The GolfHouse

GOLFER'S LIFE

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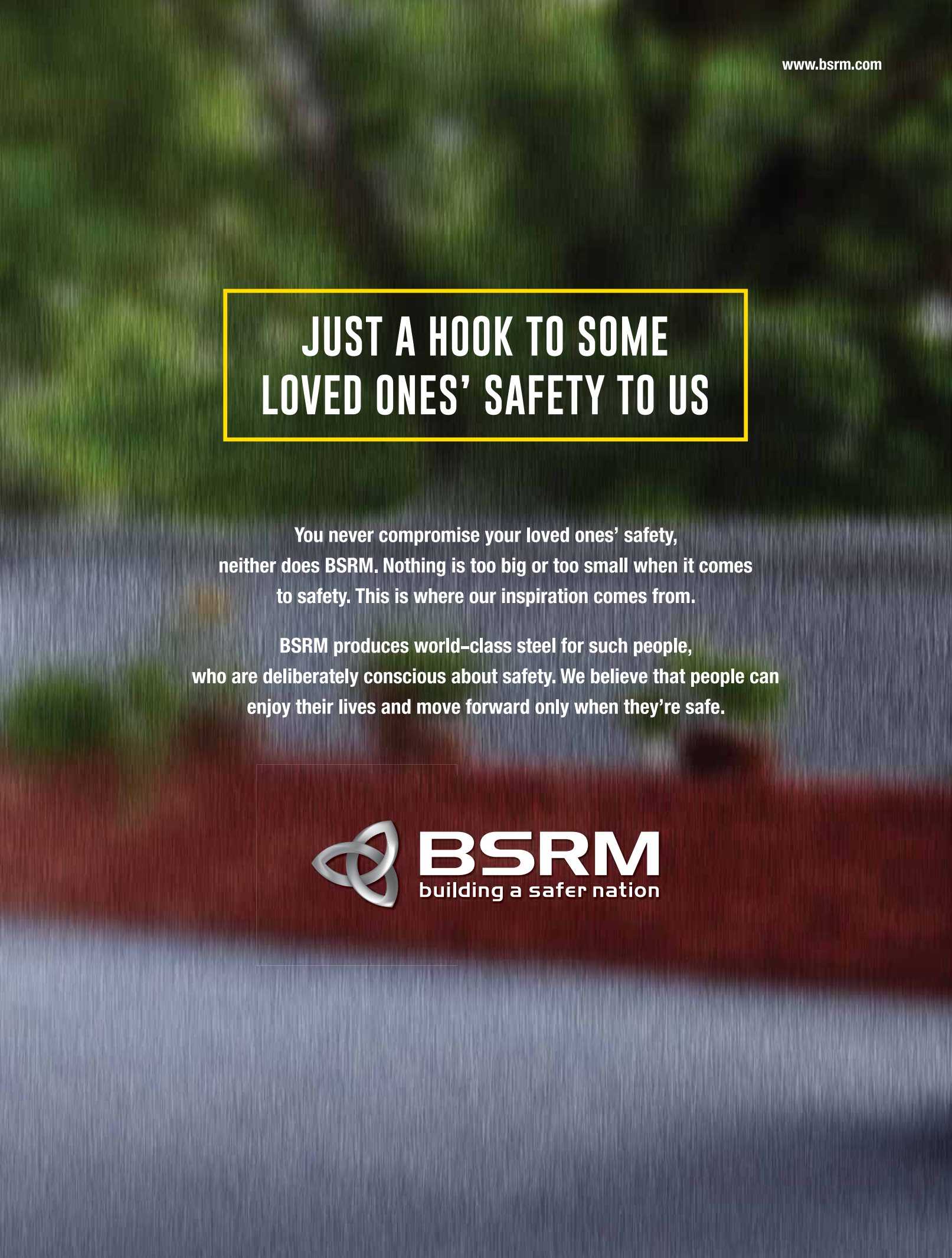
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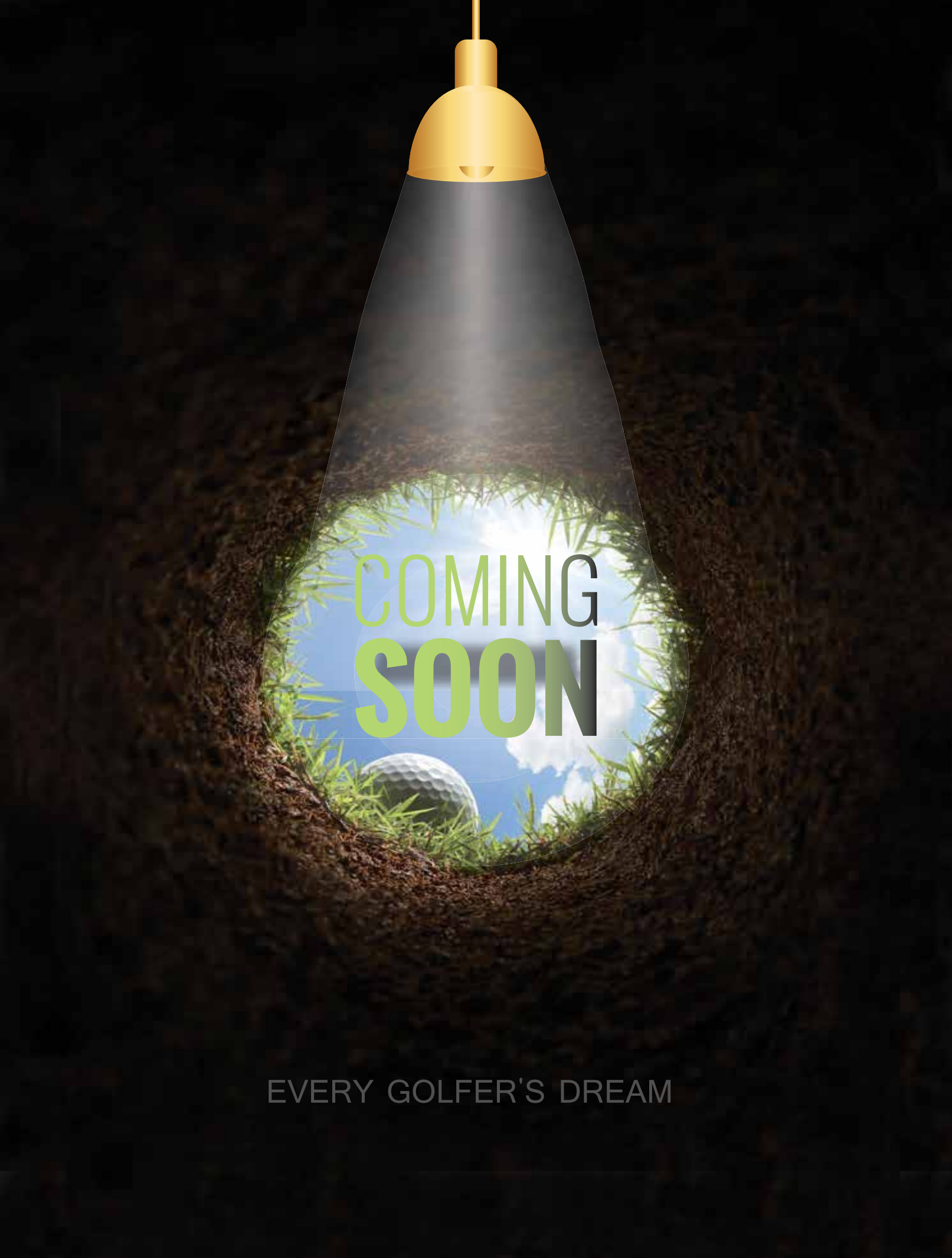
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Editorial

Dear readers,
It is that time of the year when golfers from home and abroad get ready to tee off a new season. The domestic season is back again, promising some wonderful action-packed days of golf over the next few months.

Although the calendar year is drawing to a close, there are still a plenty of events left in the golf world, both here and abroad, before the holiday season. We'll always provide you with news and features to add to your knowledge.

This issue covers a wide range of topics with a focus on corporate golfers, and how people of this sector patronize and help the game grow and how they live with it.

I must say, anytime is good to start playing golf. Now that the monsoon season is finally coming to a close, with autumn setting in, the temperature is bearable across most of the country and evenings are sufficiently long that one can venture out after a day's work for an hour's golf. We highly recommend you to use the night golfing facilities of KGC and AGC.

In this issue of TheGolfHouse, alongside our regular segments, we highlight some of the pro and amateur golfers of our country and bring their stories and their dreams to the fore.

We expect and believe that you love reading our articles and write-ups as we enjoy writing about the game. We will be glad to receive your feedback and suggestions regularly.
So dear readers, keep reading our magazine and help us grow further.

See you on the fairways.

Nazrul Hosen Ayon
Editor

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GENERALS' CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017

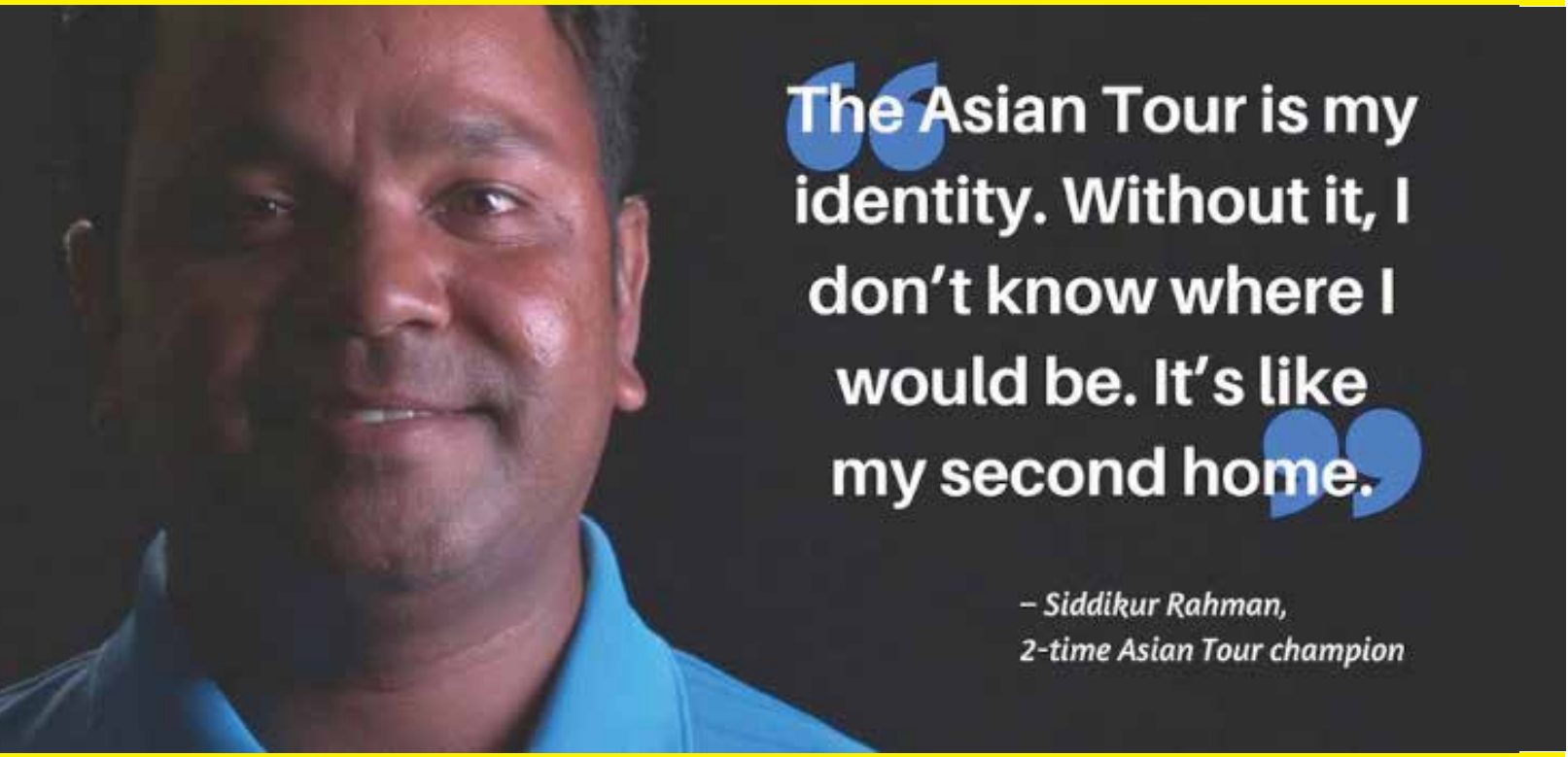
Maj Gen AKM Abdur Rahman won the title of the "Generals' Cup Golf Tournament 2017" which was held at Army Golf Club, Dhaka, on 13th October, 2017. Maj Gen Mohammad Nazim Uddin grabbed Best Gross and Maj Gen Md. Mashud Razzaque won the Runner Up title.

