golf Federation AKM Abdullahil Baquee said, "We look forward to another successful event. A big thank goes out to AB Bank for their support in the event which has been a great platform for the younger generation to watch the international Asian Tour stars in action. We hope that more



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Winner 2015
Mardan Mamat
Singapore



Winner 2015
Thitiphun Chuayprakong
Thailand



Winner 2017
Jazz Janewattananond
Thailand









young golfers will take up the game of golf and in the future join Siddikur on the Asian Tour."

The Kurmitola Golf Club, which is more than 65 years old, has been a regular host venue on the Asian Tour and the Asian Development Tour.

Club Captain Quazi Shamsul Islam of Kurmitola Golf Club said, "Our club has successfully staged the last three editions of our National Open and we look forward to welcoming the Asian Tour stars again. We are proud to host the fourth AB Bank Bangladesh Open and hope to watch another exciting event at our course."

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AB BANK IS DELIGHTED TO SPONSOR AB BANK BANGLADESH OPEN - 2018

Moshiur Rahman Chowdhury
Managing Director of AB Bank Ltd.





Moshiur Rahman Chowdhury was appointed as President & Managing Director of AB Bank Ltd., the first private commercial bank of the country, on May 9, 2017. Coincidentally, the day he celebrates his first year anniversary as the chief executive of the bank is the day that the fourth edition of the Bangladesh Open will get underway and for the first time will be sponsored by the Bank. As one of the leading banks of the country, AB Bank has played a significant role in promoting sports over the last 35 years. While the bank has been long sponsoring local golf events for a number of years, this is the first time it is sponsoring the biggest golf event of the country. Mr. Rahman hopes that AB Bank Bangladesh Open 2018 will be a huge success and will help the game grow further in the country.



How much involvement does AB Bank have in regards to sports sponsorship? What prompted the bank to become the title sponsor of this event?

We have sponsored numerous sports events including Bangabandhu Gold Cup Football Tournament, Siraj Memorial Cricket Tournament, Bangladesh-Zimbabwe cricket series etc. As regards to golf, we have been sponsoring AB Bank President Cup Golf tournament at Bhatiary for the last 27 years. Since Bangladesh Open is an international golf tournament with players participating from 26 countries, we were really keen to get involved.

Is this a one-off decision or is the company willing to stay with golf, in some form or another?

We are involved with golf for a long time and definitely we will stay involved. However, an opportunity to sponsor an event like the Asian Tour doesn't come often, so we grabbed that opportunity with great interest and we do look forward to staying involved with such events in future.

We are involved with golf for a long time and definitely we will stay involved. However, an opportunity to sponsor an event like the Asian Tour doesn't come often, so we grabbed that opportunity with great interest and we do look forward to staying involved with such events in future.

What is the nature of your deal with the golf federation?

We have taken title sponsorship for this event, and as of now, it is a one-event agreement.

What other sports is AB Bank sponsoring or are planning to sponsor?

We is involved with football, cricket, golf, squash, volleyball, chess, among other sports. As I've said before, we have sponsored Bangabandhu Gold Cup in 2014 and 2015. We have been sponsoring the President's Gold Cup at the Bhatiary Golf Club for the last 27 years. The Bank also has been sponsoring the Siraj Memorial Cricket Tournament. We have a long association with sports and we hope to continue with it.

How did the communication with the federation take place?

Previously another corporate house was involved with this event. Since their association ended, we took the opportunity to get on board and sponsor the event.

What would AB Bank like to take out of the Asian Tour?

Firstly, due to this being an international tournament, this will enhance Bangladesh's exposure in the international golfing arena. We also expect that this will help in developing golf in our country. This kind of event helps one to gauge the progress that others have made and where we stand currently. Bangladeshi golfers get a great opportunity through this event to play on the Asian Tour, which they cannot get if it were held in another country.

So we would like to see our golfers play really well here. While this event will also work as a promotional activity for our bank, our main focus is to help develop the popularity of the game as well as golfers in our country.

What other CSR activities is the bank currently involved in?

We are involved with various other CSR activities. We have donated considerable amount of money to the Prime Minister's Relief fund. Like every year in 2017 we have distributed more than 70,000 blankets among the poor people of our country. We have also distributed relief and food supplies in the flood-affected areas. Besides, we have donated in the field of autism, health care, development of health care professionals, education of blind people etc. In addition we also contribute in developing the cultural heritage of the country.

Are you personally involved with golf?

No. I'm not really a golfer, but I like the game and I want that golf, like any other sport, gets the promotion and support it needs.



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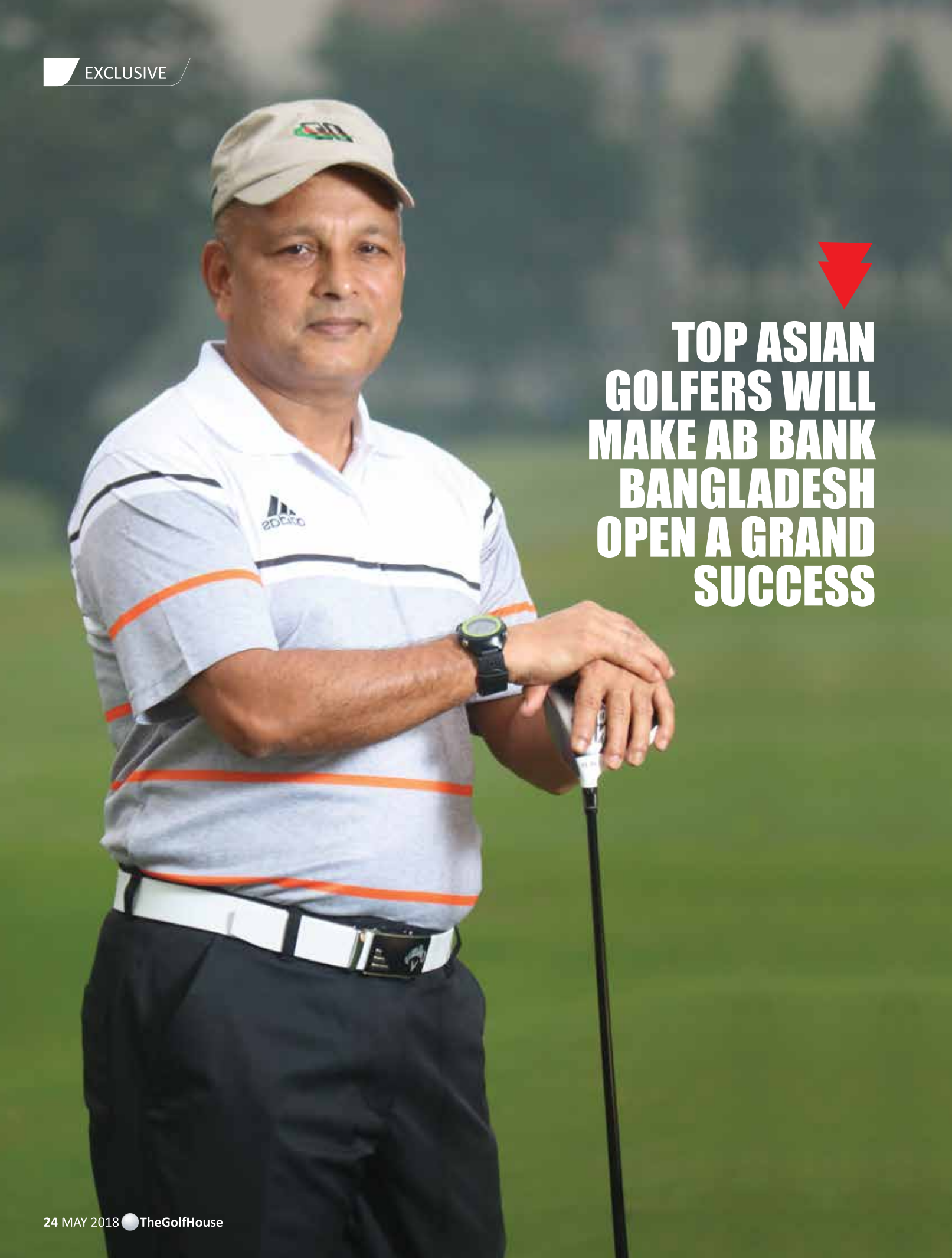


TOP ASIAN GOLFERS WILL MAKE AB BANK BANGLADESH OPEN A GRAND SUCCESS

Q&A

With the AB Bank Bangladesh Open knocking on the door, the Bangladesh Golf Federation (BGF) and Kurmitola Golf Club (KGC) are all prepared to make the country's biggest golf event a grand success. As the current general secretary of BGF and club captain of KGC, Quazi Shamsul Islam has played a leading role in negotiation and organisation of the event with different parties. While he is a bit sceptical about the possibility of rain playing spoilsport, the organiser is optimistic that the fourth edition of this Asian Tour event will surpass its part three edition in success and significance.

What was the main challenge in hosting the fourth Asian Tour in Bangladesh?

The main challenge for us was getting a sponsor. You know we had a big sponsor for the first three years. Once the contract was over, we did not get any sign of interest for renewal of the contract from them. So we were looking for appropriate sponsors. We are grateful to the current sponsors. Even though when they came, it was a bit late as the dry season was already over and we are in the middle of wet season now. So it was a big challenge.

What is your hope regarding the event?

The Asian Tour officials are enthusiastic about it and they are hopeful about making this event successful. I hope there will be no issues.

Is the weather a big issue for this event?

It is the only sensitive issue at the moment. We have the money, we have the players, but we do not have control over the weather.

Who are the foreign players that will be coming for this event?

102 players will be coming, and they are all top-ranked players of Asian Tour for their respective countries. 47/48 Bangladeshi players will be playing, which is a good thing.

How delighted are you about getting AB Bank as sponsors?

I would say they are unlike many other sponsors. They are too polite and too gentle. They understand the commitment of the organizers. On the basis of informal meeting, they made the transaction of part of the sponsorship money. They are partners in true sense – golf partners, not just finance partners.

How government is helping promote the game?

Government has a positive attitude towards promoting all sports in the country, not just golf. We are looked after by the government. National Sports Council remains in touch with us, and they are quite proactive in helping facilitate transaction of money, providing law and order related help, etc.

We have been asked to submit our requirement regarding golf training. Bangladesh Golf Academy is being activated so that we can get the best support from the government. We are going to have a simulator, gym, rehabilitation centre and other facilities.

What will be the speciality of the Bangladesh Open this time?

There will be 102 top golfers from different Asian countries this time. The event will be hosted right in between the dry season and the monsoon. And thirdly, 75 members of Kurmitola and other clubs will get the opportunity to play with the professionals in the pro-am tournament.

Say something about the spectators who would like to come and watch the event.

It will be open to all and very spectator friendly. They will, however, have to show some sort of identification to enter the club.

What role should media play in this regard?

Media should reach out to the people more. I think media is doing a good job. I would appreciate TheGolfHouse, our media partners, who are doing a wonderful job.

You are working for the last two years as the Club Captain of the Kurmitola Golf Club. What development has KGC undergone recently?

KGC is improving day by day. We have maintained the course in the most befitting manner. This year a special effort was taken to improve the quality of the grass and to maintain it. The players were quite satisfied with it. We have installed night golfing facility which is proving successful. We are producing renewable energy for that which won't be reflected in the expense of golfers. 11 sponsors came forward and supported in this work. Besides, we have also improved the driving range where you can play at night now. The quality of the surface has been improved as well. The management system has been digitized. We have issued credit cards to the members and they can register with that, endorse their game electronically on the software, etc.







I am absolutely thrilled and delighted that Dhaka is going to host the 4th Bangladesh Open Golf Championship Tournament. This is one of the biggest golfing events that we have the privilege of hosting. The location of the club has the centering quality. More than 200 participants from 26 countries will be there and I extend my very warm welcome to them in this hustling and dynamic city of Dhaka. I hope all the participants will have a wonderful time enjoying not only just golf but also the city and Bangladeshi culture. I think the management of this tournament will offer a very high class. I also extend my good wishes and congratulations to all of them and to those who will take part in. Welcome to Bangladesh Open Golf Championship 2018! Welcome to Dhaka!!

Saber Hossain Chowdhury
Member of Parliament, Bangladesh



MARDAN LOOKS TO RELIVE HAPPY MEMORIES AT BANGLADESH OPEN

Singaporean veteran Mardan Mamat hopes to turn back the clock when he returns to the Kurmitola Golf Club for the US$300,000 AB Bank Bangladesh Open next week.

The 50-year-old Mardan, who lifted his fifth Asian Tour title in the inaugural edition three years ago, hopes to repeat his success in the event which will be played from May 9 to 12.

"I like the course. It suits my eye a lot. I am looking forward to going back to Bangladesh next week. I have met a lot of nice people there, especially the people whom I have played with during the Pro-Am tournaments," said the seasoned campaigner.

Mardan made his debut on the Senior golf circuit earlier this year but admits he still enjoys playing against the Asian Tour young guns.

"I have played most of my career on the Asian Tour. Even though I am 50 now, I still love to compete and I still love my golf. I like playing in tournaments although it's not easy trying to catch up with the young boys who hit the ball really long," he said.

Mardan, who holds the honour of being Singapore's first winner on the Asian Tour, also hailed the recent emergence of the young talents on the region's premier Tour and Asian Development Tour (ADT), which staged two events in Bangladesh this year.

"It's nice to see the young Singaporean boys turning professional and doing well on the Asian Tour and the ADT. We used to have only a few Singaporeans playing on Tour. Now we have quite a handful which is very good to see.



Photo: Asian Tour/ Getty Images

"It's definitely great to see them perform well, especially with Johnson Poh winning on the ADT in Malaysia last month. It provides a lot of motivation for the other Singaporean boys out there. It's a promising sight.

"Not just Singaporeans, it's great to see other Asian boys rising through the ranks as well. Take Shubhankar Sharma for example. These boys have helped promote the development of golf in Asia and it's a very good sign," Mardan added.

Young Thai Rattanon Wannasrichan, who came in tied-fourth last year, is confident of putting up another good showing when he tees off for the AB Bank Bangladesh Open, which is celebrating its fourth consecutive edition on the Asian Tour next week.