Other prizes were distributed among Maj Gen S M Matiur Rahman for 2nd best gross, Lt Gen Aziz Ahmed for 2nd runner up, Maj Gen Md Rashed Amin for 3rd best gross, Maj Gen Saiful Alam for Longest Drive title, Maj Gen Sarwar Hasan for Maximum Par, Maj Gen Md Enayet Ullah for Nearest to Centre Line title and Maj Gen Firoz Hasan for Nearer to pin.

The Tournament ended through a colourful ceremony at Army Golf Club, Dhaka on 13th October, 2017.

General Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiul Huq, Chief of Army and President of Bangladesh Golf Federation attended the ceremony as the chief guest and distributed awards among the winners. The ceremony was participated by a large number of golfers, other club members of high civil and military officials with their spouses.

DGFI was the sponsor of the event.



SIDDIKUR'S JOURNEY WITH THE ASIAN TOUR

From working as a ball boy in Dhaka to becoming a two-time Asian Tour champion and Olympian, Siddikur Rahman's rise in professional golf is truly a classic rags to riches tale. The Bangladeshi history-maker is a quintessential example of how relentless hard work and perseverance pays off, and his success now inspires hundreds of young golfers in his homeland and across the region.



Golf in 2013 but the greatest accomplishment came last year when he became the first athlete from Bangladesh to qualify for the Olympic Games on merit. He was duly given the honour of being the contingent's flag bearer in the opening ceremony in Rio.

Siddikur's incredible journey, which includes a second victory at the 2013 Hero Indian Open, started from humble beginnings. When he was seven, he worked at the nearby Kurmitola Golf Club to help ease his family's financial burden by paying for his own education.

At the golf course, Siddikur would watch and observe other club golfers, learning and mimicking their swings. He created his first club with just a metal rod and an old seven iron head that he bought for 50 cents.

Even after fortuitous situations enabled Siddikur to turn professional, he still struggled with participating in tournaments because of the hefty travel expenses. Fortunately for him, the Kurmitola Golf Club provided financial assistance for his initial expenditure and his efforts soon paid off when a 19th-place finish at the 2009 Indian Open netted him US$14,875 which launched his career in Asia.

Siddikur is appreciative of where he was in life previously and where he is right now in his career, cherishing his time on the Asian Tour which he regards fondly as his second home.

"Without the Asian Tour, I don't know where I would be," said Siddikur during the filming of the second phase of the Asian Tour's digital #whereitsAT campaign.

"The Asian Tour staff and players are like my second family. When I go to a tournament, I feel really great that my second home is here and that we are all very close to each other even though I'm out of my country and home."

Although being at the pinnacle of the region's premier golf circuit with a large fan base may lead some players to feel comfortable, Siddikur is continuously trying to better himself.

"Many of the players like Anirban Lahiri, Thongchai Jaidee and KJ Choi have gone through the Asian Tour, and they proved themselves and are moving up. I'm looking forward to the day that I will reach there."

Asian Tour as the official sanctioning body for professional golf in Asia, the Asian Tour leads the development of golf across the region, enhancing the careers of its members while maintaining a commitment to the integrity of the game. The Asian Tour, through its membership of the International Federation of PGA Tours, is the only recognised pan-Asian professional golf tour in Asia. This unique feature positions the Asian Tour at the pinnacle of professional golf in Asia; providing its events with Official World Ranking status.

Tour Partners include Rolex (Official Timekeeper), Panasonic (Official Consumer Electronics), ECCO (Official Footwear Sponsor), FENIX XCell (Official Apparel Supplier), Titleist (Official Web Partner), Bloomberg TV (Official International Media Partner), Bloomberg Businessweek Chinese (Official International Media Partner), Wall Street Journal (Official International Media Partner) and Sentosa in Singapore which is the Home of the Asian Tour which also has an office in Kuala Lumpur.

"The Asian Tour is my platform to perform and prove myself. With the way I'm working, I think I'll be able to go far,"



Siddikur is widely heralded in Bangladesh as a national golf hero and it is a title that fits the trailblazing 32-year-old. He was the first Bangladeshi to play on the Asian Tour in 2009, and also the first to win a title at the 2010 Brunei Open.

He then became the first golfer to represent his nation at the World Cup of

LITON STARTS SEASON WITH TITLE

Liton Hawlader of Kurmitolla Golf Club won the title of NewAge Professional Golf Tournament 2017, his first title since turning professional, at the Kurmitolla Golf Club in Dhaka on October 18, 2017.





Liton Hawlader of Kurmitolla Golf Club won the title of NewAge Professional Golf Tournament 2017, his first title after turning professional at the Kurmitolla Golf Club in Dhaka on October 18, 2017.

It turned out to be a neck and neck battle between Bangladesh's top professional golfers and the clubhouse lead kept changing after each round. Liton, however, held his never and claimed the title with a score of four-under-par. Zamal Hossain Mollah finished second two strokes behind while Sajib Ali became third with an even-par score. Mohammad Rasel of MGCC won the amateur title.

Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister, handed over the prizes to the winners.

Chairman of NewAge Group Abu Sayeed Mohammad Quasem, Managing Director Arif Ibrahim, Vice Chairman of the group and President of BPGA Asif Ibrahim, Secretary General of BPGA Brigadier General GM Quamrul Islam (Retd) and high officials of the Kurmitola Golf Club were present in the concluding ceremony.

Under the patronage of NewAge Group, Bangladesh Professional Golfers Association (BPGA) organized the four-day tournament. Around 90 golfers, 80 of them professional, participated in the event.

TOP SCORE

1. Liton Hawlader 284 -4
2. Zamal Hossain Mollah 286 -2
3. Md Sajib Ali 288-0
4. Md Dulal Hossain 288-0
5. Mohammad Rasel (A) 288-0
6. Md Shakhawat Sohel 289-1
7. Dil Mohammad 289-1
8. Mohammad Musa 290-2
9. Md Abdul Matin 292-4
10. NTM Shahalam (A) 292-4







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EXCLUSIVE

Q&A

After being associated with various other sports, the Daffodil Group has now come forward to groom golfers. The Daffodil University, one of the few educational institutes with massive sporting infrastructure, has recently developed a driving range in the university. The aim is to find students who can excel in the game and take it professionally. Daffodil Group's chairman Sabur Khan discusses this aspect and other things with TheGolfHouse.

Why has Daffodil Group decided to sponsor golf? What made you interested in getting associated with the game?

In Bangladesh there is not much opportunity to get involved for long time with any sports. We thought golf was one game that gave us the opportunity to get involved, invest and spend time with. It gives a lot of other benefits as well such as having business relationships and friendships. It's a wonderful game and we try to give most emphasis on this game. I personally feel very good when I'm at the golf club because it gives a respite from the clumsiness and pollution of the city.

Were you interested in other sports before taking up golf?

I was very good in cricket. I still play badminton and lawn tennis during winter.

Daffodil University has a driving range for students and teachers. What is the purpose of the driving range at the university?

My intention is to find some students who can play and excel in golf. I'm sure some students will come forward and become golfers from there. If you're not given the opportunity, you won't know how good you can be. So we thought of giving the students this opportunity and see if it works.

Are you able to manage time for the game despite your busy schedule?

I think it is the busy people who are best at managing their time properly. Not being able to manage time is not a good sign for a business person.

Daffodil Group is arranging its first golf tournament in Bangladesh. What was the motivation behind it?

As a member of the Kurmitola Golf Club, I thought it was a responsibility for us to get involved as an organizer. It also sends a positive message to my students, my clients and my employees and gives them the confidence.

TheGolfHouse is promoting the tagline that golf will be the second biggest sport in Bangladesh by 2025. What do you think about it?

Ninety percent of golf courses in Bangladesh are controlled by the army and army are the most honest and disciplined team. Under maintenance of the army and with private sector involved, I'm sure golf can become a major sport in the country.

On a different note, you are working to develop young entrepreneurs. What do you think should startups do to sustain their business?

To give you an example, the tournament we are hosting is giving an opportunity to startups. The t-shirts that are being made for this tournament are being manufactured by a young student and his startup company. My passion is to always give startups the opportunity to prove their worth.

Say something to those who are interested in golf.

I would say that there are a lot of opportunities now in this game. There are a plenty of golf courses around the country. This is a game where you can have a good company, build network and learn to manage your time. This game can be a positive substitute for computer games and a healthy pursuit overall.

TheGolfHouse is promoting tourism as well as golf. Any messages regarding tourism aspects of the game?

I have played golf in a dozens of countries, but I must say the golf courses in Bangladesh are very good. They are green, challenging and beautiful. However, a lot of people don't know about these courses. The golf courses are slowly having their own resort areas too. The KGC has a housing facility, restaurant, gym and other facilities. We have to expand these things to other golf clubs as well. And this can become a great tool for attracting tourists from all over the world.





"I WANT TO FIND STUDENTS WHO CAN EXCEL IN GOLF

SABUR KHAN, CHAIRMAN OF DAFFODIL GROUP

GOLF
SECOND
SPORT IN
BANGLADESH
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NAZIM AIMS TOP SPOT

Professional golfer Mohammad Nazimuddin says he is eyeing getting back to the top two positions in the BPGA ranking.





Q&A

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How were you introduced to golf?

My father brought me to the golf course. However, my younger brother Dulal started as a ball boy before me. So I followed him even though I was posted as a ball boy at the Army Club. During that time, there was a tournament held for ball boys from different clubs at the Dhaka Club where I became champion. Nurul Haque Pradhan sir noticed me and made me his caddie and playing partner. He gave me golf kits. A year later I finished first in qualifiers for the national team. Then I played for BTI for quite a few years and played in different tournaments. A few years later, Pradhan sir sponsored me for tournaments in India.

You have already played three Asian Tour events at home. However, you didn't perform that well in those events. What do you think was the reason?

We were under a coach ahead of the first event and our swing was altered a bit. I think that impacted my game. The second time I was very ill so I couldn't do that well. The third time I thankfully made the cut. You know there is pressure on us whenever we play such big events. Asian Tour is a really big event for us.

You went to Malaysia recently for a training program under Andrew Argus of Impact Elite Golf Academy. What was the plan behind this training?

Our current sponsors Paragon asked us what we were the things that we needed to do well. We said we needed foreign training. The sponsors agreed and then we took a month's training in Malaysia. We learnt a lot there but we need to put that learning into use. We haven't been able to do that due to heavy rainfall all through the season.

Has the training lifted your confidence a bit?

Indeed it has. I didn't realize my mistakes earlier. The training helped me realize what changes I need to make to my game.

What is your current plan?

My plan is to do well. But it will take time as we need more practice. I'm doing regular practice – chipping, putting and drives.

You did pretty well in the BPGA events this year. What did you do differently?

I always set a target in any tournament. For example, I want to finish within top three or top five. I set my mind that way. I don't take too much stress or don't lose heart. I'm currently ranked five, but I would like to get into one or two.

Do you have any advice to those who are turning from ball boys to golfers?

You need support in golf. You can't do it on your own. Those willing to play golf will need to make sure of that support to do well. The golf club, the federation and the sponsors are doing a good job anyway.

THE FUNCTION OF THE RIGHT KNEE

A FLEXED RIGHT KNEE THROUGHOUT THE BACKSWING ENABLES COIL, IT SEPARATES THE UPPER AND LOWER BODY WHICH CREATES ENERGY. A FLEXED RIGHT KNEE SUPPORTS THE LOWER BODY AND ALLOWS THE UPPER BODY TO PERFORM ITS FULL ROTATION.



The flexed right allows stability needed to transfer weight to your right side on the backswing.

Illustration : Beks



1 If the right knee flex is lost, which I have seen in so many amateur swings, weight is pushed from the right side back to the left which results in a reverse pivot.



2 Secondly, straightening the knee will cause the backswing to be inside, which can lead to all kinds of downswing faults.



3 Thirdly, losing the flex in your right knee could cause you to over-rotate or create a sway. As a result, you will lose all of your coil in your backswing.

With these faults from the top of the backswing, things can only get worse, for example: with a straight right knee, the only way you can get back to the ball is to slide massively to the target.
We need to load efficiently using the right knee as a support to the backswing weight transfer. Here's a drill to maintain the flex in the right knee:

- Look in the mirror
- Get into your address position
- Draw a smiley face on your right knee cap and note where it is in the mirror
- Keep the smiley face in the same spot throughout the Illustration : Beks backswing

A MATCH MADE FOR THE GOLF COURSE

Lieutenant colonel Faridul Mahmud (retd) and Mrs. Kusum Farid are a whole-hearted golfing couple. Ever since Mr. Farid, now a director of Bangladesh Golf Academy, introduced her wife to the game in 2009, the two have enjoyed some memorable time on and off the course.



Mr. Farid, tell us how were you introduced to golf?