"I am looking forward to playing in Bangladesh again. I had a good finish last year and I am feeling confident of putting up another good result this time round. The course at the Kurmitola Golf Club feels like the army golf course where I used to practise back home.

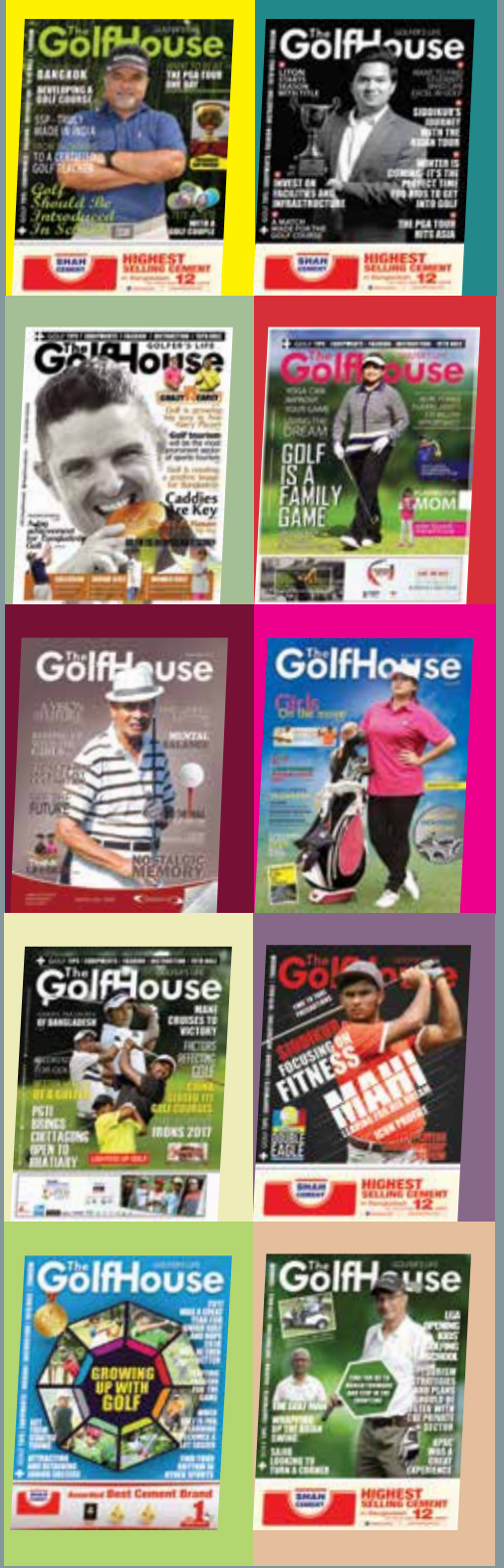
"I feel very comfortable there. Obviously, I would be aiming for a win but a top-three finish will be nice too. That will give me a lot of confidence," said the 22-year-old Rattanon, who sits in 18th place on the Habitat for Humanity Standings, thanks to two top-10s.

Mardan and Rattanon are among the 18 Tour winners set to headline the 144-man field gathered at the Bangladesh's National Open next week.

Home hero Siddikur Rahman, who came in runner-up last year, will spearhead the local charge made up of 34 players, who will take aim at keeping the trophy on home soil for the first time since the tournament was inaugurated in 2015.

Other notable players include Masahiro Kawamura of Japan, Thai veteran Thaworn Wiratchant, Jeev Milkha Singh of India and Poom Saksansin of Thailand.





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THE FEAR FACTOR IS NO MORE

Siddikur Rahman, the two-time Asian Tour winner, has not had success on the tour since November 2013. While he has won events on the ADT and PGTI in the meantime, he has not won an Asian Tour title in over four years. In the Bangladesh Open last year, Siddikur finished second, which was a big improvement from his performance in the first two years. As the Asian Tour is taking place in Bangladesh for the fourth consecutive time, the 33-year-old golfer is excited and thinks the local golfers will do better this time than they have done in the past.

Q&A

Fourth time Asian Tour is taking place in Bangladesh. How excited are you?

First of all, I want to thank Bangladesh Golf Federation who managed it all within a very short time. Secondly, I thank AB Bank for coming forward. Such big events cannot take place without the active help of sponsors. I'm really excited that Asian Tour is taking place for a fourth consecutive time and I'm looking forward to a good week.

What impact have you noticed of the four years that Asian Tour has been in Bangladesh?

If you analyze, our performances have improved gradually over the four years. Personally, I was really nervous the first time and finished way behind. The second time was a much better result for me and I finished runners-up the third time around, which shows we have improved gradually. Other players have done well too.

Do you think you can take advantage of the home course this time around?

Home course is always an advantage. I hope the weather will be in favor. The course condition is good and if it stays like this, we will do well.



Photo: Asian Tour/ Getty Images

Are you satisfied with your overall performance of the last two years?

I'm kind of satisfied. If you consider in regards to ranking, it is not that good but prizemoney-wise it is quite satisfactory. However, there is scope for doing a lot better and hopefully, I will do better in the upcoming events.

Rahil Gangjee won a title after 14 long years in the recent Panasonic Open. He didn't have a sponsor, yet he never gave up. This must be an inspiration for all golfers. What do you think?

Indeed you will definitely have success if you keep persevering. He won a title 14 years back and waited 14 years to end the drought. I know him pretty well. He is a very hardworking golfer and he's doing a lot of things to achieve his goal. He should be proud of his achievement.

The number of tournaments and number of sponsors in our golf has increased. But golfers are not getting individual sponsorship in that way. Do you think with the growth of the game golfers will get sponsors for themselves sometime soon?

Anything is hard to come at the early stage. But you see one way or another, golfers are getting more money now. With the increase in the number of events and prizemoney, golfers are earning more than before. So we should be focused on our own game, which can earn us more prizemoney. Maybe we are not getting it straight from the sponsors, but we are earning it anyway with our effort.

Your wife Auroni is the first female professional golfer of the country. How proud are you about her?

I'm really proud. She worked hard. She was in the national team and even won an award when in the national team. It's like a little piece of history that she became the first female professional golfer from Bangladesh. I hope more female golfers should follow her path and events for female golfers will be held.

How much hope do you have from the local golfers in the AB Bank Bangladesh Open?

First of all we will have home course advantage. Secondly, we have played three Asian Tours and a number of PGTI and ADT events here over the last few years. So we should not have that fear factor anymore. Everyone has a chance of doing well. I think all the players are really excited and looking forward to this event.



Photo: Asian Tour/ Getty Images



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Photo: Asian Tour/ Getty Images

HAPPY TO GET MY SWING BACK IN SHAPE

Zamal Hossain Mollah, the most successful golfer of Bangladesh after Siddikur Rahman, struggled with his swing over the last two years. After having shown promise early in his career when he won two PGTI titles and a number of titles on the home tour, the Kurmitola-based golfer failed to live up to his reputation. Once a promising player on the Indian circuit, his results started to nosedive. The 33-year-old golfer says it was his swing that had gone awry which caused the main problem for him. Now he feels he got his game back after having worked hard on rectifying the swing. Having finished second in the BTI Open recently, Zamal is hoping to do even better in the Bangladesh Open.

Asian Tour is going to be held for the fourth time in Bangladesh. How are you preparing yourself for the event?

I'm preparing quite well. I have played two tournaments in India before the Asian Development Tour event. I played pretty well in those tournaments and as you saw I finished second in the ADT here. My game was a bit off the boil in recent past due to swing. But I've got back the swing in pretty good shape. As a result, chipping and putting has also improved. So I wish I can get a good result in the AB Bank Bangladesh Open.

You just finished second in the BTI Open. How was your preparation for that event?

As I said, my swing wasn't going well for quite a long time. So I worked on the swing for some time. I played really well. Even though I couldn't win it, I was close to winning it. I'm quite happy with the result and hopefully, this will help me in the Asian Tour event.

This year there might be a lot of rain around when the Bangladesh Open will be held. A similar thing happened in 2015 and our golfers didn't do well at that time. It was said that they struggled with the rain. Do you think something similar might happen this time around?

We have become more matured and experienced by now. But you know we usually don't play during rain. This time we will prepare in a way so that the rain does not hamper our game.

Number of tournaments has been increased. Sponsorship money has been increased as well. But individual sponsorship has not been increased much. Do you think that too will rise as more and more events are held?

We played 20+ tournaments under BPGA last year. We have already played a number of tournaments this year already. We are grateful to the BPGA and to the companies who are sponsoring these events. Then we have five players with full card on the PGTI. They are earning from BPGA and investing it on PGTI. Without this support from BPGA, we wouldn't have come this far. So we should be thankful to BPGA.





Photo: Asian Tour/ Getty Images

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KNOW YOUR GOLF COURSE: A HOLE BY HOLE GUIDE TO THE KURMITOLA GOLF CLUB

by Brig Gen Selim Akhtar (Retd)

KGC is not a very long course in terms of yardage and it is not a very difficult course to play but there are challenges and difficulties embedded in the course design and it might help if the golfer is aware of these design challenges. USGA Course ratings for KGC are as follows:

KURMITOLA GOLF CLUB
USGA RATINGS

Tee	Date Rating	Front 9		Back 9		**18 Hole**		Yards
		Course Rating	Slope Rating	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Course Rating	Slope Rating	
Black	3/7/2017	35.2	129	36.1	135	**71.3**	**132**	6579
Blue	3/7/2017	34.5	127	35.4	132	69.9	130	6291
Yellow	3/7/2017	32.9	115	33.4	127	66.3	121	5494
Red	3/7/2017	34.2	125	34.9	132	69.1	129	5090

For regular golfers playing from BLUE Tee on a course with USGA course rating of 69.9 a scratch golfer is expected to score 2 under par on average, so it's not a difficult course to play on. However, the BLUE slope rating of 130, which is much higher than a standard course difficulty of 113 indicates that the course design does present challenges and is certainly difficult from a golf course of standard difficulty. From my experience I would suggest the following considerations for any golfer which may help to card-in good scores.



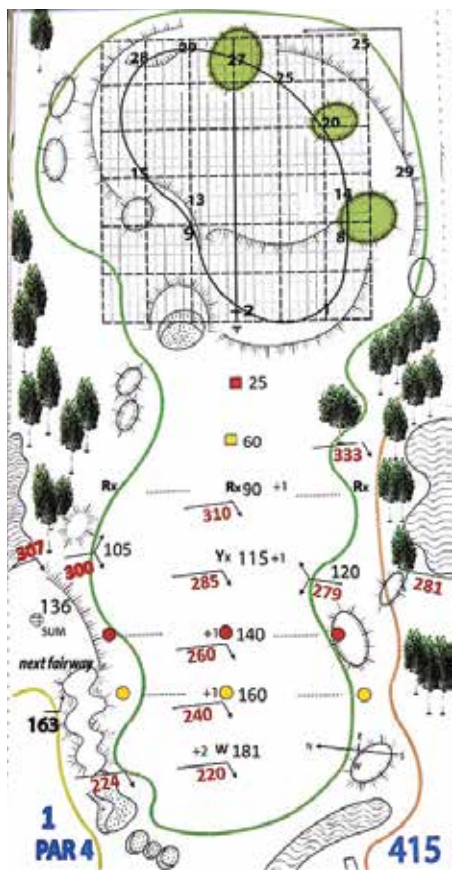
Hole # 1 - It's a Par 4 hole and on tee off, one needs to carry approximately 100 yards over the water towards a wide open fairway.



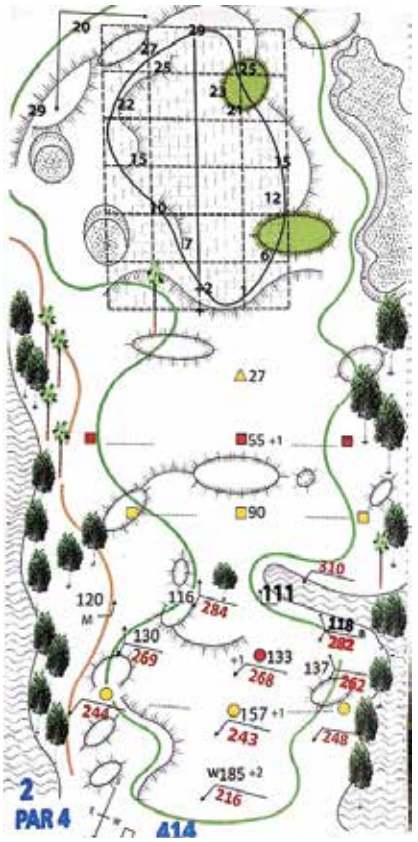


Hole # 1

It's a Par 4 hole and on tee off, one needs to carry approximately 100 yards over the water towards a wide open fairway. However, the Tee-box is aligned more towards the right side and golfers generally tend to stand square to the tee box. With that kind of alignment setup even a moderate fade can result in the ball going into the long water hazard on the right. It is preferable to align with the left edge of the fairway and with a gentle fade the ball will land in the center or a little on the right side of the fairway. Keeping the ball in the center or little on the right provides a better approach shot line and takes the green side bunker out-of-play. Green mostly slopes down towards the fairway and putting down slope can be tricky therefore aim to keep below the pin which will allow a more aggressive putt.