During the time Lieutenant General Ershad was the president of the country, I was his security officer. I used to go with him to the Kurmitola Golf Club. So I naturally developed an interest in the game, but since I was his security, I didn't have the opportunity to play. Later I started playing the game when I was in Rangpur as a battalion commander. After I came to Dhaka, there was a break in my game, but when I went to Chittagong, I started playing again and took my wife along with me. That was around 2009. She wasn't all that keen in the beginning, but slowly started to enjoy the game.

Mrs. Farid, how did you react when he asked you to join him?

I declined straight. I thought it was impossible for me to play the first time I went to the golf course. Then he asked me to give it a try for a week, and I did but it wasn't anything serious. However, I started playing seriously in 2011 after moving to Dhaka. I finished runner-up in a club championship during that time.

Golf can be played for a long time. Do you agree with this assertion?

Age is not an issue in starting this game. And this is the only game that you can play as long as you can walk. In all other sports, you have to retire after a certain age. But in golf you can play as long as your body allows you, especially for amateurs like us.

In today's world when the internet and television occupy a large part of our daily life, how does golf find its place?

It depends on the individual. If you play golf regularly, you can stay away from a lot of bad influences. After playing nine holes, one won't have the time or the patience to watch TV serials or get indulged in internet browsing. Golf can keep people away from other addictions and depression.

Mrs. Farid, tell us about your golfing achievements.

I was the club champion in 2015 which was a big achievement for me. I won rewards and jacket for that. I won Federation Cup at the Army Golf Club three times in a row.

How do you two get along in golf?

We don't usually talk when we are playing in a competition, but when we are practicing, we talk a lot. We even discuss about the game after coming home. We discuss the finer points of the game. I [Mr Farid] like to enjoy the game, but my wife is very serious about it.

What lesson, if any, have you learnt from this game?

When you start playing this game, you are told that it's a game of integrity and honesty. This game influences one's personal life. You cannot but stay honest when playing this game. It also teaches you discipline and consideration for others.

We would like to see golf as the second biggest sport in Bangladesh by 2025. But we need more female golfers for that. What can be done in this regard?

Time is very important here. Not everyone can dedicate that amount of time, especially the juniors who are occupied with their studies. You need to sacrifice your studies or family if you have to become a full-fledged female golfer. For men, though, it is different. I think we have the potential to do well in this game rather than some other physical sports. And there is enthusiasm and response among men about the game. We need more and enhanced facilities though.

How is the academy working in this regard?

We are working with different agencies of the government in regards to setting up logistics at the Bangladesh Golf Academy. The sports ministry has agreed to provide us with equipments that we need. The academy is already patronizing underprivileged children. We have more than 30 underprivileged students who are doing either level-1 or level-2 courses.

TheGolfHouse has stepped into its third year. What is your opinion about the magazine?

We first saw it during the first Bashundhara Bangladesh Open. Initially we thought it would not have much circulation value, but we have been proven wrong. As the game grows, there will be more demand for this magazine and other magazines as such.



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WINTER IS COMING- IT'S THE PERFECT TIME FOR KIDS TO GET INTO GOLF

by Brendon Elliott

My first bit of advice is simple; no matter what age your child is when they get started, make sure that having fun is #1. Whatever your aspirations may be for your child with golf, you need to remember (and remind your child) that it's just a game. In my mind golf is the greatest game known to man, and perhaps you feel the same, but if your child does not see things that way that's fine. Even if your child does grow to love the game and winds up devoting a great deal of time with it, make sure they grow up to be a well rounded individual. Encourage them to play other sports or develop other talents in areas such as art and music.

Before They Pick up a Club, I highly recommend that you start your child out by teaching them some of the most important principles of the game. These initial teachings do not even require a club or a ball. The most wonderful thing about the game of golf lies in these principals. What are these principals? I'm speaking about the Etiquette and Rules of the game. Golf is historically an honorable game, the idea of a game where a participant is more or less self policing themselves cannot be found in many (if any) other games. The aspects of etiquette within the game mirror that of the way people should act in everyday life, with respect and concern for others. The moral core of golf which will resonate throughout your child's entire life are unquestionably what makes golf, in my opinion, the greatest game in the world. For more information on the Rules of Golf log onto the USGA's website and there page on The Rules. For more information on Golf Etiquette log onto Mr. Golf Etiquette and the USGA's website and there page on Etiquette.

Find an Instructor, now that your child has been primed on the core values of the game, it's time to look for an instructor.

Finding the Right Equipment, when it comes to looking for the right equipment, you have a lot to choose from. Most of the major golf club companies make junior sets. I would suggest however to initially look at a junior specific golf equipment manufacturers. Studies have shown that a large number of juniors develop their swings using faulty equipment that leads to lifelong swing flaws. Historically, kids learned the game with adult clubs that were cut down to junior size, but were still way too heavy and unbalanced which made learning the game difficult for even the most athletic kids.

Where to Play, most golf courses are very accommodating to junior golfers. Some set aside specific times when juniors are allowed to play so be aware of that. I suggest looking for a course that offers junior or "family tees." Recently, Leadbetter Indoor golf Academy launched in Bangladesh at Kurmitola golf club Dhaka, you must visit there for the junior program.

What to Wear, now that your child has a grasp on the essence and rules of the game, has a quality instructor, good, well fitting equipment, and a place to play, they need to "dress the part" of a golfer. As with most of the major golf equipment companies, most of the major golf clothing manufacturers have junior apparel lines

Be Realistic, if your junior golfer turns out to become a good golfer you need to remember to be realistic in your potential expectations for them. If your son or daughter can make the cut on the course, make sure what they do off the course is equally as impressive. Make sure that they are true student-athletes and that their grades are up to par. Also make sure that they are well rounded and are active in extracurricular activities away from the course. This will make all the difference. From a competitive playing stand point, make sure your child plays in as many quality and high profile events as possible.

Professional Golfer vs. Golf Professional, A Professional Golfer is an individual who makes a living by playing golf (i.e. Tiger Woods) and a Golf Professional (notice the order of words) is an individual who makes a living in the business of golf.

If your son or daughter is not quite a tour quality golfer (Don't worry, very few are) there is still tremendous opportunities out there for a career in golf. The PGA of America offers an in-depth training program for those interested in a career in the golf business. The PGA Professional Golf Management Program is the vehicle needed to have your child navigate their way toward a rewarding career in the golf business.

The 18th Hole, as you can see there are endless opportunities out there for your son or daughter within the wonderful game of golf. What I gave you is just a small sampling of the resources available to you if your child shows an interest in the game.

If you have any questions on Junior Golf please feel free to contact me at brendonelliott@pga.com or log onto my website www.BrendonElliottGolf.com and go to the Junior Golf Central page for more information.

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HOW THE THREE IRONS COMPARED

At summary of three clubs that excelled in different areas

	COBRA KING OS	PING GMAX	CALLAWAY BIG BERTHA OS
Forgiveness	Certainly competitive in terms of ball speed protection, although was just down on consistency in terms of distance and direction – perhaps due to a slightly higher spin rate.	Top for distance consistency as well as for accuracy in the hands of our high handicapper. Impressive.	Protected ball speeds very well, as proved by smash factor averages hovering at around 1.43 for all testers.
Power	Top for one tester and second for the other two in distance. While the Callaway topped this section, King OS won't let you down for power.	Competitive in the hands of our most consistent striker, just claiming the longest blow of the day, but came a distant third for the other two testers.	The longest on test for two of our team and just pipped for top spot for the third. Felt powerful off the face, and the results confirmed it.
Launch and flight	Generated the quickest launch on average; two testers registered their sharpest angles. Despite higher spin, no 'balloon' shots.	Baffling performance: one tester recorded his lowest launch and one his highest. All testers felt the GMax assisted launch superbly.	Marginally the lowest launcher on average, although again all testers felt the benefit of its low CG. Although this was also the lowest spinner, nobody identified it as the lowest flier.
Player profile	Higher launch and spin suggests the slower swinger would get the most benefit out of this club. Hollow-head construction should also suit golfers who enjoy hitting hybrids.	Excellent directional control but less distance in the hands of our longer handicapper suggests this club would suit someone struggling more for accuracy than distance.	Lower spin and launch marks this as the super-game improver iron for the faster swinger, 'though any golfer could benefit from its impressive technology.
Verdict	A powerful face coupled with a hybrid-type feel ensures this club delivers in all the key areas. Perhaps not an emotional choice but a shrewd one, especially at the price.	Less technical than the others and it showed in the power stakes; but for sheer shot assistance at this level of the game, it's still tough to beat a Ping.	Exciting looks and technology carried through into explosive performance. An SGI for the better player.







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'The ball went that-a-way!' Uh-oh, Siddikur Rahman might need to play a provisional ball.

WHAT IS A PROVISIONAL BALL?

Plus How Provisionals Are Addressed in the Rules of Golf

by Brent Kelley

OFFICIAL DEFINITION IN THE RULE BOOK

The USGA and R&A, golf's rule-making bodies, provide this official definition in the Rules of Golf:
"A 'provisional ball' is a ball played under Rule 27-2 for a ball that may be lost outside a water hazard or may be out of bounds."

Which doesn't expand on what we already said above, so let's expand!

Say you hit your drive and, whoops, it's way left, deep into woods. You think, "I'll never find that ball, it's probably lost." The penalty for a lost ball (or a ball hit out of bounds) is stroke-and-distance. The "and distance" part means that if you are strictly adhering to the rules, after walking forward and searching for your ball, and confirming that it is lost or OB, you'd have to trudge all the way back to the spot of that previous stroke and play another shot.

Or, before you go forward to search, you can play a provisional ball. The purpose of the provisional, really, is saving time: Now, after hitting the provisional, if you go forward and search and can't find that first shot, well, you've already put another ball into play. You don't have to trudge back and re-play the shot, because you've already hit that provisional.

RULE 27-2 COVERS PROVISIONAL BALLS

In the rule book, provisional balls are covered by Rule 27-2. There are three sections under Rule 27-2, and you should read the full rule for the full details. But here is the gist of the rule:

A. Procedure

Provisionals are played only when a ball is likely to be lost or out of bounds, notwhen a ball is likely to be a water hazard. You must announce to your playing partners or marker that you intend to play a provisional before hitting again.
You must play the provisional before you or your partner goes forward to search for the first ball.

B. When Provisional Ball Becomes Ball in Play

You keep playing the provisional until you reach the spot the first ball is likely to be. Continuing to hit the provisional ball past that point renders the first ball lost and the provisional ball is the ball in play (make sure to add the penalty stroke for the lost ball).
If you confirm the original ball is lost (outside a water hazard) or OB, the provisional is the ball in play (again, add that penalty stroke!).

C. When Provisional Ball Is to Be Abandoned

If you find the original ball (it is not lost nor out of bounds), then you must abandon the provisional and play the first ball. If you become convinced that the original ball wound up in a water hazard, then you must abandon the provisional and proceed under Rule 26-1 covering water hazards. Again, this is just a summary of Rule 27-2, be sure to read the full rule for more detail.

IF YOUR STROKE WITH A PROVISIONAL BALL IS A GREAT SHOT

Imagine you play a provisional ball, then when you walk forward to look for that errant original ball you do find it.
But it's in a terrible spot. Meanwhile, that provisional ball is sitting out there in the middle of the fairway, in perfect position. Can't you just keep playing the provisional ball? The short answer is no, as the summary of Rule 27-2 above should have made clear. (The exception is if the original ball is found but is out of bounds.)



PRESIDENTS CUP:
US MAKE IT SEVEN WINS IN A ROW

The United States has cruised to a seventh consecutive Presidents Cup victory over the International team at Liberty National in New Jersey.

But a last-ditch rally in the Sunday singles saw Nick Price's men avoid a humiliating record loss. The Internationals grabbed 7½ points from a possible 12 on the final day, which revealed the admirable fighting qualities of the team but it was like closing the gate after the horse had bolted.

The Americans led 14½ to 3½ heading into the final day, which left them needing just one point to secure the victory.

With only ½ a point going to the Americans in the opening three singles matches, it was left up to Daniel Berger to seal the win. Berger birdied the 2nd hole of his match against South Korean Si-woo Kim and was never headed in his 2&1 victory that pushed the US pass the 15-point mark and victory.

During the remainder of the afternoon, with the Cup in hand, the Americans claimed only three more points to prevail 19-11 and win the Presidents Cup for the 10th time in 12 meetings between the two teams.

The Americans fell short of establishing new record-winning margin, which remains at 11½ points set by the US in 2000.

The eight-point final margin flattered the Internationals and really didn't reflect the complete domination of the event by the Americans.

While there may have been a glimmer of hope heading into the weekend only six points adrift of the US, the International capitulated in the Saturday Foursomes and Fourballs to the point where the Americans were a chance of winning the Cup before the Sunday singles.

The Internationals certainly played better in the Singles but it was too little, too late.

"This is a juggernaut of a US team," International Captain Nick Price said. "They're an overpowering team. We kept losing holes to birdies.

"These guys were firing on all eight cylinders and it was tough to watch, especially being on the receiving end."

The Americans now have the nucleus of a team that will be playing team events for the next decade as the average age of the playing roster is less than 32. It's a fact that hasn't escaped US Captain Steve Stricker.

"US team golf is in a great spot," Stricker said. "Looks like they could be around together for a long time. They played well all year long and they came here with a lot of confidence. They continued it right through this tournament here."

In the aftermath of this one-sided affair, questions will again be asked about the relevancy of the Presidents Cup.

In 2019, the biennial event returns to Melbourne for a third time. The Internationals, of course, continue to hang their hat on their sole victory being at Royal Melbourne back in 1998. There will need to be considerable improvement from the Internationals, as well as a slip in form from the Americans before the notion of a second loss can even be entertained.



THE PGA TOUR HITS ASIA

by Chuah Choo Chiang

October will highlight a truly momentous month for professional golf in Asia with the staging of three mega PGA TOUR tournaments in Malaysia, South Korea and China offering a super cool US$26 million in total prize money.

International superstars led by world No. 1 Dustin Johnson, third-ranked Hideki Matsuyama, world No. 4 Justin Thomas and Major champions Jason Day and Adam Scott are amongst the big names headed full speed to the Far East, long regarded as the next bastion of growth for the game.

The US$7 million CIMB Classic at TPC Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, where Thomas will bid to become the first player since Steve Stricker in 2011 to secure a three-peat of wins, will get Asia's festival of golf rocking and rolling when the only PGA TOUR tournament in Southeast Asia returns for its eighth edition from October 12-15.

The TOUR then breaks new ground with its first official FedExCup tournament in South Korea when the US$9.25 million CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES makes its debut. CJ Corporation, one of the nation's largest conglomerates with a global vision, signed a 10-year deal to host what will be one the world's most lucrative golf tournaments.

Day, Scott and Thomas, who has enjoyed a standout 2016-17 campaign with five wins including a first Major triumph, will headline the CJ tournament which will also feature Korea's newest star Si Woo Kim, winner of THE PLAYERS Championship in May.

The three-tournament extravaganza concludes with Asia's lone and prized World Golf Championships showpiece, the US$9.75 million WGC-HSBC Champions at Sheshan International Golf Club in Shanghai where Japan's rising son Matsuyama will defend his title against a stellar field which includes top-ranked Johnson, winner of the tournament in 2013.

Against a backdrop of global stars headlining the exciting stretch of events which form the early 2017-18 PGA TOUR Fall schedule, the Asian Tour's leading golfers such as S.S.P. Chawrasia, Scott Hend and young talent Phachara Khongwatmai, will have every opportunity to shine under the international spotlight.

The CIMB Classic, sanctioned with the Asian Tour, will include the leading 10 players from the region's Order of Merit in addition to two Malaysians while the CJ CUP could see up to 20 Korean or Korean descent golfers going head-to-head with the game's top stars as it lives up to the tournament's tagline of "Bridge to Realization".



A victory at Jeju island will lead to a coveted PGA TOUR card and a world of earning and playing opportunities.

Similarly, leading players from Asia and China will also be exempt into the WGC-HSBC Champions where a golfer like Li Haotong, famous for his third-place finish at the British Open in July, can propel his career to America with a home victory.

There will be no doubting that Thomas will start as a firm favourite to sparkle in Asia, especially after a spectacular season. A return to Malaysia will provide happy memories as his first PGA TOUR title was recorded in the 2015 CIMB Classic. In eight rounds at TPC KL, he has accumulated 59 birdies, two eagles and stands at a staggering 49-under-par.

PGA TOUR commissioner Jay Monahan, during the launch of the CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, hopes that the newest tournament on the schedule will positively shape the landscape of the game in South Korea and beyond.

"This announcement is a historic landmark for the PGA TOUR as we add another tournament in Asia. We had such a phenomenal experience in Korea at The Presidents Cup (in 2015), and we hoped an official, permanent event in this great country would be the result of that success," said Monahan. "We have a tremendous population of Korean golfers on the PGA TOUR, and we anticipate that will continue as THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES inspires a new generation of players, not only in Korea, but also around the world."



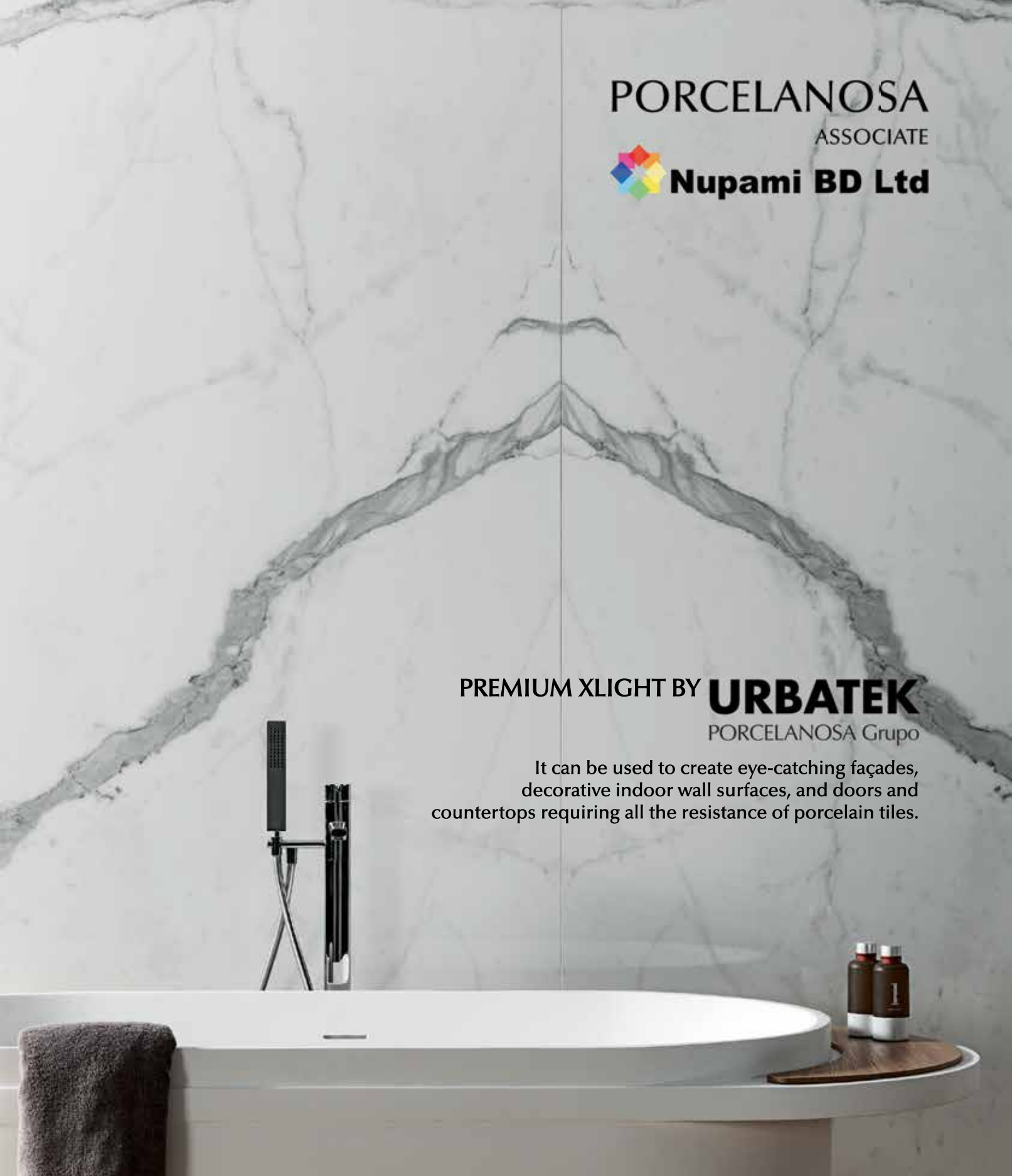
Since making its debut in 2005, the HSBC Champions has celebrated a myriad of international winners in a tournament many has labelled as "Asia's Major". Giles Morgan, HSBC Global Head of Sponsorship and Events, must take credit for being a driving force behind the tournament's growth into a WGC tournament.

"WGC-HSBC Champions is our flagship event in global golf. Quality of field is the calling card for this tournament which has earned the reputation of 'Asia's Major' and for the past three years we have attracted 40 of the world's top 50 golfers. Following recent heroics, China's leading players are truly coming of age at just the right time. This event means so much to them. It is their major. It first inspired them into the game then nurtured their skills. Now it gives this new generation a chance to unleash their talents against the world's best. All in front their home fans. It's a mouth-watering prospect."

Indeed, it's going to be a mouth-watering month of golf in Asia.



Chuah Choo Chiang 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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SERGIO GARCIA AWARDED EUROPEAN TOUR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Sergio Garcia, the reigning Masters Champion, has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of the European Tour in recognition of his triumph at Augusta National in April.

The 13-time European Tour winner becomes the 53nd player to be added to the exclusive list and is just the third Spaniard to receive the accolade, after Seve Ballesteros (1983) and José María Olazábal (1994).

The 37 year old was presented with the award by European Tour Chief Executive Keith Pelley during Real Club Valderrama's President's Dinner at the Andalucia Valderrama Masters hosted by the Sergio Garcia Foundation, where Garcia entered the weekend in contention for a 14th title.

Garcia sealed his maiden Major Championship title in thrilling fashion in Georgia, overcoming his four-time Ryder Cup team mate Justin Rose on the first play-off hole after they matched each other on the final day with rounds of 69, having shared the third round lead.

His victory was widely celebrated 18 years after he first broke onto the scene as a precocious teenager. He turned professional after being the only amateur to make the cut at the 1999 Masters, and three months later won his first European Tour title at the Irish Open. He then played a starring role at the US PGA Championship in August of that year before making his Ryder Cup debut in September.

Garcia currently has 31 professional victories to his name, including ten on the US PGA Tour and five on the Asian Tour, while he has made eight appearances in The Ryder Cup, contributing to five European victories and racking up a points total of 22.5.

"This is an incredible honour for me," said Garcia. "To join Seve and José María on the list of Honorary Members for the European Tour is very special and adds to what has already been a life-changing year for me, on and off the course.

"I have always loved playing on the European Tour and I have had so many unforgettable moments there, while there is no more special privilege than representing Europe in The Ryder Cup. I am humbled to be mentioned in the same breath as Seve, José María and the other great players on this list and it is a very special moment for me."

Keith Pelley, Chief Executive of the European Tour, said: "It is an absolute privilege to present Sergio Garcia with Honorary Life Membership of the European Tour. The world of golf rejoiced at his Masters triumph in April and this week, where he is the host of the Andalucia Valderrama Masters, is the perfect setting to commemorate that victory."

Garcia was also presented with Honorary Life Membership of Real Club Valderrama by the club's President Nuno De Brito De Cunha.



SANDHU CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY WITH WIN

India's Ajeetesh Sandhu gave himself the perfect early birthday present by holding his nerve to clinch his maiden Asian Tour title at the US$500,000 Yeangder Tournament Players Championship (TPC) on Sunday.



Sandhu, who turns 29 today, completed a career turnaround, earning a two-year winner's exemption on the region's premier Tour, following his breakthrough victory at the Linkou International Golf and Country Club.

After missing the mark at the Asian Tour Qualifying School earlier in January, Sandhu had to rely on his country exemption where he made two cuts in four starts, including a third-place result at the TAKE Solutions Masters in August, prior to his breakthrough in Chinese Taipei.

His triumph, however, did not come as a surprise. Sandhu showed glimpse of his potential when he won his third professional title on his domestic circuit in February. He has never finished outside top-15 in eight starts on his local Tour this season.

Sandhu, who joined the play-for-pay ranks in 2008, took home his career's biggest prize purse of US$90,000 and propelled to a career-high 27th place on the Order of Merit, led by Gavin Green of Malaysia with a current haul of US$527,346.

"It is absolutely amazing. I thought I would be a lot more nervous than what I was but when I got back to the hotel after the third round, I received so much of support from India. So many people, including people whom I don't know, were messaging me. That really calmed me down.

"I'm proud that I managed to focus on my own game. I was just trying to hit the next shot the best that I could and I won. I've had a couple of close calls at home but I didn't get it done. I guess I was saving for this win," said the talented Indian.

Sandhu closed with a 70 for a winning total of 12-under-par 276, which was one shot better than American Johannes Veerman, who battled to a 71 to settle for second place after taking a share of the lead in the first three rounds.

Veerman, the reigning Asian Development Tour (ADT) Order of Merit champion, took pride in his commendable result despite missing out on the win.

"I hope it is just a matter of 'when' I will win my first Asian Tour title. Look at Gavin (Green), he is my friend and he finished three times runner-up before he finally won. That just shows you that you have to keep moving forward," said the 25-year-old Texan.

Local hero Lu Wei-chih was clearly disappointed for missing out on his second Yeangder TPC title but the life warrior took solace with his third-place finish, which is his best result on the Asian Tour so far this season.