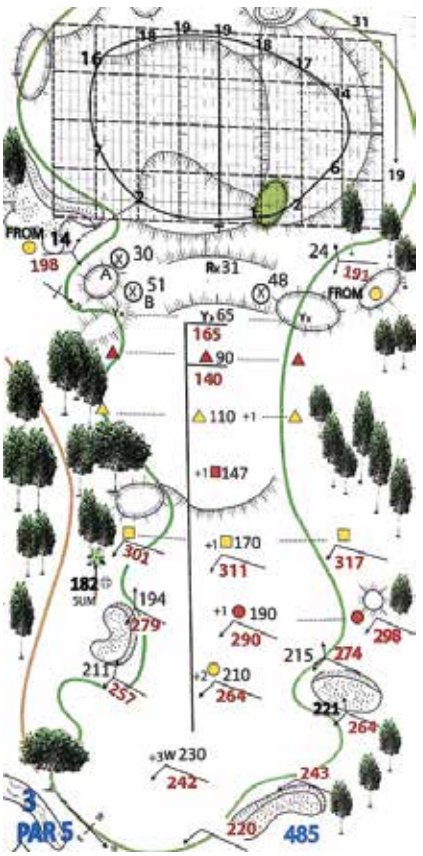
Hole # 2



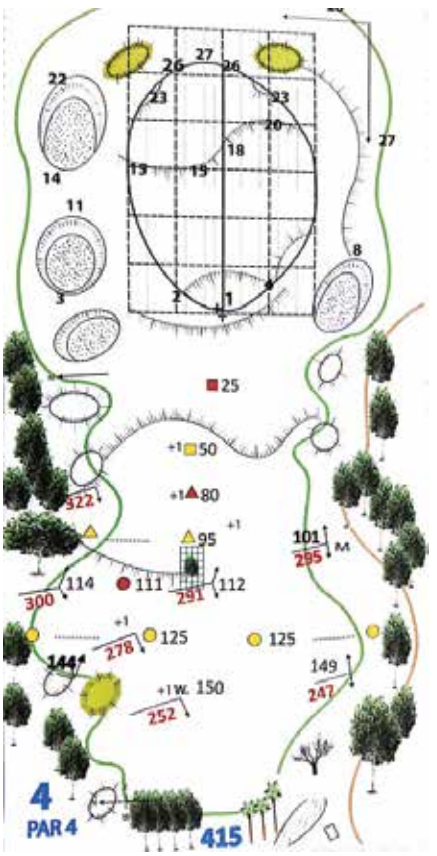
It's a Par 4 hole and the landing area is fairly narrow with the woods and the OB on the left and water hazard all along on the right. Additionally, for golfer's driving around 260yards+ water hazard in the front comes into play. Therefore, one has to layoff short of the water hazard but keeping more to the right of the mango tree or else the tree and the distance to cover thereafter makes the second shot difficult. Approach shot to the green is fairly straight forward however one has to be aware of the water hazard and the OB on the left side. Green has multiple slopes reference to the yardage book will certainly be helpful. Generally speaking aim to stay below the green center or else one would be doing a down slope putt.

Hole # 3

It's a short Par 5 hole and easy for most golfers to score par and leaves the opportunity for better skilled golfers to get a birdie or an eagle. On tee off, one needs to carry approx. 130 yards over the water towards into the fairly narrow fairway with bunkers on either side. More troublesome is the deep wooded area on the left. The hole sharply doglegs towards left with wide open approach to the green. Green has less depth so approach shot is likely to go over the green. Green has multiple slopes but generally speaking aim to stay in the middle and left of the green to avoid severe slope towards the right which causes the ball to roll off the green.

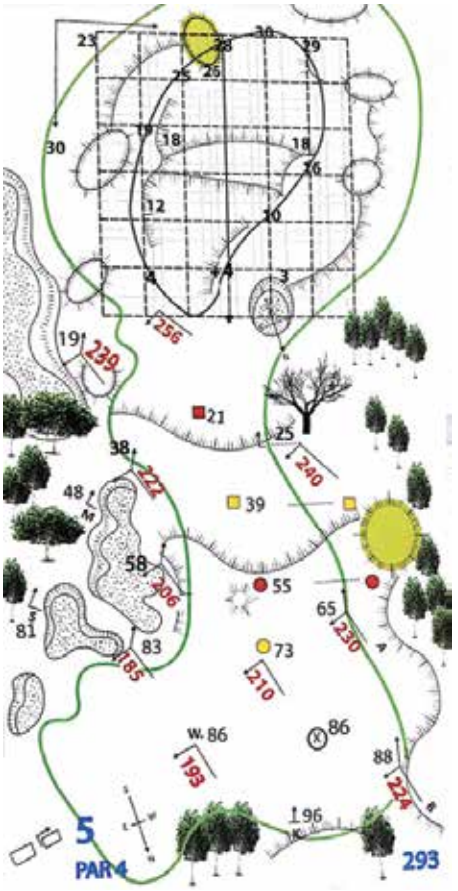


Hole # 4



It's a Par 4 hole but one of the toughest holes on the course because of a number of trees that come into play both during tee off and particularly for an approach shot to the green. One needs to tee off on a line away from the wooded area on the right. The adjoining Hole 3 fairway on the right is OB leaving little margin for ball to fade. Tee-box is aligned more towards the right side towards the wooded area. If the golfer stands square to the tee box rectangle, he is likely to end up among the trees on the right. Much better to align with the left edge of the fairway and with a gentle fade the ball will land in the center of the fairway. For the approach shot the tree right in the middle of the fairway makes it difficult to go for the green unless the ball is clear left or right of this tree. There are two green side bunkers which come into play on approach shot. Green mostly slopes down towards the fairway and putting downslope can be tricky therefore aim to keep to the center of the green.

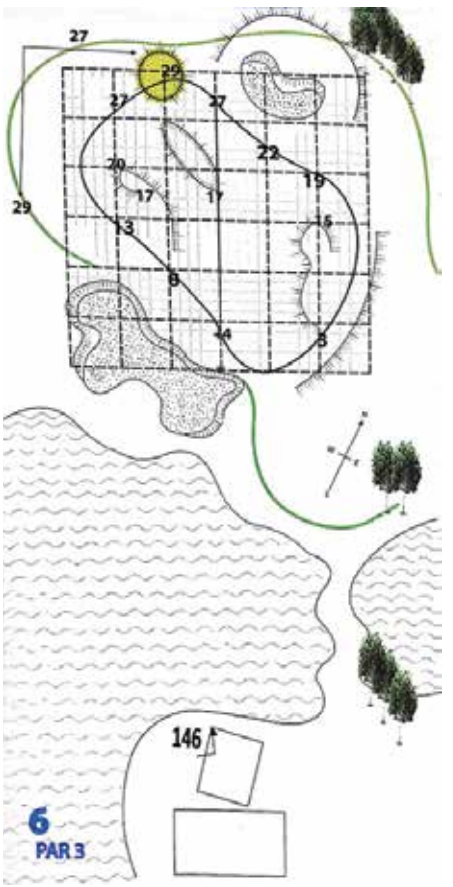
Hole # 5



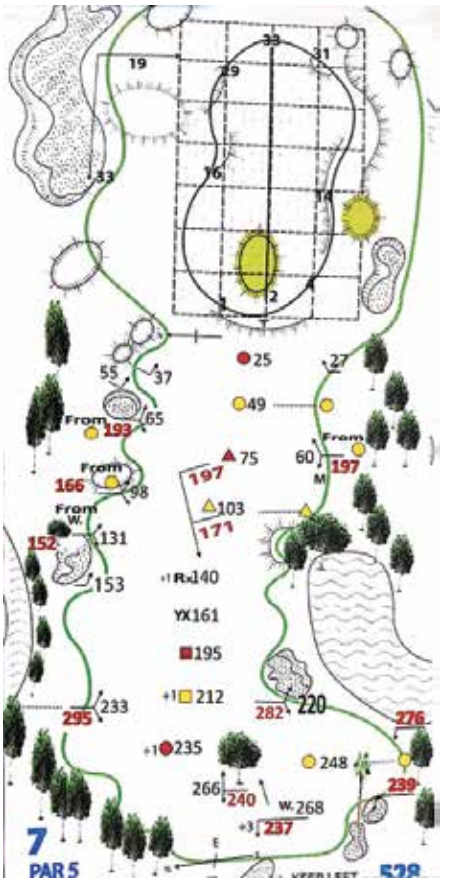
It's a short Par 4 hole which doglegs to the left but the green is not visible from tee. It does provide an opportunity for long hitters to go for the green with the risk of going over the trees. The risk is if the ball does not carry to the green and lands on the adjoining Hole 4 fairway it will be OB. However, the hole rewards golfers who make it to green with increased chances for eagle or birdie. The hole sharply doglegs towards left with wide open approach to the green. There are two green side bunkers which come into play on approach shot. Comparatively it's an easy hole to play.

Hole # 6

It's a short Par 3 hole. Difficulties of the hole are tee-off across water hazard which requires carry distance of approx. 150 yards, a birdcage on the left which is OB and deep green side bunkers with near vertical face towards the green. Keeping to the right side of the green would be safe play for middle to high handicap players. Green has multiple slopes which can make long putts difficult unless the line is read properly. It's an easy hole to play once you escape the stated dangers. This hole has seen most Hole-in-One at KGC.



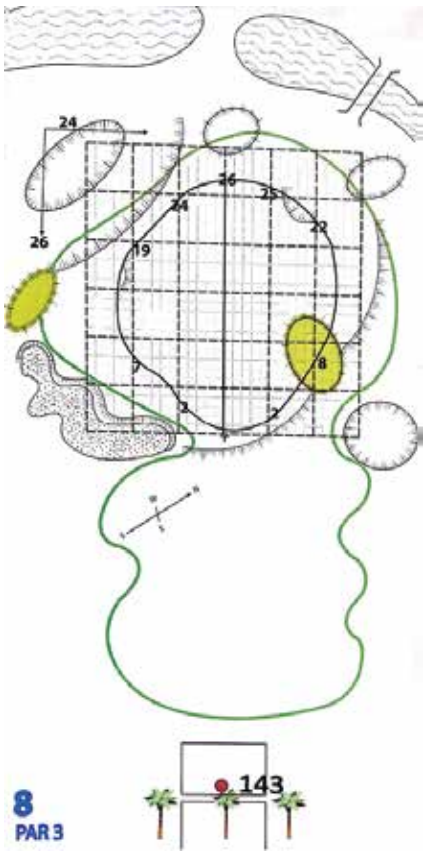
Hole # 7



It's a short Par 5 hole and easy for most golfers to score par and leaves the opportunity for better skilled golfers to get a birdie or an eagle. On tee off, one needs to carry approx. 130 yards over the water to the fairly wide fairway with long bunker running along on the right side. A large tree located at about 220 yards in the middle of the fairway rarely comes into play. However, for golfers who drive 270+ yards are likely to go into the water hazard in the front unless they can draw to keep the ball more to the left on the fairway. 2nd shot thereafter is a straight forward shot into a wide landing area leaving around 110 - 130 yards to the green which is protected by a bunker on the right. Forward part of the green has multiple slopes while rear part has comparatively less breaks. Generally speaking, aim to stay in the middle and to the right of the green.



Hole # 08

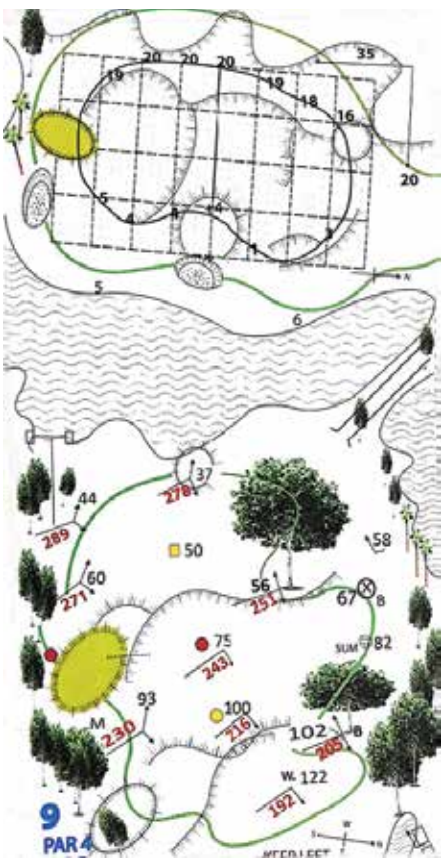


It's a short Par 3 hole frequently played downwind. Depending on the tee position generally requires about 150 - 160 yards carry. Green is generally flat except for a mound like surface on the right side of the right edge which causes a severe break. If the pin is across this mound it would be advisable to aim for the center of the green with a gentle fade to let the ball run towards the pin. Attacking the pin from the tee across this mound like surface will certainly result in the ball running off the green. It's an easy par able hole to play and often with good read of the green birdie is the reward.



Hole # 09

It's a Par 4 hole and fairly challenging hole specially for high handicap players. The landing area is fairly narrow with slope running across the fairway width near the 100 yard marker. If the ball comes to rest on this down-slope than the 2nd shot to the green becomes a difficult shot. Apart from the water hazard to cross in front green additional difficulties of this hole are the two trees on the right part of the fairway. A good shot would be keeping well to the left of these two trees so that you have an unobstructed line to the green. A ball fading to the right will either go into the water hazard on the right OR will certainly be obstructed by the two trees. If the ball does come to rest behind the trees for the high handicap golfers the safe route would be to save and lay-off to the left and the go for the green with 3rd shot, well the allowable handicap strokes allow you to take that extra stroke. However, for low handicap golfers one can still go for the green keeping the ball low to fly under the tree. If you have one tree to cross it's a playable shot with sand wedge going high over the tree to a distance of 80 yards.



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Hole # 1 - It's a Par 4 and fairly challenging hole specially for high handicap players. On tee-off one needs to carry approx. 100 yards over the water hazard with OB on the right and another water hazard at a distance on the left.