"I am disappointed with how I finished and I think I could have done better if not for my three bogeys on 12, 14 and 17. But overall, it is okay and I'm still happy with the result," said the 38-year-old Lu, a four-time Asian Tour winner and a brain tumour survivor.

Australia's Scott Hend remained in second place on the Order of Merit while Korean-American David Lipsky and India's S.S.P. Chawrasia sit in third and fourth places respectively.

The Tour will head to Malaysia for the lucrative CIMB Classic, slated to take place from October 12 to 15 this week.



LPGA FOUNDERS: THE 13 WOMEN WHO CREATED THE LPGA

The LPGA - Ladies Professional Golf Association - was founded in 1950 by 13 women. Those 13 LPGA founders met, set down bylaws, elected officers (Patty Berg was the first president), hired Fred Corcoran (Babe Zaharias' business manager) as tournament director, and set out organizing, running and playing in tournaments. There were 14 tournaments in that first season of existence. Below are the names of the 13 LPGA founders, along with a little info about each.

Alice Bauer:

Bauer, who died in 2002, never won on the LPGA Tour she helped create. Alice and her little sister, Marlene (see below), were golf phenoms in the 1940s. Their star power made them part of the founding group of 13. Alice was 22 at the time, and the LPGA states that she played the tour rarely after its founding in order to stay home with her children. The closest she came to winning was at the 1955 Heart of America Tournament, where she lost in a playoff to her fellow LPGA founder Marilynn Smith.

Marlene Bauer:

Better known today by her married name, Marlene Bauer Hagge, Marlene was the sister of Alice Bauer. And in 1950, when Marlene was part of the founding group, she was only 16 years old. Does that seem young to part of something momentous? It was old-hat to Bauer. The previous year, at age 15 in 1949, she was the Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year. Bauer won 26 times on the LPGA Tour and was voted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2002. Read more about Marlene Bauer Hagge.

Patty Berg:

To this day, Patty Berg holds the LPGA Tour record for most major championshipswon (15). Many of those were prior to the existence of the tour she helped found, as were most of the 60 LPGA victories with which she is credited. Despite many of those wins coming prior to the LPGA's founding, the LPGA does recognize them as official tour wins, as it does for other women golf pioneers who played professional golf prior to the LPGA's founding. Berg was winning tournaments now recognized as majors as far back as 1937. Her last LPGA win was in 1962. She joined

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The World Golf Hall of Fame in 1974. She died in 2006. Read more about Patty Berg.

Bettye Danoff:
Bettye Danoff, according to LPGA.com, was the first grandmother on the LPGA. She also once won a case of beer for making a hole-in-one during a LPGA tournament. Danoff won tournaments in the 1940s, both amateur and professional events, while still an amateur. She turned pro in 1949, then helped found the LPGA in 1950. She never won a LPGA event after helping found the tour, and later became a successful golf instructor. She died in 2011 at the age of 88.

Helen Dettweiler:
Helen Dettweiler, who died in 1990, was involved in the women's professional tour that preceded the LPGA - the WPGA (Women's Professional Golf Association). After that tour couldn't make it, Dettweiler joined 12 other women to create the LPGA. She won the Women's Western Open in 1939, and won tournaments in the 1940s, but never won on the LPGA Tour. Dettweiler turned to teaching, and in 1958 she was the first-ever recipient of the LPGA Teacher of the Year Award.

Helen Hicks:
Helen Hicks was one of the first women golfers to turn professional and try to make a living through golf. And she did OK: Nearly all of Hicks' victories were in the 1930s and 1940s, but she was winning as far back as 1929. She turned pro in 1932. In 1934, she signed an endorsement deal with Wilson Golf and became the first female golfer to travel the country, promoting a brand through golf clinics. Her victories included the 1937 Women's Western Open and 1940 Titleholders, wins now recognized as majors. Hicks was already near 40 years old when she co-founded the LPGA. She died in 1974.

Opal Hill:
Along with the aforementioned Hicks, Opal Hill was one of the true pioneers in professional golf for women. Born in the 19th century, Hill was winning amateur tournaments in the mid-1920s. Her biggest wins included the 1935 and 1936 Women's Western Opens, titles now recognized as majors. Like Hicks, Hill signed with Wilson Golf after turning pro and barnstormed the country giving clinics. Hill was not a factor as a player on the LPGA she co-founded - she was already 58 years old at the time - but her inclusion among the founders was important because of her standing in the golf world. According to the LPGA, Hill was known as the "matriarch of women's golf." Hill died in 1981.

Betty Jameson:
Betty Jameson wasn't just one of the founders of the LPGA. In 1952, she donated the trophy to give to the tour's leading scorer and requested it be named in honor of her hero, the great amateur Glenna Collett Vare. The Vare Trophy is still awarded annually to the LPGA Tour scoring leader. Vare never had a chance to play on a women's professional golf tour; Jameson did, and thanks to Jameson and her LPGA co-founders, so have generations of women golfers to follow. Jameson won 13 LPGA Tour titles, including three major championships, but much of her best golf was prior to the founding of the LPGA. Her last LPGA victory was in 1955 and she retired from full-time golf competition after 1962. She died in 2009. Read more about Betty Jameson.

Sally Sessions
Sally Sessions may be the least-known member of the LPGA's Founding 13. She died in 1966, and was never a factor in tournaments after the LPGA founding in 1950 - that was because Sessions had leukemia and her golf performance started to tail off in the late 1940s. Prior to the onset of the disease, Sessions produced great results around her home state of Michigan and finished second in the 1947 U.S. Women's Open.

Marilynn Smith
Marilynn Smith is probably one of the most-liked golfers in LPGA Tour history; her nickname, "Miss Personality," was not an ironic one. Of all the LPGA founders, Smith's career lasted the longest - at least in terms of remaining competitive on the tour she helped create. Smith scored the first double-eagle in LPGA Tour history in 1971; won for the last time in 1972; and played in a LPGA event for the last time in 1985. She also has the distinction of being the first female broadcaster to work a men's golf telecast in the U.S. Read more about Marilynn Smith.



Shirley Spork:
Shirley Spork is a co-founder twice over. She is one of the 13 LPGA founders; she is also one of a small group of golf instructors who founded the LPGA T&CP - Teaching & Club Pro - Division (so was Marilynn Smith). Spork also came up with the idea of awarding a LPGA Teacher of the Year honor. So it only makes sense that she won that award twice herself, first in 1959 and again in 1984. Spork is best-known as a teacher of the game; she never won a LPGA tour event. She did make a mark as a competitor, though, by winning the "National Collegiate Championship" in 1947, the first playing of what later evolved (in an indirect line) into the NCAA Championship.

Louise Suggs:
Called "Miss Sluggs" because of her length off the tee, Louise Suggs was one of the dominant players in the first decade of LPGA history. She also famously feuded with her LPGA co-founder, Babe Didrikson Zaharias, although Suggs has always acknowledged that Zaharias' fame is what kept the LPGA afloat in its infancy. Suggs, a World Golf Hall of Fame member after whom the LPGA Tour's Rookie of the Year Award is named, is credited with 58 LPGA wins and 11 major championship wins. Read more about Louise Suggs.

Babe Didrikson Zaharias:
Babe Didrikson Zaharias was arguably the greatest female athlete of all-time; she was inarguably the most important golfer in the early history of the LPGA. Her star power is what kept the LPGA going during its first few years of existence. She was known to call a promoter, negotiate an exhibition appearance for herself, and then say, "And I'll bring along a few of the girls." Voila - that's how some of the early LPGA events were born. Alas, Zaharias was the first of the LPGA founders to pass on; she died of cancer in 1956. But not before leaving a legacy of accomplishment, and not before establishing herself as one of the greatest and most-important golfers of all-time. Read more about Babe Zaharias.









ARE THERE DIFFERENCES IN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF CLUBS?

Once upon a time, manufacturers didn't take women golfers very seriously. Women didn't make up enough of the golf marketplace to warrant being wooed by club companies. So in those old days, companies didn't spend much time thinking about golf clubs specifically made for and marketed to women.

If a company offered "ladies clubs" back then, there was a good chance those clubs were simply stock golf clubs splashed with a little pink paint and whose shafts were cut down a bit to make them shorter.

Those days are, happily, long gone: More and more women play golf; a growing contingent of female golfers forces companies to work harder to attract their business; clubs made for women improve in quality. It's a virtuous cycle.

DO FEMALE GOLFERS HAVE TO OR NEED TO BUY WOMEN'S CLUBS?
No! You should buy the clubs that best fit your game: Your height; your swing speed (fast, medium, slow?), your type of swing (smooth or jerky?), among other factors. That might mean that a set of "ladies clubs" or a "women's version" of a popular driver are right for your game.

Or you might be better off with a driver or a set of clubs marketed to men. Buy the clubs that fit your swing, not the clubs marketed to your gender. (That goes for men, too.)

Longtime club maker and golf equipment industry entrepreneur Tom Wishon says that "differences most typically seen" between men's and women's "standard-made clubs bought off-the-rack are implemented because companies assume that all women golfers have slower swing speeds and are less athletically inclined than men."

Is that true? Generally speaking, women golfers tend to have slower swing speeds than men golfers. And that means that - again, generally speaking - women golfers can benefit from some specific approaches in golf club design.

WHAT ARE THOSE DESIGN APPROACHES NOW USED IN WOMEN'S GOLF CLUBS?
"Typically, most women's clubs will be made one inch shorter in length for each club," Wishon says, "and may be designed with more loft on the face than men's clubs.

"In addition, the shafts installed in women's clubs are more flexible than the shafts in men's clubs."

Shorter shafts are due to the fact that in general women are shorter than men, and shorter shafts will better fit more women golfers. Shorter shafts also provide more control of the swing.
More flexible golf shafts and more loft on the clubfaces are both things that help golfers with slower swing speeds get the ball up in the air and achieve a bit more distance.

BUT THESE DESIGN APPROACHES MIGHT NOT WORK FOR YOU
We've used the term "in general" several times, and we want to stress again that just because the design approaches mentioned above apply to many women golfers in general doesn't mean they'll help you.

You might be tall. Or have a fast or jerky swing so that a less flexible shaft is more appropriate. Or be a low-handicapper and not need the extra loft built into off-the-rack women's clubs.

If you are a woman who is a beginner, or plays golf infrequently, or is a high-handicapper, the design approach of today's "ladies clubs" might very well benefit you. Just remember, like any other golfer you can go through a club fitting that finds the best match of equipment to your swing.

DO COMPANIES STILL USE PINK ON 'WOMEN'S CLUBS'?
Of course. Pinks and pastels are still common accent colors in women's golf clubs. But most other design choices in women's clubs have improved greatly over time.

INVEST ON FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Musawath Shams Zahedee, Member, Board of Directors of Radiant Pharmaceuticals Limited, is an uprising businessman in the corporate sector, and a keen golfer of Kurmitola Golf Club. He has been playing golf since childhood, making his debut in Junior-golf, and gradually establishing his footing as a profound and successful Amateur golfer in Bangladesh.

Musawath Zahedee's golf-accolades incorporates several wins and top-finishes in an array of tournaments. Notably, are the 2nd Runner Up and 1st Runner Up finishes in Player of The Year standings in 2012 and 2017 respectively, the 36-Hole Best Gross winner in The Aga Khan Gold Cup 2017, as well as finishing 1st Position in the KGC Club Championship 2017, thus, becoming the youngest Club Champion of KGC.

Musawath Zahedee believes golf needs more investment in infrastructure and facilities. His parent-company (Radiant Pharmaceuticals) is proactive in sponsoring tournaments in peripheral golf clubs, while simultaneously promotes the development of infrastructure and facilities of the not-so developed golf clubs.▶


TURKISH
AIRLINES
WORLD GOLF CUP
Miles&
ITANIC







How did your involvement with golf start?

My interest in golf started in 2002. My father had become a member of KGC around that time and through him I got introduced to golf. Afterwards, he became more preoccupied with his business and couldn't give much time to golf. But I picked up the game and continued playing ever since.

How do you feel as a winner of Player of The Year award and the Champion of KGC Club Championship?

Finishing 2nd in the year-long Player of The Year standings, and followed by the top performance in the KGC Club Championship, obviously this was one of my best years in golfing. It became even more aromas as I could play a full season after a long absence from golfing.

In the 2011-12 season, I finished 3rd in Player of The Year standings, before leaving for my Undergrad and Postgrad studies in London.

After a recess of four years, the 2016-17 season was my first full season. It feels great to have such an amazing comeback, eventually becoming the "youngest" Club Champion of KGC! It's a terrific feeling, indeed!

What is your current golfing routine?

My golfing routine has changed dramatically. When I was a student, golf was pretty much my second priority. Ever since I started working in Radiant from August 2016, I have to percolate time for golf. If I'm lucky, I play thrice a week. However, the new night-ranges in KGC and AGC have been of significant advantage to me. I try to hit the range as much as possible, whenever I can make time after work.