The Back 9

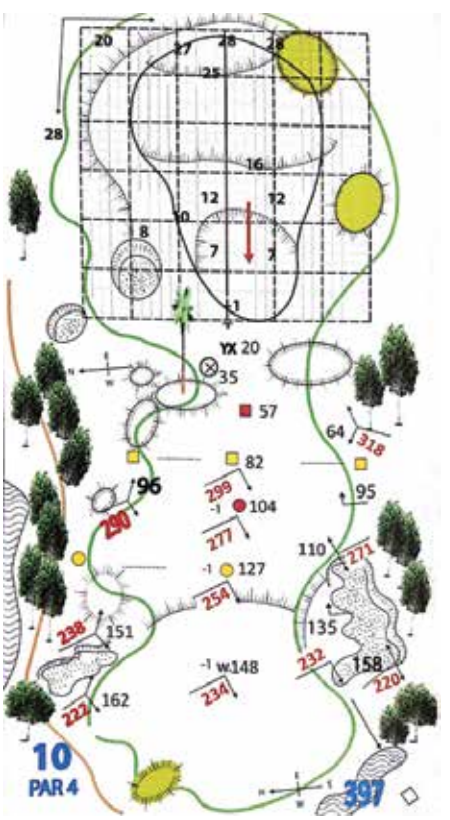


Hole # 10

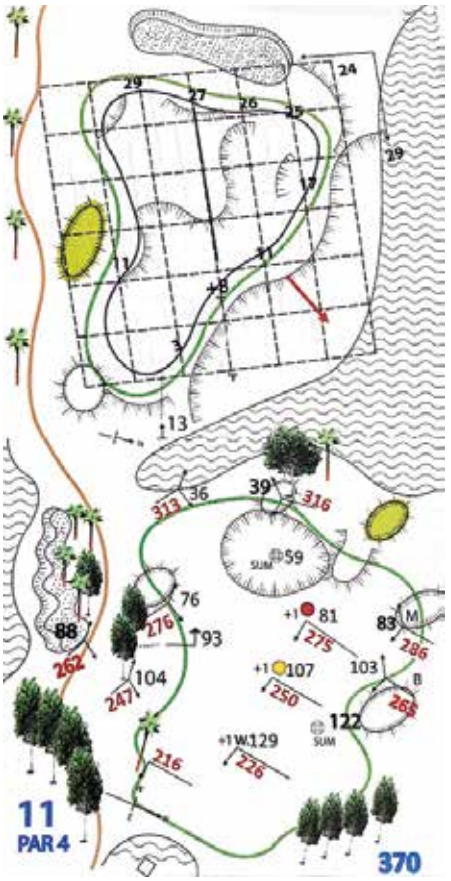
It's a Par 4 and fairly challenging hole specially for high handicap players. On tee-off one needs to carry approx. 100 yards over the water hazard with OB on the right and another water hazard at a distance on the left. Additional challenges are bunkers and the tree line on both sides of the landing area. That makes the landing area is fairly narrow but flat and easy for the 2nd shot to the green. Long hitters may find themselves in better position if they fade the tee-off ball from the left tree line towards the fairway center.

This hole has two layered green the front portion being significantly lower than the rear part of the green.

The rear part of the green gradually slopes away towards water hazard located immediately behind the green. So with pin position on the rear part of the green if pin position is attacked the chances are the ball will catch the slope and roll into the water hazard. It is much safer to hit the front part of the green and let the ball run up the slope towards the pin. On the other hand if the pin position is on the front or lower part of the green, it is much better to stay short and follow it up with chip-in attempt or an aggressive putt. Going past the pin will make ask for downslope put which can be a difficult hole. Further for the 2nd shot to the green one has to be careful about the OB along the driving range net on the right.



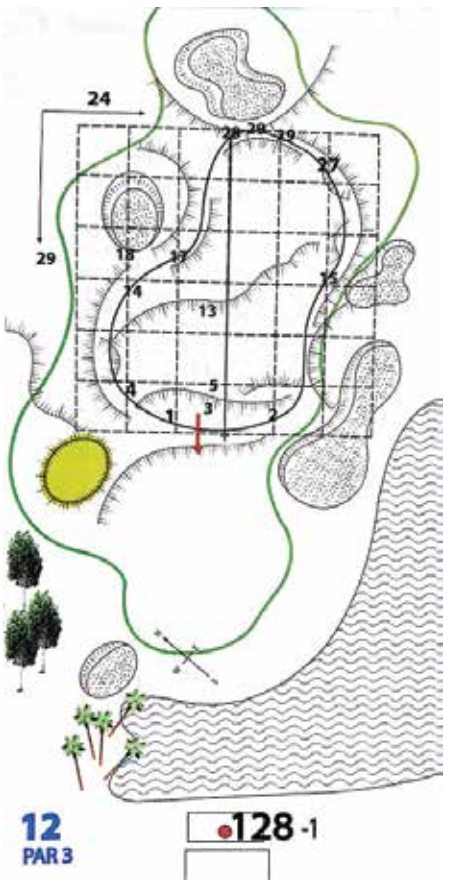
Hole # 11



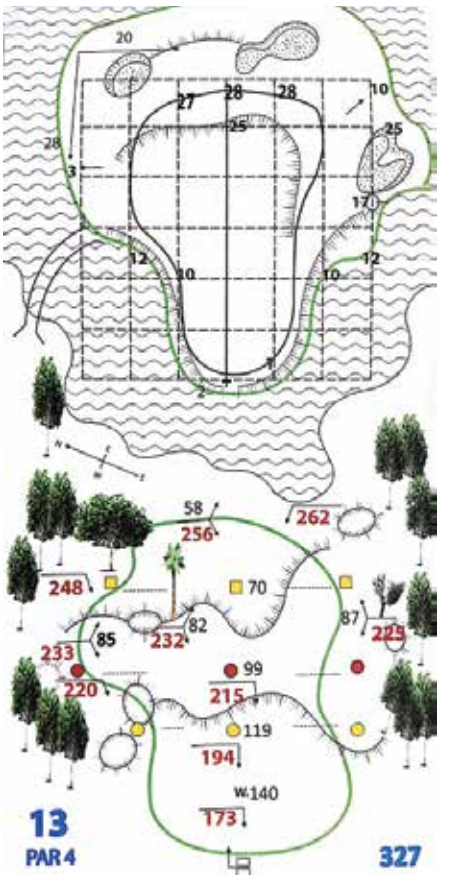
It's a Par 4 played across two water hazards. On tee-off one needs to carry approx. 150 yards over the water hazard with a generous and wide landing area straight ahead. The 2nd shot to the green requires the player to watch for the wind direction and get the correct distance to the pin. Green generally slopes down towards the water hazard and on this hole down slope putting can be treacherous and punishing. Green is further protected by a bunker past the green. Once in the bunker the shot requires good skills at bunker shot distance control or one is likely to end up in water hazard. Advice stay short and below the green to allow upslope chip or putt.

Hole # 12

It's a short Par 3 played across water hazards which requires a carry distance of approx. 150 yards. Presence of large water surface in front and on the right does present wind conditions often so one needs to watch whether it's a head-wind or tail-wind. Shot to green does not provide much error margin with right side being protected by deep bunkers and the left with trees and rough added further is another bunker on the left and forward.
Once in the bunker the shot requires good skills at bunker shot distance control or one is likely to end up in the bunker across the green. Forward part of the green slopes down which does at times cause the ball to roll backwards off the green. Overall it's an easy par able hole if one can keep out of the stated difficulties.

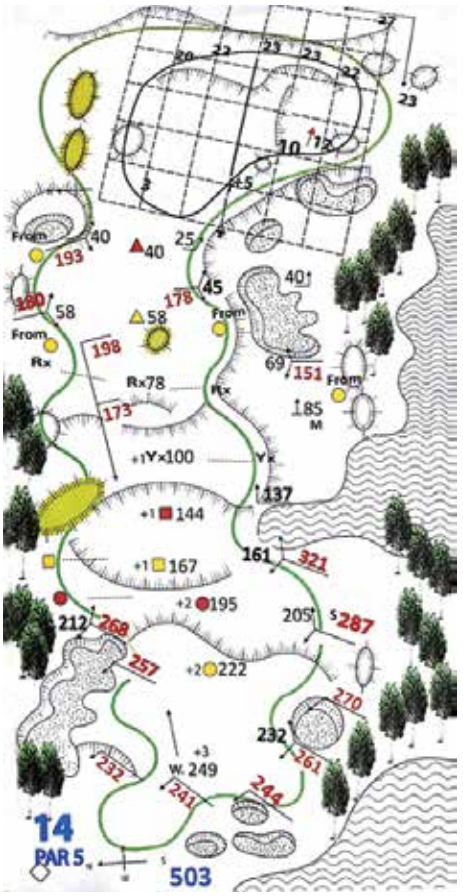


Hole # 13



This is the signature hole of the course and is built as an island hole. In fact, the island was artificially created to meet the architect's design requirement. It's a Par 4 played over a narrow fairway and across water hazard all around the green. Being an island green it does not offer any margins for error. Further the palm tree on the fairway standing almost in the middle of the landing zone makes it difficult to go for the green if ball lands in line with that tree. Past the palm tree a slope runs across the narrow width of the LZ and if the ball stops on this down slope 2nd shot to the green can be very difficult specially for higher handicap players. So a golfer would be comfortable if the ball stays short of the palm tree and right of it or go well past the palm tree across the down slope to the flat part of the fairway ahead. Besides the difficulty of the green being on the island a green side bunker on the right side has folds where it can be difficult to take the back swing and further if you cannot control the distance for the bunker shot ball will certainly end in the water hazard across. However, the good news is, the grass bunker and the sand bunker across the green on the far side does provide some relief for shots going over. Green in general is flat with moderate slopes and is not difficult to play.

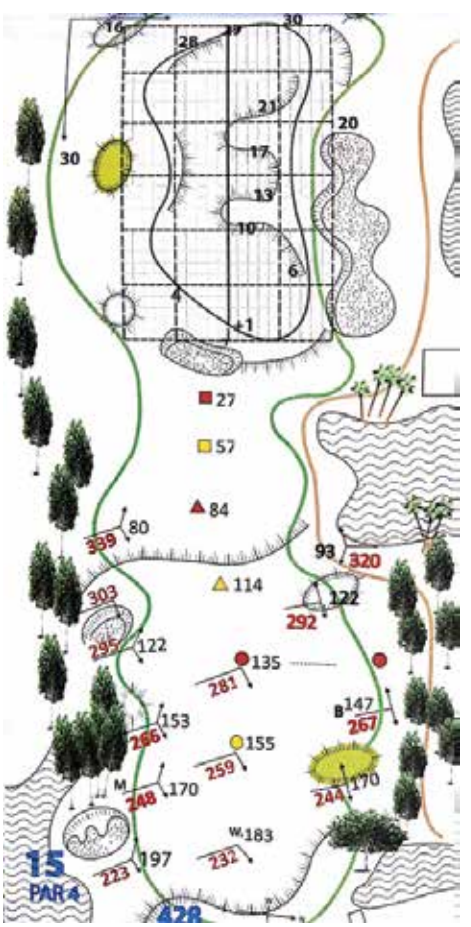
Hole # 14



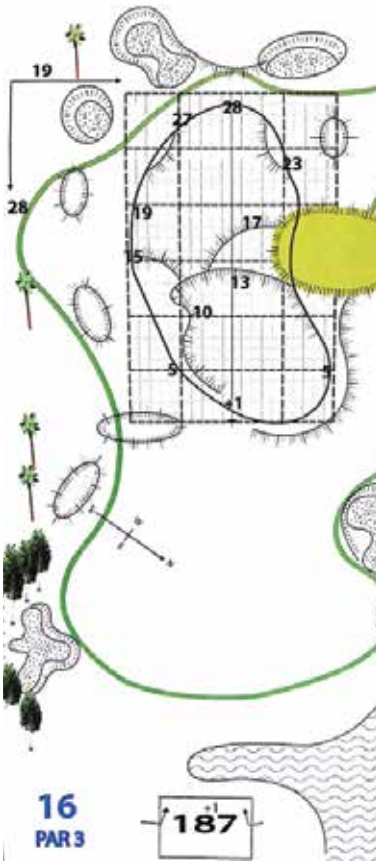
It's a Par 5 hole and easy for most golfers to score par and yet the hole offers lot of opportunity for better skilled golfers to get a birdie. Tee off can be challenging with wooded area and the OB on the left with the water hazard to carry. Landing area is narrow protected by bunker on two sides supplemented with trees and rough on the right. So just a long drive is not very helpful unless one can draw to land short of the water hazard in the front. For the 2nd shot one has to guard against long bunker straight ahead right up to the green. Also for the 2nd shot fairway sloping towards the bunker comes in play and often to frustration of golfer's, ball does slide down into the bunker unless one keeps well to the left. Approach or 3rd shot to the green is not very difficult though there are a number of green side bunkers. Green in general has moderate slopes and is not very difficult to play. In summary it's an easily parable hole.

Hole # 15

It's is a difficult Par 4 because it presents very narrow landing area for the tee-off shot. LZ id guarded on both sides by thickly wooded area and rough which will take away one shot to come back to fairway. Ambitious shots from inside the wooded area can land you back into more trouble. Long hitter needs to watch the water hazard in front which may come into play for shots close to 280 - 300 yards depending on tee position. The 2nd shot is fairly simple but one has to watch the green side bunker on the right. Green generally flat with moderate breaks.



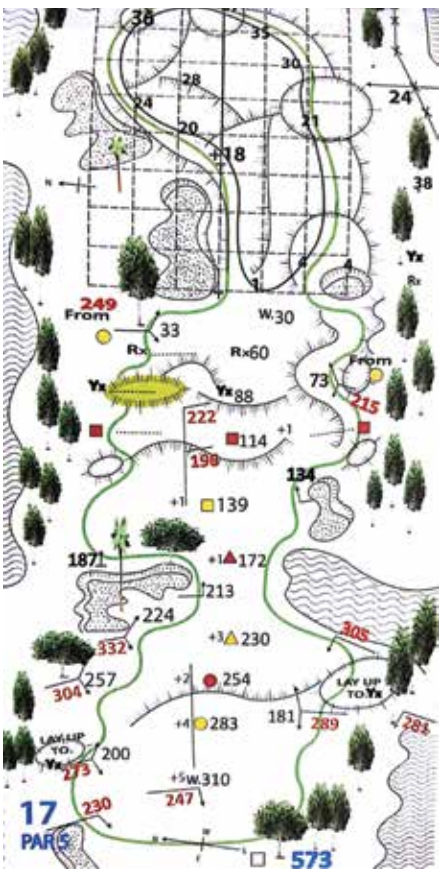
Hole # 1



It's a long Par 3 without any hazards to green and requires a carry distanc approx. 200 yards. Green has protec bunker a little short on the right and two bunkers across the green to catc going over the green.

This hole has kind of ridge line or a h line across in the center and that pre situation of upslope and down slope So if pin position on the rear part of green it is much safer to hit the front the green for the ball to run up the s towards the pin. If the pin position is front part of the green, it is much be stay short and follow it up with chip- attempt or an aggressive putt. Going the pin will ask for downslope put w be difficult to hole.

Hole # 17

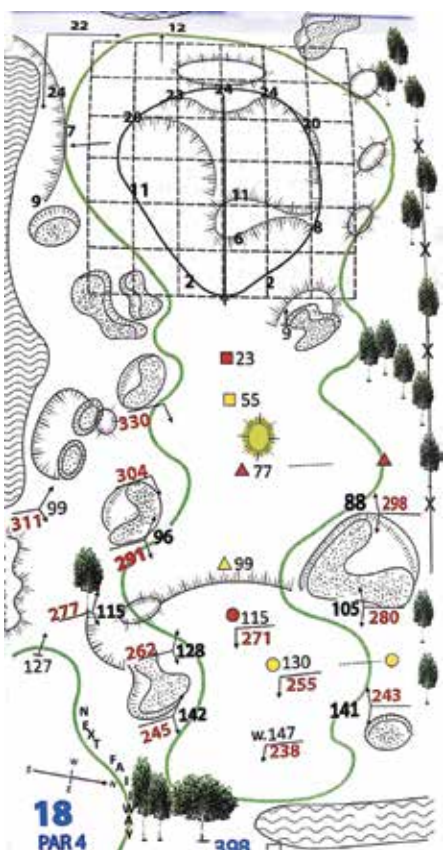


It's a long Par 5 hole and indeed the most difficult hole on the course. Tee off can be challenging with wooded area and the water hazard on the right. A good landing area with maximum width is at a distance of approx. 250 yards. Thereafter the fairway starts narrowing down. Driving for a distance longer distance like 300 yards runs the risk of running into either the fairway bunker or the water hazard on the right. Anyway the reward for such a risky long drive shot is not very encouraging because getting onto the green in two shots can still be difficult. For the 2nd shot one has to keep to the right side of the fairway to keep the greenside bunkers out of play for 3rd shot. Going for 3rd shot with a wedge provides good chance to get close to pin and a birdie. Hole 17th green is extremely tricky with slope on the right side running towards the bunker on the left. Green has an area of small depression on the front left part with lots of break and the putting can be difficult. Additionally, there is OB on the right (deer cage) and the boundary OB beyond the green coupled with deep rough all around the green.

Acknowledgement: KOCIK

Hole # 18

It's is the easiest Par 4 hole on the course, however one needs to be careful not to fade the ball as practice range fence OB runs all along on the right side. The 2nd shot is fairly simple and straight forward but one has to watch the water hazard on the left. Green has moderate breaks and is not very challenging.





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WOULD LIKE TO SEE A BANGLADESHI GOLFER WIN THE BANGLADESH OPEN

Asian Tour's Chief Operating Officer Cho Minn Thant was in Bangladesh two weeks ago during the BTI Open, which was jointly sanctioned by ADT, PGTI and BPGA. He was impressed by the number of local players that made the cut during that event. However, someone who has been here already five times, Mr. Thant expects more from the Bangladeshi golfers, both at home and international circuit. During an interview with TheGolfHouse, he said he would love to see a Bangladeshi player win the AB Bank Bangladesh Open.



Where do you see the Asian Tour ten years down the line?

We obviously want to try to increase the tournaments that we have on the schedule. If our guys are playing 35 to 40 events in a season, that is our goal. I know a lot of our professionals aim to go to the European Tour and PGA Tour. We still want to be a development tour for those players to earn their trade before they go on to the bigger tours.

Bangladesh has hosted the Asian Tour for the last three years and will be holding the fourth edition this year. What are Asian Tour's plans regarding nurturing and further development of the emerging markets such as Bangladesh?

We'd love to see more events in emerging markets. We aim to do one in Nepal, one in Sri Lanka and trying to get some tournaments back in Cambodia. It's very important to develop the smaller markets and get more national players playing on our tour. As we see in this ADT, 12 Bangladeshi players have made the cut. Now the hard part will be to try and get those 12 players make the cut in the Bangladesh Open and eventually get their cards on the tour.

Bangladesh has hosted one ADT event this year and this will be the second one. An Asian Tour event will be held as well. Do you see Bangladesh as a long-term destination for the Asian Tour?

Absolutely. We'd like to keep the Bangladesh Open on the schedule as long as we can. One Asian Tour and Two ADTs a year is absolutely perfect. Tournaments like Myanmar Open, Thailand Open, Malaysia Open, Hong Kong Open have been around for so long. We'd like Bangladesh to be a mainstay on the tour as long as we can see.

Despite great strides by Siddikur Rahman, golf is still not a sport which appeals to the common man quite the way that cricket or football does. What can the authorities in Bangladesh do more to make it accessible to the common?

I think it's very simple. In Dhaka there are only three golf courses you can play in. In Chittagong, there is one golf course. So the number of golf courses needs to be increased so to extend the opportunity for the Bangladeshis to play golf. Look at a small country like Singapore, we have 14 18-hole golf courses for 8 million population. In Thailand there are around 400 courses in the Bangkok vicinity which makes it very accessible in those countries.

The Asian Tour is hosting more co-sanctioned events with the European Tour and other tours. Is it a sign of growing stature of the Asian Tour on the international golfing scene?

You see more and more of our guys getting status in Europe and Japan. Not many people know about the Japan Tour. Last week Rahil Gangjee won a tournament co-sanctioned with Japan and he got a full card for two years. So it's a great avenue for our players to make that breakthrough and then go on to bigger and more lucrative tours. A perfect example is Shubhankar Sharma. He was playing PGTI three years ago. Then he came on to the Asian Tour, broke through last year in a co-sanctioned event in South Africa and now is leading the Race to Dubai. That's a fairytale story and not everyone can enjoy that type of success. But over a three-to-four year incubation period on the Asian Tour, we hope that they progress on to the main tours.

Which are the countries that have impressed you most in terms of event hosting and players' performance in recent times?

It's hard to go past Thailand. There are so many Thai members who are doing so well. But surprisingly smaller economies like Indonesia, we have four ADTs and two main tour events. Our chairman is now from Indonesia. Then Philippines, which has a great history in golf, hasn't hosted too many tournaments of late. We hope to do more tournaments there.

How do you enjoy the hospitality of Bangladesh?

I have been five times in Bangladesh, for events and meetings. I try to come to the Bangladesh Open. The hospitality is phenomenal; from the airport to the golf course to hotel, everyone is very friendly and we are blessed to have their support.

What is your hope regarding the fourth edition of the Bangladesh Open?

I would say my hope is to see one of the Bangladeshis, apart from Siddikur, break through and become a contender for the title or win it. We'd like to see more people coming to support the event.





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Ariyan Shahriar
CEO, Crazy Turtle Advertising Agency

Since the inception of marketing, the brands and marketers have been facing constant challenges to bring out the perfect marketing solution as consumer behavior is changing at a rocket speed. To keep up with the pace of consumer mind, marketing industry have been using many tools to understand consumer behavior and trying to reach out the actual market. As a result, numerous marketing research have been conducted and marketers are adopting new tools in their bucket every year.

With the grace of World Wide Web the local & international market is now more open for any brands to grab any consumer segment they like. But it is very hard to keep track of millions of potential customers and understanding their behavior every day. In this particulars, only

Every Marketing & Brand Fellow Should Read It

Facebook & Google based digital marketing is no longer enough for any brand to develop a sustainable brand. Therefore, the new generation of marketing professionals are profiling their target market by activating social listening tools and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) not only to distinguish their actual consumers from the whole market but also to keep track of their constantly changing purchase and decision making behavior.

To give the best digital marketing experience to our clients we have been providing AI and bot solutions tagged with website, social media & BTL activities, so that they can store and manage piles of their actual consumers' data and easily find out what marketing approach they should make to boost their sales. However, we have also been creating an Augmented Reality app for one of our clients, expected to release on August 1st. This will be the most effective Augmented Reality app for a Bangladeshi brand, capable of understanding consumer behavior & give its customers real time shopping experience just like store even before visiting the store in person.

We believe it is time for every company to re-think their digital marketing approach as the new era of digital marketing can help them communicate with their target market like never before. In this case, if you are also re-thinking about developing a sustainable brand, Crazy Turtle is happy to help.

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FROM FAIRWAY TO SILVER SCREEN!

by Samiur Rahman



Probably, watching movies is not the favorite pastime of golfers. Without being a couch potato, watching movies and eating pizza and cola; a golfer will rather take a walk or shed some sweat in the gym. May be that is the typical idea, a social stereo-type! But sometimes, best way of doing great in the course might be staying out of the course. Monsoon is approaching, the weather might decline even the keenest of the golfers a chance to swing his or her arms. In such catastrophic day, instead of playing golf; play a movie, which has golf as the key element. If you are looking for, here are some suggestions.



Set in the backdrop of Great Depression of U.S.A, director Robert Redford presented his silver screen adaptation of the book " A Novel of Golf and the Game of Life" by Steven Pressfield as "The Legend of Bagger Vance". The ensemble starcast consists Will Smith, Matt Damon, Charlize Theron and last performance from academy award winning actor Jack Lemmon. Like everywhere else, In Georgia also, effects of Great Depression are tightening the rope of all expenditures. Once a wealthy golfer

Rannulph Junuh is suffering from posttrau-matic disorder after returning from the battlefields of World War I. He became alcoholic; his family fortune is almost lost. In such predicament, came the announcement of an exhibition match with a good amount of money as prize. But the odds are not in favor of Mr Junuh. Because, the opponents were the best golfers of that time; Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen. Sounds pretty much like an underdog story? It is indeed. But there is lot more to offer. So, if the synopsis tingles your taste bud, then go for it. Beautiful Photography, great actors and some nice golfing action, "The Legend of Bagger Vance" is a wholesome meal!



Released in 2005, "The Greatest Game Ever Played" is the biographical sketch of Francis Ouimet; who is the `father of amateur golf in the United States.' Shia lebeouf rose to stardom for his role SAM WITWICKY in the Science fiction franchise TRANSFORMERS, but that's all Visual effects and stunts. You could see Lebeouf portraying the young Francis, donning the trademark cap. Set in early nineteenth century, Director Bill Paxton wanted to tell the story of a boy from working class immigrant family, who is struggling between his passion and reality. As a 7-year-old boy, Francis watched Harry Vardon, a British Golf legend in action, which enlighten the spark of golf in him. Later, he became caddie in the posh country club. Gradually, he learned to play the game, honed new skills and became the schoolboy champion. Eventually, he got the chance to play in the U.S amateur tournament but his father became very angry about his golf and told him to do some "real job" instead. So Francis left golf, joined a sports good shop as an assistant. But luck brought him back in the course! One day, President of United States Golf Association entered his shop and invited him to play in the U.S Open. Finally, he competes in the 1913 U.S Open, which was held at "The Country Club", where Francis once worked as a caddie. Sounds pretty much like the life story of Siddikur



Rahman, our very own Golf Icon? Well, champions are forged out of the hearth.



Even a century ago, the struggle was similar.

Switching into a lighter mode. If you want to laugh out loud, "Happy Gilmore" is the movie to pick. Adam Sandler in and as "Happy Gilmore" will tinkle your funny bones, question your golf logic, make you mad about the time you spent to perfect your swing but in the end, will make you laugh. An wanna be Ice Hockey player, who has anger management issues, is gifted with





a natural swing. After failing in ice hockey, heavily indebted, suddenly Gilmore found that he could apply his swing in golf too! Later its all about how he ended up winning some big bucks and the heart of a beautiful blonde. Put your thinking cap off, get a pack of popcorn or call up some golf buddies in a lazy rainy day end enjoy the show!

Coming to some close proximity. India, our neighboring country, where people go mad about cricket but also developed a strong golfing tour. Bollywood, made their version of "Happy Gilmore", which is "Freaky Ali". Starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Amy Jackson and Jas Arora, "Freaky Ali" is also less golf and more bollywood flick. Ali, portrayed by Nawazuddin, is poor guy who has an ailing mother. His predicaments forced him to take the wrong side of the law, but he could not better than a petty criminal. One day, while he went to fetch some money from a wealthy businessman from golf club, eventually he was challenged with golf skills. Freakishly, Ali won the challenge! Later, Ali quit shady path, became golfer, beat the good-looking handsome guy who was wooing the fair maiden and finally gets the girl! Made in a small budget, Freaky Ali made the producer happy but the viewers gave a mixed review. If you are fond of



"Inspector Khan" from "Kahaani", which was Nawaz's groundbreaking performance, you could watch him donning different avatar. Amy Jackson is the fair maiden here, and she looks appealing as usual!

Movies on sports like Formula1, Martial Arts promise a lot of adrenaline rush, twists and turns, fast pace and action. Like the sports golf, it's more about the mind. You can indulge into some tense dramatic screen-play, which has golf in major role; a biopic which showed the making of a champion or you could go for a laughter medicine. All are equally important in life. The choice is yours. Happy Golfing.





Samiur Rahman, Sub Editor of Daily Kaler Kantho

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REASONS TO PLAY GOLF

Golf is one of the oldest and most enjoyed games around. People who love golf come in all ages, from toddlers to 90-year-olds.You get to feel the sunshine on your shoulders while completing a challenge and enjoying a day with friends, or at least others who love the game as much as you do. Golf is just plain fun.

Outdoors:

Golf courses are generally well kept and beautifully created. Many new courses today are designed to incorporate the surrounding natural elements. The end result is that you feel as though you are walking down a green meadow in the middle of a forest, desert or even a beach. Fresh air and outdoor activity make you feel alive.

Exercise:

Regarding exercise, it has been said that you should pick something you enjoy so you will stick with it. Playing golf can be excellent exercise, especially if you forgo the cart and walk. Depending on the course, four or more miles can be walked during 18 holes. When you love the game, it hardly feels like exercise.