Do you have any target of becoming a Pro?

Not really. Many of my fellow golfers and Professionals persistently asked me to turn Pro, but I don't think I can give that much time and dedication to golf now. Priorities change with time and circumstances.

As a young person, what about the game attracts you most?

Everything the whole package! If I have to narrow it down, the aspect that deeply attracts me towards golf is its ability to teach self-motivation, self-confidence and composure. This unique blend helps build up one's personality and character. How you carry yourself on the field, is a reflection of how you do it off the field.

You're not only a golfer, but also a patron of the game and so is your family. Why so?

It's a sport in Bangladesh which is quite underrated: it shouldn't be like that. We in Radiant try to bring it to the people, give the game more exposure and play our small part as sponsors of tournaments in the KGC and other peripheral clubs.

Any special moment in golf which makes you really happy?

One of my fondest moment in golf would be when I played The British Junior Open 2008 at Hesketh, England. Playing the tournament was phenomenal by itself, but what really holds a special memory is when I won the Qualifying Rounds in KGC, facing off competent players like my friend & playmate Porosh, who were as determined as me to win. Back then, only a handful of golfers were allowed to participate in the international tournaments. Thus the qualifying rounds were quite exotic. So, naturally me at my 16 representing Bangladesh in a major-league tournament, undoubtedly induced one of the most ecstatic and memorable moment of my career.

Do you follow any golfer specially?

Not really. I don't even get time for my game let alone follow anyone else's these days.

Which ones are your favorite golf courses?

Favorite course is obviously KGC, my home course. During my early University days in London, I played in some of the courses in England as I was inducted to my University-Golf Team. There was a course in London where I used to play often: Muswell Hill Golf Club. That was one of my favorite courses outside the country.

What do you think about the future of golf in Bangladesh?

Going at this pace, I would say, golf has a bright future. I think Siddikur Rahman was a big inspiration for Bangladesh and he set an example that the golf can represent Bangladesh at the global stage. If we follow his path, golf has a bright future, especially considering the huge turnout of new players recently.

Were you involved with any other sport?

I used to play other sports when I was in school. Football, volleyball, basketball, cricket...everything. Now, they've all filtered away leaving golf as my only game!

People say golf helps creating or maintaining business networks. Do you also see it that way?

Well, there is a saying like that and that is true for any decent social club. Golf is a good way of meeting new people of the same spectrum. An 18-hole round of golf often works better than a month-long negotiation, and can create many new avenues in the process.

Golf in Bangladesh needs more sponsors. Does your company have any plans to sponsor any event?

Radiant is particularly fond of sponsoring tournaments in the peripheral golf clubs. We are also supporting the development of infrastructure and facilities which will have a long-lasting impact to the golfing society. We feel that it is something more important and valuable than just sponsoring a tournament.

TheGolfHouse, which is a small initiative to promote golf, is celebrating successfully completing two years of publication. What is your view of the magazine?

It was high time that we had a golf magazine!!! And, Golf House did just that. I'm really happy to see it's growth, and keeping up the good work by promoting golf. I wish nothing but the very best for the magazine.



প্রস্তুত তীর, স্বর্ণজয়ের লক্ষ্যে স্থির

২০২০ টোকিও অলিম্পিকে লাল-সবুজের সাক্ষ্য রাখতেই তীরন্দাজদের প্রস্তুত করছে 'তীর'।
প্রাপ্তির খাতায় আমাদের অনেক কিছু থাকলেও, কিছু স্বপ্ন এখনো অধরা রয়ে গেছে।
সেই অধরাকে স্পর্শ করতে, অলিম্পিকেও গৌরবার্জনের লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের জনপ্রিয় ও বিশ্বস্ত ব্র্যান্ড 'তীর' এবার যুক্ত হলো বাংলাদেশ আরচ্যারী ফেডারেশনের সাথে। সম্ভাবনাময় আরচ্যারী দলের সাথে প্রাইম স্পন্সর ও ডেভেলপমেন্ট পার্টনার হিসেবে যুক্ত হয়ে 'তীর' শুরু করলো **'গো ফর গোল্ড'**।

দেশের দক্ষ তীরন্দাজরা লক্ষ্যভেদে সবাইকে ছাড়িয়ে বৃদ্ধি করুক দেশের গৌরব, সোনার মেডেল ছিনিয়ে এনে এদেশের উন্নত শিরকে করুক আরও উন্নত। নিখুঁত নিশানায় তীরবেগে বিশ্বব্যাপী আবারও ছড়িয়ে যাক বাংলাদেশের নাম। তীরন্দাজ এবার তোমার লক্ষ্য করো স্থির, কোটি মানুষের সমর্থনে হবে বিশ্বজয়, সঙ্গে আছে 'তীর'।

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BANGLADESHI TEAM AT THE ASIA PACIFIC SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP



A group of senior Bangladeshi golfers participated in the Asia Pacific Senior Amateur Championship in Adelaide, Australia earlier this month. The participants were: Khandaker Nurul Afser, Mohammad Enayet Ullah, Mohammed Enamul Haq Chowdhry, Shameem Hasan, Mohammad Aminul Islam, Haroon Ar Rashid and Rashid Hayder.

The tournament was won by Team Australia, who beat Team New Zealand by two strokes.

The Asia Pacific Senior Amateur Championship is conducted by the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation. It is open to male players 55 years and over and is contested over 54-holes stroke play.







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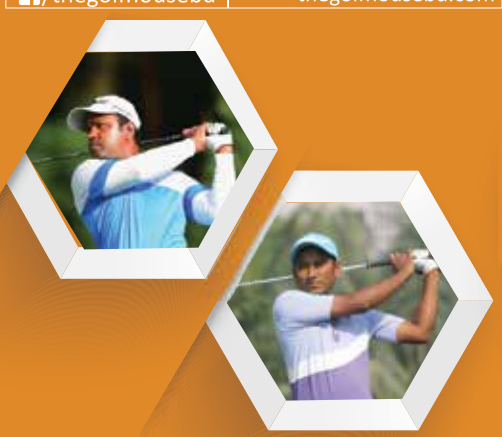



SERIOUS GOLFERS DESERVE SERIOUS SUPPORT

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NORMAN HONORED BY JACK

When you are a champion golfer as well as a champion of the business board room, the autumn of one's life can be filled with trophies and honors and accolades. Greg Norman knows that well. He doesn't play very much golf these days. He said he has played only five rounds this year, and played five times all of last year. At 62, he left the green fairways of golf to head to far greener rounds in the corporate world. Wine, turf, golf course design, apparel, luxury lifestyle … you name it.

Oh, he makes some business double bogeys, but eventually, it all seems to turns to gold. Those young pros who aim to be the next Jack Nicklaus of golf would do well to watch what Norman does outside the ropes, and to aspire to be the next Greg Norman of business.

But Norman stood at the podium at The Memorial on Wednesday afternoon, just as storm clouds gave way to blue skies, ready to speak as the 2017 Memorial Honoree. He had no notes, and simply spoke from the heart. About what it meant, his friendship with golf's most accomplished player.

Award is not lost on Norman

As lifetime awards go, this one wasn't an empty one for Norman. Where would he rank it?

"Look, I'd actually put it in the top two," he said afterward. "I think No. 1 for me was carrying the torch across the Sydney Harbor Bridge (at the Olympics in Australia in 2000)."

Golf is a solitary game, and a man sometimes can collect far more trophies than friendships. Norman genuinely is warmed by the relationship he has built with Nicklaus, who is 15 years his senior. The two never got to play a great deal of golf together, but Nicklaus did say the two still have a great deal in common.

"We both still have that blond hair," Nicklaus said with a smile, "and similar physiques."

Nicklaus said Wednesday that there were a few times Norman got the best of him, "and perhaps I got him once – in 1986 (at the Masters)."

Norman flipped two thumbs down for that.

Norman flopped first time out

The very first time Norman was paired with Nicklaus was the 1976 Australian Open,and Norman, who'd only played a handful of pro events, stepped up to the first tee, knowing golf's greatest player ever was standing by, looking on, and promptly cold-topped his opening drive.

"As embarrassed as I've ever been on a golf course," Norman said. "That is so true. …. I was lucky to put the ball on the tee, because I was shaking that much. And I hit it 40 yards."

He'd shoot 80 that day, and come back with a far more respectable showing, shooting 72 the next day, a shot behind Nicklaus. But that's not what stuck with Norman. His locker wasn't far from that of Nicklaus', and after 36 holes, as they changed shoes, Nicklaus put his hand on Norman's knee and told him, "You've got the game to do well in America."

Adds Norman, "And that was that. Again, that was Jack saying the right thing at the right time to give me the confidence."

It was Nicklaus again who had the right words at the right time for Norman shortly before the Shark would land his first major, the 1986 British Open at Turnberry. Norman, if you recall, led all four majors



through 54 holes that year, but had fallen short at the Masters (to Nicklaus, after an errant approach right at 18) and at the U.S. Open (to Raymond Floyd).

At dinner the night before the final round, Nicklaus approached Norman and offered him a tip: Under the intense pressure of Sunday at a major, he noticed Norman's left-hand grip was too tight. Nicklaus could tell that just from the shot patterns, as Norman kept missing shots to the right.

But even more meaningful is what took place 24 hours later, when Norman had played well enough to capture the Claret Jug, his first major. Nicklaus climbed down from the television tower and was one of the first to congratulate him. That meant a lot.

"I was very, very happy," Norman said, "but I think he was equally as happy as I was."

46 years worth of impact

With 91 worldwide victories, 20 PGA Tour wins, two majors, and having spent 331 weeks atop the Official World Golf Ranking, Norman certainly went on to enjoy more than his share of brilliant moments. When Norman was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame, Nicklaus said "His legacy as one of golf's greatest players was very much etched in stone."



But trophies fade; strong friendships do not. In time, they grow. Norman stepped up and talked about the impact that Nicklaus has had on him for 46 years now, starting when a 16-year-old boy across the globe in Queensland, Australia, took his head out of his physics and chemistry books to dive into Nicklaus' swing in "Golf My Way."

"Boy, did I get my butt kicked really hard," Norman said. "I failed physics and chemistry, but I did not fail in the game of golf."

Nor did Norman fail in delivering a terrific speech as Memorial's honoree. His old pal, the tournament's host, a man who welcomed Norman to the neighborhood in South Florida so many years ago, let him know that he had enjoyed it very much.

Right words. Right time. Again.

"I wanted to deliver a speech that came from the heart, and I did it," Norman said. "And I think it impressed Jack. If you can impress a guy as humble as he is, you've done your job."

One final note: Burying his head into Jack's books so many years ago, and trying to learn how Nicklaus thought, and why he swung a club the way he did, Norman went from a 27 handicap to a scratch golfer in only 18 months. He heeded Nicklaus' written words to learn how to hit the ball hard, and then learn how to hit is straight later.

"That's exactly what I did," Norman said, turning to his gracious host and friend. "Four and a half million golf balls later, a couple of back surgeries .

Thanks, Jack. Wednesday, there was plenty of thanks to spread around.



THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL GOLFERS

The top players in the world share 7 things in common beyond having a good golf swing. Here, they are.



1. THEY PRACTICE IN THE RIGHT WAY

Life is short. So why anyone would want to spend hundreds of hours trying to improve in the wrong way is crazy. Beating ball after ball at the same target at the driving range and coming away thinking you've mastered the game only takes you backwards. How many golfers wish they could take their range game to the course? 99% of them. The other 1% (the elite), practice in a way that is challenging and simulates course conditions. Hitting a bucket of balls to the same target over and over is easy and it's nothing like playing on the course. The top players make every second count when practicing, so they're working all areas of the game to the max. The first thing to do in trying to get better at golf is to think about the way you practice, and change your routine. I've worked with many players of all abilities and one of the major factors in success is the way you practice. Make practice hard and as much like the golf course as possible.

2. THEY ARE ABLE TO STAY IN THE PRESENT

Staying in the present means that you give whatever you are doing your complete, undivided attention with no distractions of the past or future. In golf, this means you're not thinking about your score, how your playing partners might be judging your performance, why you think you just sliced that tee shot or 3 putted the last hole. All your energy is on the process of hitting shot at hand and then enjoying the walk in between.

It's easy to see how counter-productive it is not to be in the present – just think back to your last round where you started playing well and then thought about shooting your best score (into the future), only for your game to unravel. The same thing happens when you start to think about bad shots you hit (in the past). Being solely in the present is easier said than done I know (like everything else it takes practice), but there are good techniques to prevent these tension causing shifts in thinking. I've got plenty of techniques for getting better at staying in the present and relaxing in between shots in my Ultimate Mental Game Training System (2016 Edition).