Friendships:
Lasting friendships can be started and grow right at the golf course. Golfers experience a camaraderie that extends beyond the golf course and into other social situations. If you go to the course alone and join in with other players, by the end of the round you may find yourself having dinner or a beer with new friends while talking about every hole.

Family Bonding:

Golf is a game you can teach your child. When children are young, they enjoy doing just about anything with you. Golf is an opportunity for quality bonding time. You can take your child (or grandchild) down to the local golf store and purchase clubs that fit her, then head to the course once or twice a month. The experience brings you and your loved ones closer together.

Challenge:

Golf offers you a challenge each time you play, at the same course or different ones. You are constantly trying to achieve better scores than before, whether it is on an individual hole or an entire round. And others in your group challenge you to play better.

Business:

If you are in business or just need to make contacts, the golf course is the perfect place. There is plenty of time between shots or while waiting for the group in front of you to talk about your profession and the strengths of your company. And when that other golfer needs goods and services, he'll likely come to you, someone he already knows and has enjoyed a round of golf with.

Character:

Playing any sport builds character, but golf provides a chance to be introspective during the process. It's a slower-moving game. When you aren't playing as well as others and become frustrated, you have plenty of time to think about how to handle that frustration. You find a way of coping, and that coping skill spills over into other areas of your life.



WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED IF A BALL ENTERS A WATER HAZARD?



A water hazard on a golf course is typically a pond or small lake, but may be as large as part of an ocean or as small as a drainage ditch. Regardless of size, however, hitting the ball into a water hazard will almost always prove costly. A player doing so frequently plays a second ball from the location of the original shot, or takes a drop out of the water hazard pursuant to Rule 26 of the standard Rules of Golf, incurring a 1-stroke penalty in either case. Occasionally a player may attempt to hit out of a water hazard, but he must be mindful of how to do so legally.

Forbidden Actions

Under Rule 13-4, a player may not test the condition of a water hazard, or of any similar hazard nearby. Prior to her stroke she may touch neither the water nor the ground within the hazard with either her club or hand. She also may neither touch nor move loose impediments within the water hazard. The golfer is permitted to touch the water when she addresses the ball, but she may not ground her club while doing so. The penalty for violating the rule is the loss of the hole in match play or a 2-stroke penalty in stroke play.

On the Edge

A water hazard's area extends vertically upward from the margins of the hazard, according to USGA decisions 26/1 and 26/1.5. Therefore, if any part of the ball hangs over a water hazard, the ball is considered to be in the hazard, and the water hazard rules apply. But if, for example, half the ball sits in the rough, and the other have hangs over a water hazard, the player may ground his club in the rough, pursuant to Decision 13-4/29.

Searching the Water

A ball laying in a water hazard may be difficult to locate. Rule 12-1c permits the player to place her club in the water to feel around for a ball. There is no penalty for accidentally striking the ball while searching, provided she replaces the ball into its original position, or lifts the ball for the purpose of taking a drop pursuant to Rule 26.

Moving Ball

One thing a golfer may do in a water hazard that he can't do elsewhere is hit a moving ball. Under Rule 14-6 the player can attempt to hit a moving ball within a water hazard, provided he doesn't delay to allow the water to move the ball to a better position.





FEATURE ON SI WOO KIM

KIM'S NO KID: Si Woo Kim continues to grow after 2017 PLAYERS win

22-year-old aims to become first repeat champion at TPC Sawgrass

Nostalgia littersthe champions' dining room at TPC Sawgrass, where framed portraits of Si Woo Kim adorn dark wood walls and mementoes of his highest achievement sit proudly atop mantelpieces.

Fond memories of the 22-year-old's triumph at THE PLAYERS Championship remain fresh inside the doors to this exclusive room, not far from the Stadium Course, where he won the event in stunning fashion last May. The memories all came rushing back to the South Korean when he returned earlier this spring to the site of his win.

"It's my first time (coming back) since lifting up the trophy last year," he said. "Coming back to this course has been so amazing. To see my pictures up on the wall, to drive up to this course, it brings back a lot of memories."

Kim was the youngest winner in PLAYERS' history when he captured the 2017 event at age 21. But he doesn't look much like a pupil these days. He's back at the Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., club on this day to unveil his signature TPC Sawgrass menu item—Korean barbeque short ribs—and donate his championship-winning driver to the club, alongside other past winners' clubs like Jack Nicklaus, Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods.



Now, the two-time PGA TOUR winner looks every bit the part of a seasoned veteran.“My first win at (the 2016) Wyndham (Championship), I was actually very nervous, because I didn't have any experience winning,” he recalled. “But entering PLAYERS, I was going for my second win, so I felt a little more comfortable in that sense. But going into that season, I was battling back injury, and I was feeling nervous just being at the fifth major.”

That nagging back injury was merely one part of Kim’s challenging adjustment to life on the PGA TOUR.

The Seoul, South Korea, native not only struggled getting accustomed to everyday life in the United States, buthe also had to re-earn his TOUR card after missing the cut in each of hisfirst six starts in 2013—which came after he already deferred his debut for six months because he wasn’t yet old enough to compete (the PGA TOUR has a minimum membership age limit of 18 years old, and Kim earned his card at 2012’s qualifying school at just 17 years, five months).

Add in that recurring back problem last season—which plagued him not only during his PLAYERS win, but in the weeks that followed—and it’s evident his early years on TOUR have been anything but easy.

“I think coming to the States, and living in the States, has helped me really mature as a person,” he said. “The first couple of years I had a really hard time adjusting. I was really lonely a lot of the time, but I think living here and fighting through that has helped me really mature and grow as a person.

“I think food was a tough part for me, and also transportation,” he added. “In Korea, when you’re done (playing) you drive, but here, since the country is so big, you have to fly everywhere. So for me, that was really difficult, and just not having a lot of friends here.”

Now, more than five years later, his steady growth and maturity both on the course and offappear to be on full display.He earned back his card after two solid seasons on the Web.com Tour—which included a win at the 2015 Stonebrae Classic. Kim then reintro



duced himself to the PGA TOUR with authority in 2016. His rookie season saw him advance all the way to the FedExCup Playoffs, becoming one of just two rookies to earn a spot in the TOUR Championship, joining eventual PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Emiliano Grillo.

Kim's rookie season was highlighted, of course, by his win at in Greensboro, which came, thanks in part, to a course-record,

10-under 60 in a second round. That 60 included eight birdies and an eagle. His 21-under 259 tied a course record and made him the youngest player to win on TOUR that season.

With first-win jitters out of the way, Kim notched his second victory the following year at THE PLAYERS, where he once again became that tournament's youngest winner. He got upanddown 10 times during a bogey-free Sunday round, went 16-for-22 in scrambling for the week and boldly opted to use his driver off the deck on the par-4 14th, 270 yards from the hole. That shot landed on the front part of the green, helping him make par.

The win made Kim one of only four players in the last 25 years with two tournament titles before his 22nd birthday, joining Woods, Sergio Garcia and Jordan Spieth.

"I was very proud of Si Woo, to see how he was focused and kept calm throughout the tournament," said fellow South Korean K.J. Choi, an idol of Kim's and the 2011 PLAYERS champion. "I really saw the bright future of Korean golf, to see a young guy like Siwoo win the PLAYERS Championship. I was really proud of him."

It was Choi who aided Kim in his path to victory in Ponte Vedra Beach, as he provided valuable insight into the Stadium Course layout during practice, before sharing his own experience and emotions of being atop the leaderboard ahead of Kim's final round.

It's no surprise, then, that the 47-year-old was one of the first to reach out to the burgeoning star following his victory.
"K.J. actually gave me a call after I won PLAYERS, and he congratulated me that way," Kim recalled. "It's such an honour and an amazing feeling to share that with another Korean, to have two Koreans win this tournament.
"When I went back to the THE CJ CUP, I brought the trophy back to Korea, and we took a nice picture together. Going forward, I hope to win more tournaments for Korea. It's just been an honor to share that with K.J."

Choi and Kim remain the lone South Koreans to win THE PLAYERS, and both will take their shot at a return to the winner's circle May 8-13 at TPC Sawgrass. Any title defence will not come easy. No PGA TOUR player has ever won The PLAYERS in consecutive years.

"I actually heard that after I won last year," he said. "Someone told me that there haven't been any back-to-back champions. I've noticed a lot of champions that come back don't play well. I would like to change that, and I'm preparing hard to come back and defend my title this year."

Kim believes the pressure of high expectations following THE PLAYERS hindered him late last season and earlythis year, as evidenced by the mixed bag of results thus far forthe now-22-year-old. He has a trio of top-10 finishes, finishing third at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, 10th at the Sentry Tournament of Champions and tied for ninth at the World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play in late-March. But he has finished no higher than 35th in any other start. He's currently 49th in the FedExCup Standings and 50th in the Official World Golf Ranking.
Sound familiar?

"Entering last year, I noticed that all of the players in the field were ranked higher than me," he said, laughing.

Kim will carry an air of confidence with him into this year's PLAYERS Championship. He understands how to navigate the vaunted Stadium Course, has experienced the adrenaline that comes with a Sunday round atop the leaderboard and now knows what it feels like to return as a champion.

He faces a big test as all the TOUR's big guns – Dustin Johnson, Justin Thomas, Rory McIlroy, Jon Rahm, Rickie Fowler, Bubba Watson, Jason Day, Phil Mickelson and Patrick Reed – have already won tournaments this season.

It has all the makings of a repeat performance."My shot-making has been great, my putting has been great, and it's given me a lot of confidence in my game," he said. "I know the short game is very important at this course and at this tournament, so I'm going to go in with a lot of confidence and just work hard on my game."

That confidence has always been a work-in-progress since he first burst onto the scene as a 17-year-old in 2012. And with all the adversity he faced giving way to newfound maturity, he believes he's positioned himself for a long career in the United States.

"I just need to eat Korean food," he said, laughing.



Chuah Choo Chiang is recognised worldwide one of Asia's top golf writers. Chuah is Senior Director, Communications of the PGA TOUR and is based at TPC Kuala Lumpur.


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BATTLE FOR THE RIGHT TO BE KNOWN AS THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONS

by Chuah choo Chiang

The illustrious list of champions is second to none, and includes golfing giants such as Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Tiger Woods,Fred Couples, Adam Scott, Nick Price, Phil Mickelson, Sergio Garcia, Jason Day and Rickie Fowler.

Throw in one of the richest prize purses in the world of golf atUS$10.5 million,this showpiece event on the PGA TOUR glitters amongst the rest whereits home venue at TPC Sawgrassofferswhat players believe to be the truest test in the game.

And to top it all, it showcases the strongest field assembled anywhere around the world where there are no amateurs, no qualifiers, no sponsor exemptions and no club professionals, just the very best golfers on the planet going toe-to-toe to battle for the right to be known as THE PLAYERS champions.

The who's who in men's golf will gather at TPC Sawgrass from May 10 to 13, knowing that victory will come with a champion's cheque of US1.89 million plus other perks including a five-year exemption on the PGA TOUR. And oh, it comes with bragging rights to be known as THE PLAYERS champion.

Rickie Fowler, winner of the tournament in 2016, said: "It's one of the toughest courses we play all year. Probably the toughest field that we play all year. So, you got to be - I mean whoever is winning is taking care of business, beating the best players at the time and conquering one of the toughest courses that we play."

"The field is as strong as any field in the game of golf," professed Adam Scott, THE PLAYERS champion in 2004. "The tournament has gained stature throughout the years."

When 14-time major winner Tiger Woods claimed the first of his two PLAYERS Championship in 2001, he was over the moon. "It is special to be able to win a championship like this, on an extremely demanding golf course, with probably the best field assembled in all of golf - all of golf for the entire year. It is extremely rewarding to do that.And like everybody is saying, it's probably the fifth major," said Woods.

Those yet to have their names enshrined on the Roll of Honour are driven to do soasit provides the gloss to their CV. Jordan Spieth, a four-time major winner and the FedExCup champion in 2015, is amongst those gunning for success this May. "It is the toughest tournament to win in golf, and recognizing that makes you know who you're playing against, and at this stage, and this is a major championship," said Spieth.

Its depth is probably the reason why no player has succeeded in defending his title. South Korea's Siwoo Kim, who stunned the field last year to emerge as the youngest PLAYERS champion, will take another stab at history. "I would like to change that," he said. "To see my pictures up on the wall and to drive up to this course, it brings back a lot of memories, and even though all tournaments are great, I would like to come back and win this one and defend my title."

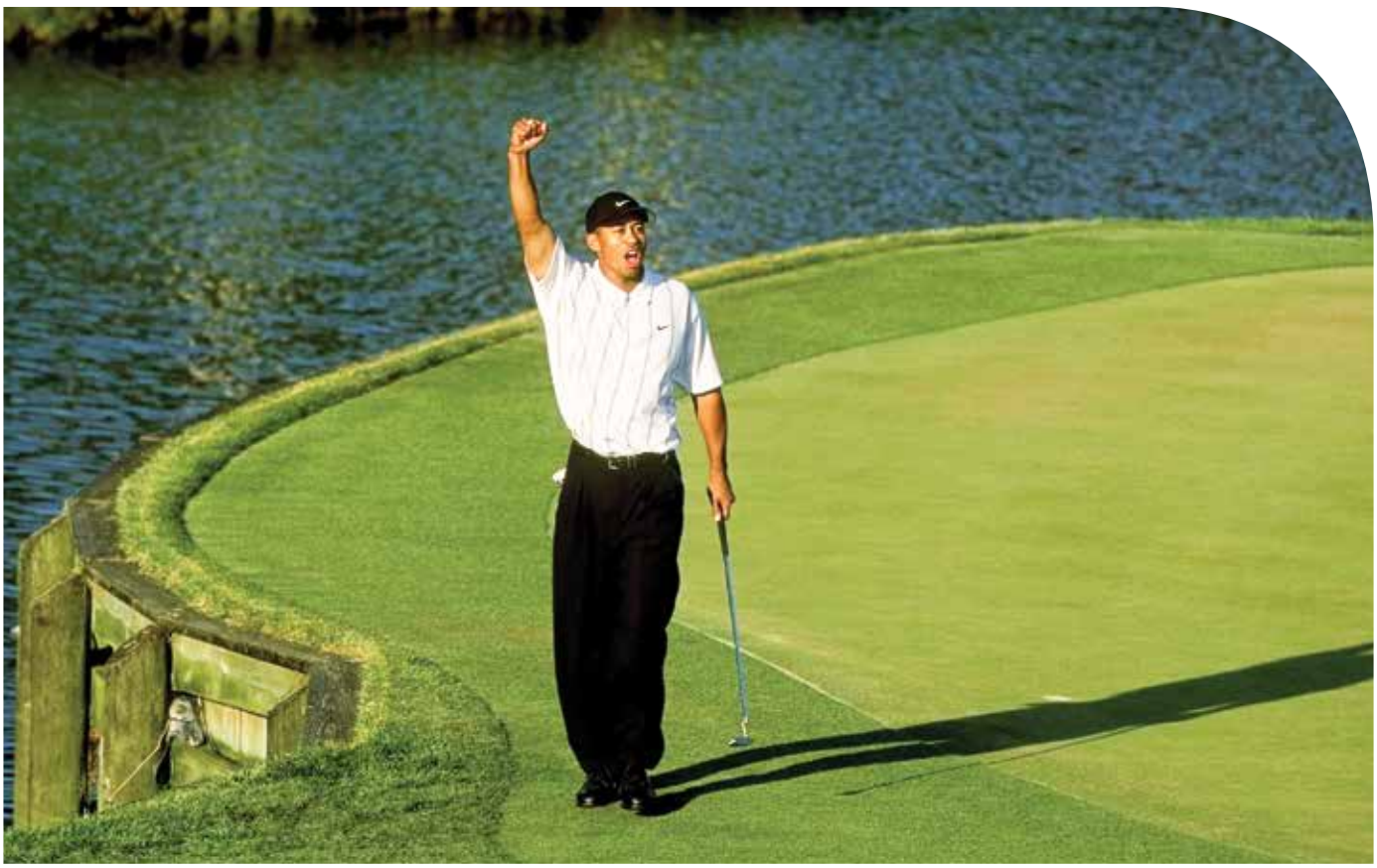
Aside from contending against ancrème de la crème, players have to negotiate the Stadium Course, which some says simply messes with golfers' heads. David Duval, champion in 1999 and now a TV pundit, warned: "It tests basically everything from a mechanical and hitting standpoint, as well as to a mental approach. This golf course is tough. You've got to have all facets of your game working if you want to contend around here."

One of the key features of the Pete Dye-designed Stadium course is the fact that it was created with the fan experience built into its DNA. This fan friendliness spreads throughout the tournament experience including all the modern amenities and technology that today's fans expect, but the highlight by far is the views of golf which are unlike any other tournament in the world. The closing stretch of holes including the famous island-green par 3, 17th hole have become as familiar as any on the golf calendar.

Food, fun, charity and junior golf initiatives, golf merchandise, kids' zone, dedicated autograph zones, recycling efforts and even a church chapel service form the many activities and services surrounding THE PLAYERS Championship. More than 200,000 fans have go through the turnstiles annually.

PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan has often been asked how he would define the status of THE PLAYERS Championship. "It's our showcase of excellence. We continue to do everything we can to enhance every facet of this event. And we do that so that you all and our fans can talk about its significance. This is one of the greatest championships in the world, and we're excited about it.

"Our focus is making it the best championship it can possibly be, the best championship in the world, and how people assess it, how the media assess it, how our players, what their perspective on it, that's part of the public discourse. But we think we're going to compete like heck to continue to do everything we can to raise the profile of this great championship."





KIRADECH'S TIME TO SHINE

by Doyle De Costa

Like his love for fast cars, Kiradech Aphibarnrat's career is on the fast lane and it is heading in the right direction.

Currently occupying 30th on the Official World Golf Ranking, the big-hitting Thai finished tied 44th at the recently concluded Masters Tournament which was his second appearance at the Augusta National Golf Club.

The former Asian Tour number one struggled to improve on his tied 15th finish when he played at The Masters in 2016 but his results in the last eight months is nothing short of remarkable.

In September last year, Kiradech was ranked 160th in the world but after two runner-up finishes on the European Tour and a victory at the Thongchai Jaidee Foundation on the Asian Development Tour (ADT), Kiradech gave himself a fighting chance to break into the top-50 in the world.

He needed at least a top-five result at the Asian Tour's season-finale at the Indonesian Masters and it came down to the 72nd hole when he sank a clutch 20-footer eagle putt to finish in tied fifth place!



His performance at the Indonesian Masters was even more amazing considering that he battled through a back injury.

"I was talking to my parents during the (weather) suspension and they told me to give up. They said it is not worth it to play in this pain. There are always other chances to qualify for The Masters. I wanted to follow their advice but I decided to fight on so I'm very proud of what I achieved today," said Kiradech after the final round of the Indonesian Masters.

Kiradech did not rest on his laurels despite qualifying for all the Major tournaments in 2018. In February, he won the ISPS HANDA World Super 6 Perth and accepted an invitation from a prince to play on the Asian Development Tour (ADT) where he dominated the Richard Mille Brunei Championships.

In his two appearances at the World Golf Championships, Kiradech secured tied fifth results at the WGC-Mexico Championship and the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play where he was beaten by eventual winner Bubba Watson in the quarterfinals.

At the age of 28, Kiradech's popularity has grown immensely in the last few months. Fans enjoy watching him blast his drives and his friendly demeanour and quirky answers make him a favourite among journalists.

I remember one of his best quotes during an interview:

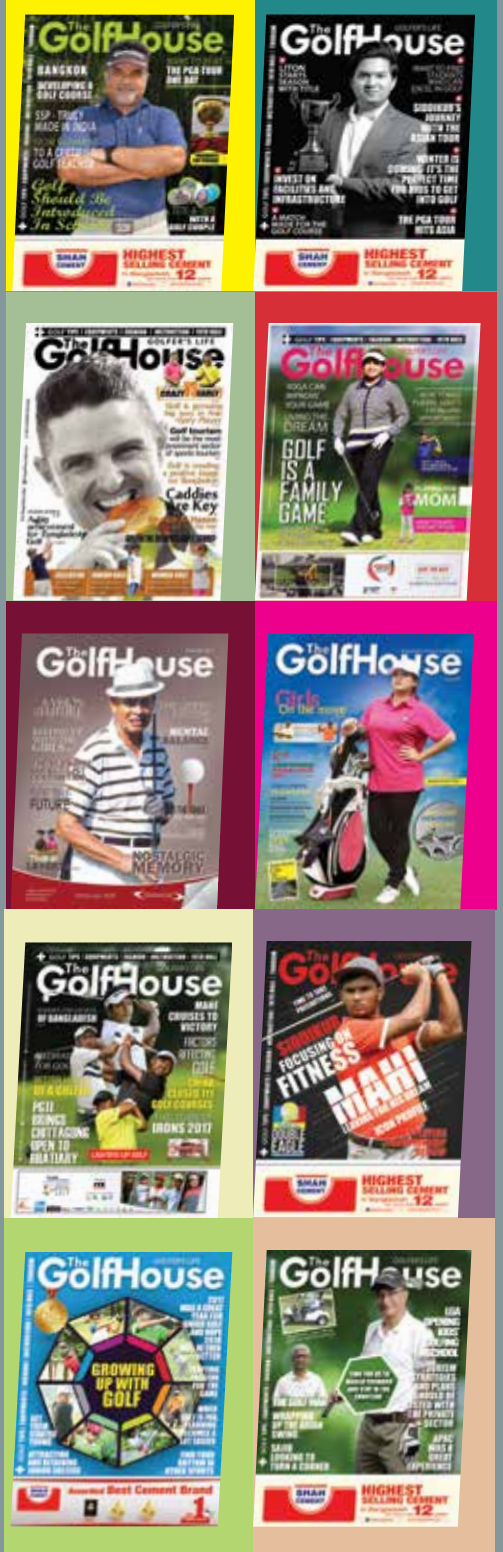
Interviewee: "Kiradech, what's your weakness in your game?"

Kiradech: "Nothing. My game is perfect (laughs)."

It is difficult to argue with Kiradech on his answer and given his current form, we can expect bigger things to come for the Thai in 2018 and beyond.



Doyle is the Asian Tour's Senior Communications Manager and he is based in Kuala Lumpur. He is immensely passionate about Asian golf and has been writing about the sport for over 10 years.



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GANGJEE ON HIS OWN





It looks and feels good when it comes off. Congratulations and celebrations follow. That's what Rahil Gangjee indulged in recently, after ending a 14-year winless run on the Asian Tour. It was relief as well as a triumph of conviction, followed by fun and going out with friends.

Life in international golf, however, has no room for such hedonism. Days after his moment under the sun, the player from Kolkata is back grappling with inescapable thoughts. He doesn't have a sponsor. Having decided to divide time between the Asian Tour and Japan Tour for two years, he is busy planning on how to best utilize the winner's purse of 1.88 crore rupees.

He needs around 50 lakh rupees a year to be based in Japan and travel to other Asian countries for tournaments. Other than what he earns playing, there isn't much that he can draw from.

"There will be some breathing space now (after this win), but otherwise, it can be a distracting thought. You can't concentrate fully on golf if you are thinking of money all the time to sustain yourself on a professional golf tour. One also has to look after family.

You have to accept it and carry on if you don't have a sponsor. Picking and choosing tournaments instead of playing all becomes the best option," Gangjee told reporters after the career-defining victory.

Players in the top rungs of these circuits have sponsors. Gangjee and Ajeetesh Sandhu are two rare Indians who don't have this support despite being winners on the Asian Tour. By average estimates, playing 25 tournaments a year costs nearly 40 lakh rupees. Most of it is spent on travel, accommodation, food and hiring caddies.

After that comes equipment and clothing. Other Indian players with titles on the Asian Tour (SSP Chawrasia, Shiv Kapur, Gaganjeet Bhullar etc) have sponsors taking partial to full care of these expenses. For Gangjee, it has been a lonely journey on this front almost throughout, since his first title in China back in 2004. "Barring a total of 3-4 seasons, I have not had a sponsor. There have been bad times. Last two years, I've been entirely on my own. My expenses are more because I take my caddie around," said the player who earned just 34 lakh rupees in prize money last year.

Although 2016 had fetched 1.25 crore rupees, ups and downs over the years meant he was never in a sphere devoid of such concerns. On occasions he even had to fall back on his father for funds. The one-stroke victory at the Pacific Open in Ibaraki comes as a boon also because it helps Gangjee overcome what was becoming a mental block.

"To see friends or juniors hit that winning shot, when you are unable to, is difficult. Especially if you know you have the skills to do it. If these keep happening, you get a bad feeling. Fortunately, I've been able to hang in there. A little surprised myself that I did it for so long!"

There is no time to reflect and feel good. It's going to be the start of a new chapter where for a change, Gangjee doesn't have to lose sleep over money in the beginning.



Rahil Gangjee



MEETING GARY PLAYER WAS THE MOST MEMORABLE THING

Nazmul Hasan is an amateur golfer of the country, who started playing the game while trying to make use of his ample leisure time. What started as a mere time pass, though, soon became a passion and more. Unlike many of the amateurs of the country, Mr. Nazmul takes the game very seriously and dreams of turning a pro someday. However, as an amateur he has already had one of his dreams fulfilled by representing Bangladesh in BMW Open in South Africa where he had the privilege of meeting golfing legend Gary Player.

Q&A

How did you get involved with golf?

I had two shops at the Jamuna Future Park. When the decoration work was going on, I used to spend some of my time at the Army Golf Club as I felt kind of bored waiting for the decoration work to be finished. So I used to watch people play golf. And that's how I started liking the game. So you can say it was while using my leisure time that I started liking the game. At that time Siddikur Rahman won the Hero Indian Open in Delhi. That got me more interested towards the game. Once I started playing, I took it seriously. I thought how I can play well and become a top amateur golfer in the country. Since I'm in restaurant business, I'm more occupied in the evening and I get some leisure time during day. So it worked for me that way.

How was the experience of your first day in golf?

I learned from Kader Kaka at the Army Golf Club. He was a very good pro. Then I met Shahid bhai who brought me to Kurmitola Golf Club. Then I got to play alongside many other pros here which encouraged me more.

You won the Bangladesh chapter of the worldwide BMW Cup. This is a big achievement for you. You represented Bangladesh in the main tournament in South Africa. How was the experience?

It was a brilliant experience which I can't describe in words. I stayed there for four days and I didn't know how those four days went by. There were golfers from all across the globe. The biggest thing was the presence of Gary Player. He conducted a one-hour session, which was my most memorable session in golf. The golf course was set on a hillside, with ocean nearby. It is a dream destination for golfers.

Since you are playing golf seriously, do you have any plans to turn pro?

Since I've learned golf, I want to play really well. I have had a coaching from Andrew in Malaysia. I also took a lesson from another golf coach in Delhi. My handicap is seven currently. If I can get it to zero one day, I will turn pro.

Does golf get in the way of your business or family life?

Not at all. As I said before, my business allows me to have ample free time during day.

From 2013 to 2018, how much changes have you witnessed in our golf?

There have been a lot of changes in the last five years. The number of golfers, both amateur and professionals, have increased. The quality of the golfers has improved as well together with the number of tournaments.

We promote golf to be the second biggest sport in Bangladesh by 2025. What is your impression about this target?

I think golf is moving in that direction. People have to realize that it is a very interesting game.

Why do some golfers give up after a while or don't start the game at all despite having interest?

You will have to have a target. When you invest in golf, you have to have a specific target. My target is to become a pro and earn from it. Maybe some people don't have that sort of aim, so they don't feel the urge to do well. I felt like it too when I saw I wasn't improving after 2/3 years. But I didn't give up due to two reasons: One is my passion for the game. The second is the game is so good for physical health. Golf is not an easy game and you have to stick to it if you have to do well.

Who are your favorite players in golf?

Siddik bhai, Sajib Ali, Jamal Mollah, Jibon bhai, Sohel bhai –are my favorites in Bangladesh. Among the international stars, I like watching Rory McIlroy, Jason Day, and Tommy Fleetwood.