3. THEY CONTINUALLY WORK ON THE FUNDAMENTALS

Good players understand the importance of the fundamentals as it's the foundation for a good golf swing. How you grip the club, how far you stand from the ball, how good your posture is, how good your ball position is and how well you align to the target are all way more important than just trying to swing the club correctly. The fundamentals need to be worked on continuously as it's easy to get into bad habits, even for Tour players. It's always worth a check up from your local pro to make sure you have these right. Alignment is the one that requires the most maintenance. You could argue that a consistent tempo is also "fundamental" to a good swing.

4. THEY PLAY WITH VISUALIZATION AND FEEL, NOT SWING MECHANICS

The eyes are probably the golfer's most important asset. Once they commit to a target, the top players imagine exactly how the shot will look, even what the ball's going to do when it lands. How clearly you define your target and your shot shape before playing each shot will have a huge impact on how well you execute it. It quietens your mind and allows your subconscious play the shot, as opposed to conscious control with technical thoughts, which just doesn't work as well.

5. THEY WORK ON A HIGHLY REPEATABLE PRE AND POST-SHOT ROUTINE

The top players in the world all go through the exact same routine before (and after) every shot, even down to the number of practice swings and looks at the target. The routine acts to prepare you as best as possible for the shot, and going through the same sequence right up until you swing, means there's no time for negative thoughts to creep in. Focusing on your routine also distracts you from the importance of the shot you are about to play – it makes every shot feel the same regardless of the situation. Your mind stays quiet.

6. THEY KNOW HOW TO CALM THEMSELVES DOWN WHEN THE PRESSURE IS ON.

I've worked with enough players to know that the good ones know powerful techniques to calm themselves down to prevent nerves turning into panic and negatively affecting performance. They are very self-aware and know how guide their minds away from negative thoughts and towards positive ones. They use nerves to their advantage. There are many ways to do this such as breathing techniques or having special thoughts/places to go in your head in between shots. This could be looking up at the sky or the trees, anything to switch off your golf brain so you're not thinking about your score or swing. I recently heard of a player that would try to solve math problems in his head when it all got too much out there! So there are countless ways to do it.

7. THEY KNOW THE POWER OF ACCEPTANCE AND MOVING ON

Being able to accept every shot whatever the outcome should become a key part of your game. The optimal state for golf would be to become emotionally indifferent to good and bad shots. Most Tour pros have acceptance built into the routine and they tell themselves that although they have a positive intention for the shot, if it doesn't go where they want it to, it's better to accept it and move on, than get disappointed or frustrated. Try verbalizing this in your head before your next shot. Also, try making a deep breath or the action of putting the club back in the bag your signal that the shot is over and it's time to get back into the present. There's plenty of time to analyze your round when it's over!

Ingrain these things and make them a habit!



DAVID MACKENZIE is a golf coach and golf publisher and lives in Washington DC. He is the founder of Golf State of Mind a teaching program designed to help golfers eliminate negative mental interference and play with confidence.

EIGHT REASONS WHY PUTTING GREENS

PLAY DIFFERENTLY IN THE AFTERNOON

by Brian Whitlark

Like all outdoor sports, golf contains inherent variability. For example, some putting greens play differently in the afternoon than they do in the morning. Here are eight reasons why golfers may notice some changes in putting green playing conditions over the course of a day:

1.Greens can become firmer.
Low humidity, hot temperatures, sunshine and wind can make greens firmer as the day progresses. This could make it more challenging to control shots into a green. Also, although not always the case, golfers often perceive firmer greens to be faster.

2.Green speed can become slower.
Golfers can expect greens to be slower in the afternoon than they were in the morning. Thousands of USGA Stimpmeter® measurements have indicated that in most cases green speed will slow throughout the day regardless of the weather. Turfgrass growth, golfer traffic, ball marks, thatch and organic matter rebounding after morning mowing and rolling, and increased humidity are common factors that could cause slower afternoon green speeds.

3. Traffic makes greens bumpier.
Although Poa annua is often blamed for reduced putting green performance throughout the day, the biggest culprits are usually golfer foot traffic and improperly repaired ball marks. Golfers are encouraged to properly repair ball marks – even those that aren't their own – and tap down spike marks from their golf shoes.

4. Poa annua can affect smoothness.
Poa annua can negatively influence putting green smoothness when there is a mixed stand of Poa annua and another grass. If 40 percent of a bentgrass putting green is comprised of Poa annua it may play differently in the afternoon due to the different growth rates of the grasses. Furthermore, Poa annua seedhead production in the spring can create bumpy playing conditions. Golf course superintendents use a variety of techniques to manage issues associated with Poa annua.

5. Soft conditions are prone to severe footprints and ball marks.
Greens that are soft underfoot are very likely to play differently in the afternoon because of normal golfer traffic. Soft greens are also prone to deep ball marks that impair smoothness. Soft conditions often are caused by excessive organic matter accumulation, rainfall, heavy irrigation or some combination of these and other factors. Managing organic matter will help produce firmer, smoother greens.

6. Bunker sand can impede ball roll.
Sand that has been splashed onto a putting green by bunker shots or tracked onto a putting green by other golfers may disrupt ball roll. Golfers are encouraged to clean their shoes upon exiting a bunker. Following good putting green etiquette will help maintain quality playing conditions throughout the day.

7. Extreme environmental conditions can affect putting greens.
Extreme cold, heat, rain, hail and wind may negatively influence putting green playing conditions over the course of a day.

8. Necessary agronomic practices can disrupt putting greens.
Agronomic practices such as vertical mowing, sand topdressing and core aeration will ultimately produce smoother greens. However, these practices may create some short-term disruption to putting surfaces. Should you find yourself playing a round following such practices, rest assured that you can still make putts. Tom Watson once shot an astounding 58 at Kansas City Country Club just days after aeration.

The bottom line is that golf is an outdoor game with inherent variability. Golfers are encouraged to embrace that variability as part of the game's challenge and remember the wise words of the late Payne Stewart: "A bad attitude is worse than a bad swing."



For more information on putting green performance, contact the USGA Green Section by pgross@usga.org



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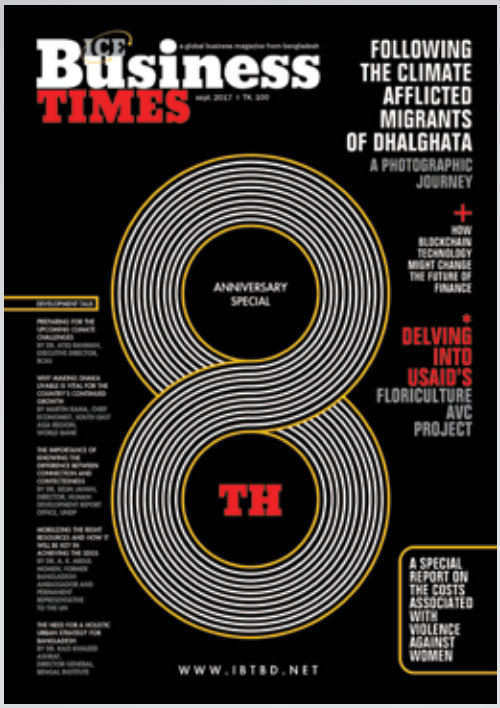









COURSE MARSHAL AND HIS DUTIES

Marshals are also called 'course rangers' and help manage the flow.



Those guys holding the "Quiet" signs at pro tournaments? That's one type of golf course marshal.

A "marshal" or "course marshal" is an individual whose duties generally focus on helping manage the flow around the golf course. The marshal's specific duties, though, vary depending on whether the marshal is working during a golf tournament or during regular, recreational play at a golf course.

The marshal is often called a "ranger" or "course ranger," and some facilities that are trying to act fancy might even refer to their marshals as "course ambassadors." Marshals are (infrequently) employees or other paid staff; more commonly, marshals are volunteers.

MARSHAL DUTIES DURING GOLF TOURNAMENTS

If you've ever watched a professional golf tournament on television, you have seen course marshals in action; even if you didn't realize it at the time. Those people holding up the "Quiet" signs before a golfer hits his/her drive. Those folks down the fairway looking for a golfer's ball in the first cut of rough (and perhaps sticking a little flag in the ground near the ball to identify it)? Marshals.

Marshals at a golf tournament may wear armbands or some other means of identifying themselves to fans as well as participants. Fans can ask questions of a course marshal; a marshal might admonish a fan doing something they shouldn't be doing, or help a fan who needs assistance; or direct spectators around the course.

Marshals at a tournament are helpers, aides, assistants to the players and spectators whose job boils down to helping things run smoothly.

And those marshals are almost all (probably all) volunteers. You - yes, you! - can be a marshal at a pro tour event, if you contact the tournament office in advance and sign up. Marshals may be used at pro events, high-caliber amateur tournaments, or even during a company outing or charity tournament at a local course.

MARSHAL DUTIES AT GOLF COURSES DURING REGULAR PLAY

A golfer who never attends a pro tour event or plays tournaments is most likely to encounter a course ranger at their own favorite local golf courses.

Not all golf courses have marshals, but many do. And if you compare two golf courses with the exact same amount of business, one of which has course marshals while the other one doesn't, the one with marshals will have a better flow around the course. The pace of play will be better and - likely - the paying customers will be happier.

Local course marshals typically patrol the golf course in a cart that has "Marshal" or "Ranger" emblazoned on its front. They are almost always volunteers who work a few hours a day a few days a week and, in exchange, get free or at least reduced-rate golf on other days.

Duties? The course marshal's duties typically include some or all of the following:

•Respond to golfers' questions, requests, concerns;

•Direct golfers around the course, if they are unfamiliar with the layout;

•Inform golfers about course policies, and let a golfer know when he might be in violation of course policy;

•If the opportunity arises, help golfers search for lost balls (or gently suggest they give up the search to keep the pace of play going);

•Try to mediate any disputes that might arise between groups;

•Look for opportunities to care for the course, maybe repairing a ball mark here or filling a divot there;

•Most important of all, look for ways to help the pace of play.

All of which goes back to what we said at the top, A marshal's duty is to help manage the flow of golfers around the course. Some of the value in marshals is in their mere visibility. If golfers know a course has marshals, they are more likely to police themselves. Slow play is a primary concern for marshals, and some courses allow marshals to force slow groups to move up, skipping part or all of a hole in order to speed up play.

If disputes arise between groups of golfers or issues relating to pace of play or etiquette, those groups should seek out a course marshal to mediate.
Golf course marshals have no legal authority; as noted, they are typically volunteers. However, golfers should follow the requests and instructions of marshals, if a marshal offers such.





The hole this sign describes is a par-4. That means an expert golfer is expected to need four strokes to play it.

What Is the Meaning of 'Par'?

A Definition of the Golf Term With Scoring Examples

In golf, "par" is the number of strokes an expert golfer is expected to need to complete an individual hole, or to complete all the holes on a golf course. Par is the standard to which golfers aspire.

Usage Examples: "This hole is a par-4." "The par for this golf course is 71." "I'm 3-over par so far in my round." "If I par each of the last three holes, I'll shoot 75."

THE PAR OF AN INDIVIDUAL HOLE
Think of any hole on a golf course.

Let's say the 13th hole at Augusta National Golf Club. It's a par-5 hole. What does that mean? In this case, it means that five is the number of strokes an expert golfer is expected to need to finish play of that hole.

The value assigned to represent par for an individual hole is always comprised of two putts plus the number of strokes it should take an expert golfer to reach the green. Holes typically are listed as par-3, par-4 or par-5, although par-6 is also occasionally encountered. A par-4 hole is going to be longer than a par-3 hole, and a par-5 longer than a par-4 (with rare exceptions).

On a par-3 hole, an expert golfer is expected to need only one stroke to reach the green, followed by two putts, for three strokes total.

On a par-4, he should need two strokes to reach the green, followed by two putts, for four strokes total.

On a par-5, she is expected to reach the green in three strokes, followed by two putts, for five strokes total.

There aren't official rules about how long a hole has to be to be called a par 3, 4 or 5, but governing bodies have published guidelines for the length of holes and par ratings.

THE PAR OF A GOLF COURSE
For 18 holes of golf, the par is the total number of strokes an expert golfer is expected to require to complete the course.

Most full-size golf courses range from pars of 69 to 74, with par-70, par-71 and par-72 courses most common.

Add up the par of each hole on a golf course to get the par for the course as a whole. (A standard, regulation golf course might have, for example, 10 par-4 holes, four par-3 holes and four par-5 holes, for a total par of 72.)

SCORING IN RELATION TO PAR (1-UNDER PAR, ETC.)
"Par" is also used to describe a golfer's scoring performance on an individual hole or for a complete round of golf. If you complete a par-4 hole having used four strokes, then you are said to have "parred the hole." This is also referred to as being "even-par" or "level par."

If you take five strokes to play a par-4 hole, then you are 1-over par for that hole; if you take three strokes on a par-4, you are 1-under par on that hole.

Same applies to 18-hole scores: If the golf course's par is 72, and you shoot 85, you are 13-over par; if you shoot 68, you are 4-under par.