6-YEAR-OLD GOLF PRODIGY WITH ONE ARM INSPIRES ON AND OFF FAIRWAY

He's known in the golf world as the "One Arm Golfer." With personality and an envied swing, 6-year-old Tommy Morrissey is quick to dispense advice on the course. His celebrations reflect his pure love of the sport, reports "CBS This Morning" co-host Norah O'Donnell.

"I smoked that," Tommy said after a swing. "Holy cow."

There's certainly no lack of confidence.

"So you know, there are, like, 60-year-olds who have been playing golf their whole life and they're not as good as you. How'd you get so good in six years?"

"I don't know," Tommy said, shrugging his shoulders.
He discovered his love of the game as a toddler, dragging his father's clubs into his crib and mimicking the pros on TV.

"More than one time I showed up at the golf course missing a club or two," father Joe said.



"Do you remember that, Tommy? You were like sleeping with golf clubs? Why were you sleeping with a golf club?" O'Donnell asked.
"I love golf!" Tommy said.

Tommy has never had a golf lesson.
"The only swing advice that he was given was by Gary Player. And Mr. Player had some very definitive advice, didn't he, buddy? What did he tell you?" Joe said.
"Balance," Tommy responded.

Tommy was born without his right arm, but many of the pros he emulates are right handed. So Tommy developed a right handed swing using his left arm.

"Marcia, when you were pregnant and you have that moment where you think about having your first child, did you ever think this is how your life would turn out?" O'Donnell asked Tommy's mother.

"Well, you know, I found out that he was gonna be born with one arm when I was 14 weeks pregnant. So that was terrifying, to say the least," Marcia said. "But I think because Joe and I decided that come hell or high water, this is our life, we're gonna give



this little guy everything he needs to succeed in this life. And boy, you know, that's why I say I think he was truly born to play golf, to inspire the world. He is who he is. And he was perfectly made."

Tommy has met many golf greats, including Tiger Woods, Jordan Spieth, Bubba Watson, Phil Mickelson and Rickie Fowler. Often seen mingling with the pros at PGA tour events, Tommy is using his celebrity to raise money for other families in need. His foundation, Unlimbited, which he started with the help of his parents, has donated over 375 sets of clubs to children and military families. The Morrisseys also talk with people about living with physical differences and standing up to bullies.

"How do you help people realize that they can do things that perhaps they didn't think they could do?" O'Donnell asked.

"'Cause they watched me," Tommy said.

"I know you're proud of your son for his own great abilities. But it's gotta be something to watch him inspire other people," O'Donnell said.

"It's very cool," Marcia said.

"Whenever he goes to a golf tournament, you can see the people looking at him, going, 'Oh my goodness, how's this child gonna swing with one arm?'" Joe said.

"Then they see him come out and hit the ball and go, 'Oh, wow.' And then they see him at the winner's table getting the blue ribbon, and they go, 'Okay, wow. This changes everything.'"

"There's no child in the U.S. Kids Golf Organization that's ever qualified for world championships, which is the highest honor for junior golf, with a limb difference," Joe added.

"Are you trying to create a child golf prodigy?" O'Donnell asked.

"We're trying to create a child that will be successful in academics and be a positive part of society," Joe said.
"Or anything he wants to do," Marcia said.

"It's about him being happy and fulfilled, doing his part to contribute to society. And that's it."

"We don't focus on golf. He plays five sports a week. And it's all about growing. Every sport we play, it's all about learning," Joe said.





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2ND RUNNER PRESIDENT CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT 2018

Brig Gen Mohammad Siddiqul Alam Sikder retained the title of the 2nd Runner President Cup Golf Tournament 2018 held on April 21, 2018 at Kurmitola Golf Club, Dhaka.

Brig Gen GSM Hamidur Rahman grabbed the runner up and Fatema Matiur occupied the ladies' event title.

General Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiul Huq, Chief of Army Staff, Bangladesh Army as Chief Guest gave away the prizes to the winners of the tournament at the Banquet Hall of Club House Building of Kurmitola Golf Club. Major General A K M Abdullahil Baquee, Vice President Kurmitola Golf Club, Brigadier General Abidur Reza Khan (Retd), Chairman, Tournament Committee, Kurmitola Golf Club, Brigadier General Mohd Obaidul Haque (Retd), Chief Executive Officer, Kurmitola Golf Club, Lieutenant Colonel Md Abdul Bari (Retd), General Manager, Golf Operations, Kurmitola Golf Club, Mr. Hafizur Rahman Khan, Chairman, Runner Group of Companies and a large number of participants including high civil and military officials with their spouses attended the function.

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KNOWLEDGE SHARING ON GOLF REPORTING

A workshop, titled 'Knowledge Sharing on Golf Reporting', was recently held at the Kurmitola Golf Club (KGC) ahead of the AB Bank Bangladesh Open.

Organized jointly by the Bangladesh Golf Federation, KGC and TheGolfHouse, the workshop discussed the technicalities and rules of golf as well as different aspects of reporting on the game, be it for the print media or electronic media.

With the AB Bank Bangladesh Open in sight, the idea of the workshop was to give the journalists a better understanding of the game and eliciting the nuances of golf reporting, something which is still at a rudimentary stage in our country.

The panel of speakers featured Brigadier General Abidur Reza Khan (Retd), Chairman, Tournament Committee, KGC, Samiur Rahman, Sub Editor of Daily Kaler Kantho,

Shajahan Kabeer, Staff Reporter of Kaler Kantho, Bodiuzzaman Milon, Senior Reporter of Daily Prothom Alo, Shamsul Arefin, Senior Reporter of Ekattor Television, and Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Abdul Bari, General Manager, golf operations, KGC.

Mr. Abidur Reza delivered a brief speech on the basics of the game, including equipments, rules and the course.

Mr. Samiur focused on preparation for reporting on golf that is which tools can be used to prepare better for reporting on golf while Mr. Shajahan elicited scoring on golf, which is a bit of a challenging thing to those who do not have the understanding of the game.

Mr. Bodiuzzaman discussed the importance of engaging readers with golf through stories that do talk about things beyond birdies and bogeys. Mr. Arefin touched on how to make golf a sellable product to an audience which does not have too much knowledge about the game.

Mr. Bari concluded the session by eliciting on the ways reporters and photographers can do their job in a better and more effective way without causing lapses of concentration to golfers.

TheGolfHouse Founder & Editor Nazrul Hosen Ayon conducted the session.









NIGHT GOLF





Tele Tell-Orion Trial Night Golf Tournament 2018 was held at KGC, Dhaka on April 17, 2018. A total 49 golfers played the trial night golf tournament.

Maj Gen Ataul Hakim Sarwar Hasan won the title of the tournament, Air Cdre Badrul Amin Sarker grabbed the runner up, Brig Gn Meftaul Kareim won the 2nd runner up and Neela Aziz occupied the ladies' event title. Other prizes were distributed among Brig Gen Mohiuddin Siddiquee for Best Gross, Maj Gen Rezanur Rahman Khan for 2nd Best Gross, Maj Gen S M Matiur Rahman for Longest Drive, Brig Gen Majibur Rahman for Nearest To Pin, Maj Arman Ali Bhuiyan for Maximum Par and Brig Gen Ahsanul Haque Miah for Minimm Putt.

Senior Vice President of Bangladesh Golf Federation and Vice President of KGC Major General A K M Abdullahil Baquee said "The Power we generate here, is not taken from the national grid. One of our national ethics is to use renewable energy rather to use fossil fuel. So we made eco -friendly night golfing facilities here with solar and renewable energy." He added that now the night golf tournament is played nine-hole but gradually it will be played eighteen-hole. The tournament ended with a colorful prize giving ceremony.






TELE TELL-ORION TRIAL NIGHT GOLF TOURNAMENT


IAL NIGHT GOLF TO









MAX GROUP CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT 2018

Among 689 golfers, Wg Cdr Md Shafiqur Rahman (Retd) won the title of the four-day-Max Group Cup Golf Tournament 2018, held at Army Golf Club, Dhaka on April 04-07, 2018. Maj Reza Sayeed Al Huda (Retd) grabbed runner up and Momtaz Begum occupied Ladies Winner title.

Lieutenant General Aziz Ahmed, Quarter Master General, Bangladesh Army gave away the prize to the winners as the chief guest.

Major General S M Matiur Rahman, President, Army Golf Club, Brigadier General Shah-Noor-Jilani, Chairman Tournament Committee, Army Golf Club, Brig Gen Muhammad Hasan Imam Farazi, Golf Captain, Army Golf Club, Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad NurulKabir, Member Secretary, Army Golf Club, Lieutenant Colonel MdTozammelHaque (Retd), Chief Executive Officer, Army Golf Club, Major Muhammad Almas Uddin (Retd), General Manager, Golf Operations & Sports, Army Golf Club and Engr. Ghulam Mohamad Alomgir, Chairman, Max Group were also present. A large numbers of participants, other members of Max Groupand high civil and military officials with their spouses attended the function. Followings were the winners of tournament.



Winners List

1. Winner Wg Cdr Md. Shafiqur Rahman (Retd)
2. Best Gross Brig Gen Md Ahsanul Huq Mia
3. Runner-up Maj Reza Sayeed Al Huda (Retd)
4. 2nd Best Gross Ahnaf Tajwar
5. 01-14 Handicap Best Net Lt Col Md Shariful Islam
6. 01-14 Handicap Best Gross Brig Gen Abdullah Al Azhar
7. 15-24 Handicap Best Net Lt Col MdMotlub Ahmed (Retd)
8. 15-24 Handicap Best Gross Munir Uddin
9. Senior Winner Col K Lenin Kamal (Retd)
10. Senior Best Gross Lt Col Md Jainal Abedin (Retd)
11. Veteran Winner Brig Gen Jahangir Kabir (Retd)
12. Veteran Best Gross Col Bazlul Ghani Patwary (Retd)
13. Ladies Winner Momtaz Begum
14. Ladies Best Gross Taslima Yousuf
15. Junior Winner Master Nabhan Kamrul Islam
16. Junior Best Gross Master Rafid Tahmid Islam
17. Maximum Par Wg Cd KaziKabir Uddin Ahmed (Retd)
18. Longest Drive Sabbir Khan Shafin
19. Nearest to Pin Helen Majid

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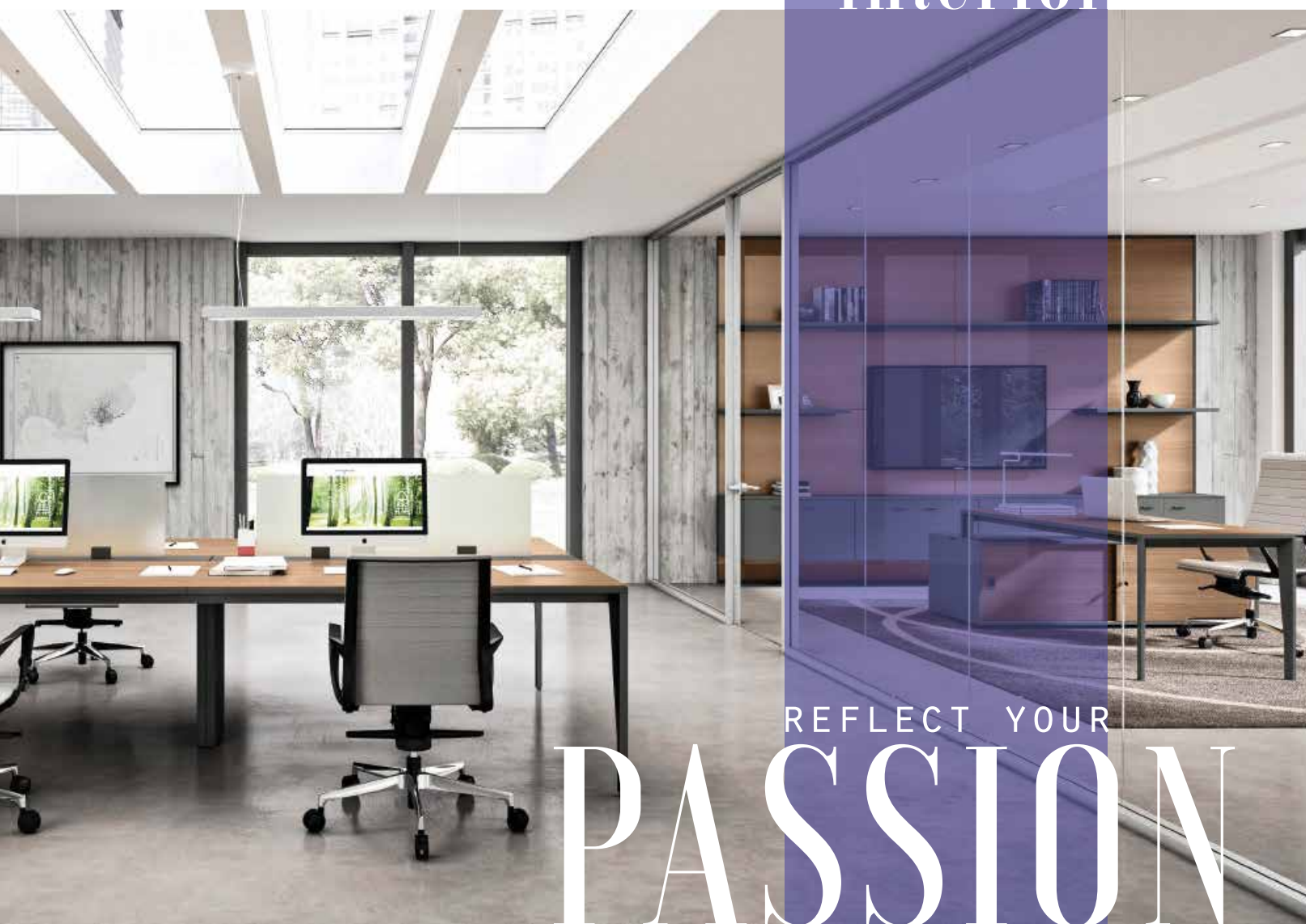

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