'PAR' BEFORE GOLF
"Par"—meaning (in various usages) equal, a mean average, a standard level, or ordinary—was around for centuries before it became a golf word.



No doubt Pebble Beach is a championship course: It's hosted many championships, including national ones and PGA Tour ones.

WHAT IS A CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE IN GOLF?

The term "championship course" is applied to some golf courses and can have several meanings:

1. It can mean that the golf course in question has been the site of a significant and important golf tournament;

2. It can mean that the golf course in question is one of two or more courses within the same club or facility, and is the more challenging of those courses;

3. Or, in a usage that arose later than the first two examples, "championship course" can simply be marketing language designed to drum up business for a golf facility.

THE LITERAL CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE

In the early days of professional golf and tournament golf, there was only one championship: The Open Championship. What is often referred to today as the British Open. Founded in 1860, for decades it was the only national championship played by professional golfers.

In the 1890s and early 1900s, other national opens plus other significant professional golf tournaments started appearing.

And "championship course," as a recognizable term with the golfer's lexicon, dates from these early periods of pro golf. Any golf course that was used as the site of the Open Championship or other big-time pro tournaments was, literally, a "championship course."

CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES AND MULTI-COURSE FACILITIES

Eventually, the meaning of the term expanded. Picture private golf clubs and public golf facilities that include more than one golf course: Maybe two or more 18-holers; or an 18-holer and 9-holer; or a full-size 18-holer and a short-course 18-holer.

In the early days of the 20th century, such clubs began appearing sporadically. And if such a club staged a golf tournament, it would naturally put that tournament on the better of its courses, on the more-challenging of its courses.

Hence, that 18 holes came to be termed the "championship course" because it was the one used to host championships.

'CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE' AS A MARKETING PLOY

Another expansion of the meaning of "championship course" arrived much later, when golf courses started being built as the centerpieces of housing developments and other real estate deals.

You can say that in its modern usage, the term "championship course" has been quite devalued. Today, golfers most often encounter the term in advertising. Any new golf course might choose to advertise itself as a "championship course" to try to convince golfers of its quality.

So today, in many (but not all) cases, the phrase has essentially become nothing more than a marketing term.

WANT TO SEE THE LITERAL CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF COURSES?

Thinking about meaning No. 1 above (the literal championship courses, the ones that have hosted major championships), would you like to see a list of such courses? Here are multiple lists of courses used by various golf majors over the years:

- U.S. Open golf courses
- British Open golf courses
- PGA Championship golf courses
- US Senior Open golf courses
- U.S. Women's Open golf courses





GOLFS' NEW FRONTIER

by Paul Reeves

As land becomes more precious and populations become more dense the proliferation of apartment towers is becoming more evident throughout the cities of the world. Also evident is the loss of open space, fortunately many governments are regulating the developments and ensuring some open space is left. But what the developer does with the open space can sometimes be a quandary as open space does have a maintenance cost. Some developers are using this space to create small golf courses that are;

- Suitable open spaces
- Great recreation facilities
- Can have multi-uses
- Provide income
- Improve real estate value

One such example of the is the Blue Ridge Development in Pune, India.

The Blue Ridge Apartment project (Developer / Paranjape Schemes) at Hinjewadi has its 9 hole / Par 3 golf course and golf academy completed and it opened for play in March 2014. The golf course is surrounded by eight 30 level Apartment towers and sits on about 2 metres of rock rubble / fill excavated as a part of the Apartment towers.. The golf academy also acts as a function lawn which brings in enough income in its own right to pay for the golf course maintenance each year.

The Club has two restaurants, members facilities, sports shop, function rooms, gym, tennis and a day spa.

The Golf Course is what course architect, Pacific Coast Design, has termed a "Community Golf Course" which primarily means that at certain times (early morning & evening) the golf course is opened up for joggers, walkers or families just wishing to sit on the grass. The golf cart path around the layout also has bollard lighting (on non-golf side of path) for residents at night. The entire golf course is monitored by CCTV so as to ensure proper conduct during both golf and non-golf usage.

There are many advantages to this vertical lifestyle in that the common facilities like resident clubs, mutual sporting facilities and open space are often a positive catalyst to a community atmosphere which in turn creates a more secure environment for family living.

Often the new residential towers are centred around a regional shopping mall or commercial / Industrial district which provides the employment opportunities for nearby residents of all socio-economic levels.





It is always difficult when researching which apartment to purchase and area, floor level, infrastructure, amenities and outlook all play a part in that investment decision. Another stress is that the urban workforce is far more mobile now with many families needing to move within a city or even intercity for new job opportunities, gone are the days that had children living in the same house as their parents did and often working in the same job their entire career.

However apart from those factors already discussed, the major consideration when hunting for an apartment is always the investment size, how much do we pay and what issues affect our potential investment return if we sell.

Over the past two years some Developers have enticed buyers of apartments with a different sort of view which is also proving to be a smart investment return, once the view was only obtained by buying a villa on an exclusive estate but now..... apartments with a golf course.

Yes, the initial apartment price per square foot is usually more expensive but with such a view the golf fronting apartments are appreciating at a far greater rate than their non-view competitors of a similar standard (apartment size & amenities). The best returns are of course on those apartments that are bought early in the Developer's project release as these appreciate quickly once the actual golf course is built. This in turn means that like all other projects you may invest in, the reputation of the Developer is just as important, you have to know that they will build a good product (both apartment and golf), on time and with the other infrastructure and amenities that were promised.

Just because a Developer says they have a golf course, this does not guarantee quality or investment return, like all investments in life the buyer still has to do their homework to ensure (as much as possible) that their investment is secure.

With space being at a premium within residential apartment developments the golf course is usually a 9 hole or Par 3 golf course but the views are still golf and the courses are a great place for beginners to learn or the expert to hone their all important, short game skills.

The introduction of golf into an apartment project does raise issues of both safety and access. To address this Developers are urged to adopt Community Golf Management guidelines which address such issues and should be part of any package associated with purchase of an apartment.

The guidelines will allow community access to the golf zone at approved times and often the cart paths will have bollard lighting for night use, basically as long as the community respects the use of the golf zone and the rules of access, there is no reason that they cannot have such access safely for general exercise or pure enjoyment.

Traditional golfers who may feel that this will destroy the golf course but in today's urban / apartment golf courses there needs to be such involvement of the community. If the golf course is constructed properly and people stay out of bunkers, lakes and off the greens then there is little damage that can be done.

Such community (residents only) access to the golf is normally done early morning (for the walkers) and evening (for exercise and pure enjoyment) but there can also be times during the day when the golf is closed, again dependant on demand / situations.

Golfers will be paying green fees for playing of golf and such will contribute to the upkeep of the golf course that gives residents their wonderful view and enhanced investment return. Maintenance on a golf course is usually far more intense than any normal landscape, this level of presentation gives the community regular ongoing returns from the enhanced visual amenity, improved environmental benefits and protection of resale prices. It's a win, win scenario for all.



Paul Reeves – Honorary Secretary / Treasurer, Society of Australian Golf Course Architects and a Golf Course Architect, he is a Director of Pacific Coast Design and works throughout Asia and Australia.



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IS IT OK TO DRAW LINE ON GOLF BALL TO HELP WITH ALIGNMENT?

by Keri Moffat

THE PROS DO IT, SO CAN YOU
You've probably seen a professional golfer mark his or her ball on the green, lift the ball and spin it around to match a line s/he has drawn on the ball to the putting line.

This helps the golfer get the ball started on the correct line. It helps, in other words, with aim and alignment.

That's why some golfers draw a line around, or partially around, the golf ball. There are even gadgets sold for the express purpose of helping golfers draw straight lines around the circumference of the ball:

•Buy golf ball alignment marker on Amazon
Some golf balls are even manufactured with the company's name or other labeling on the ball written in such a way - sometimes with arrows on either side of the text - that a golfer can use that as an alignment aid.

In fact, before golfers started writing on golf balls themselves - something that became very common in the first decade of the 2000s - it was a common sight to see pros turning the golf ball on the green so that such text "pointed" down the putting line.

If you aren't already doing this, yet struggle with aim and alignment, give it a try.
It's a very simple way to improve your aim.

WHERE DO THE RULES SAY IT'S OK TO DRAW LINES ON GOLF BALL?
But where, specifically, in the rulebook do the governing bodies - the USGA and R&A - give the OK to this practice?

Start with the idea that writing on golf balls is not only OK, it's required under the rules: Rule 6-5 states that "(e)ach player should put an identification mark on his ball." There is no limit on what that ID mark should be.
It can be anything you want, but you are required to mark your golf ball to make sure you can ID it later.

Rule 12-2 reiterates that every "player should put an identification mark on his ball."

But in citing Rules 6-5 and 12-2, we're just toying with you. Fact is, in a Decision to Rule 20-3 - which covers placing and replacing the golf ball - the governing bodies specifically say that an alignment line drawn on the golf ball is OK. It's Decision 20-3a/2, and here is what it says:

20-3a/2 Using Line on Ball for Alignment
Q.May a player draw a line on his ball and, when replacing his ball, position the ball so that the line or the trademark on the ball is aimed to indicate the line of play?
A.Yes.
Yes. Doesn't get more direct or simple than that. (And note the Decision doesn't limit a golfer to doing so on just the putting green. Of course, opportunities to do so off the putting green are very limited, since you are not allowed, in the regular course of play, to lift the ball unless it is on the green.)

Just make sure that when you line up your ball's alignment line to your putting line that you follow proper procedure on the green.

Decision 18-2a/33 is titled, "Rotating Ball on Putting Green Without Marking Position." The question asked is, "A player rotates his ball on the putting green to line up the trademark with the hole.

He did not lift the ball, mark its position or change its position. Is there a penalty?"

The answer is yes, a 1-stroke penalty. But so long as you follow procedure - use a ballmarker before lifting or rotating your golf ball - there's no penalty.

So use that alignment edge the manufacturer's trademark on a golf ball gives you, or draw your own line around the golf ball. It's OK to do so, and it might even help your putting.





Do the Rules of Golf allow golfers to draw alignment aids - for example, a line or arrow - on the golf ball?

Yes: Drawing a line around your golf ball, then using that line to help you line up your putt, is perfectly OK under the Rules of Golf.



Keri Moffat, CPGA is the Director of Golf, GBC Golf Academy.



SA GAMES SUCCESS WAS ABOVE EVERYTHING

Babu Ahmed is one of the most respected golf mentors in the country. He has taught hundreds of amateurs and professionals, some of whom have gone on to earn international recognition. He has own simplistic method of teaching and he gives emphasis to details and asks his students for dedication. Siddikur Rahman is one of his favourite students who has gone on to earn international fame. Others like Zamal Hossain, Dulal Hossain and Shakhawat Sohel have also left a mark at the international stage. The veteran golf mentor, who sacrificed his own playing career for teaching, shares his golfing philosophy and his proud moments in an interview.



Q&A

Tell us how you came to golf and the overall golf scene at that time.

You can say I just walked into the game without knowing what it can offer. It was in the late '70s and during those days the game was only a pastime for foreigners here. I knew a caddie at the KGC and asked him to get me a job. So he got me the ball boy's job. In those days, mostly the foreigners used to play while there were a few caddies who also played. So I started practicing the game when I got time from my work. I improved fast and overtook the seniors soon. Then we started participating on the Indian tour.

How did you come to coaching the players?

There was an amateur tournament held here where Sri Lankan players played well. Mustafiz Sir, the then president of the federation and army chief, asked me how they played so well. I told him that those Sri Lankan players were not club members; rather they were all caddies or ball boys who formed their national team. Later under Major General Jibon Kanai Das's supervision, we formed a national team of 5-7 players which included Siddikur Rahman. Meanwhile, I was invited to an event in Mumbai where I watched Jeev Milkha Singh from close and followed his game. After coming home, I shared with the players how Jeev approached his game and prepared a routine for the players. I feel out of those players, Siddikur took the lessons most thoroughly and hence he made it to the top.

You started as a ball boy. You didn't turn a pro as a player, rather became a teaching pro. Why was that?

There weren't many teachers in those days. Ata master and Chan Mia were there. After them I was chosen for teaching and I was given salary by the club. So I felt quite satisfied with teaching.

What was the best moment of your teaching career?

In 2010, golf was included in the South Asian Games. The golf federation was desperate to win a gold medal at home soil. Major Anis sir asked me to prepare the team. There was a declaration that 5 lac taka will be awarded for each gold medal. We won the team event and the individual one too. Dulal won the gold, Jamal won the silver and Zakir won the bronze in the individual category. That same year, Siddikur won the Brunei Open. So it was the beginning of a good time for our golf and a happy time for me personally.

Do you think our golf has been able to capitalize on that success?

When I went to India first, during the late '80s, there were only a couple Indians playing on the Asian Tour. Now there are so many of them on the Asian and European Tour and they are winning so many titles. So it takes time to earn success. We have started late, and I think we will need some time to be successful internationally.

What should be done to take the game forward?

The support that the golf federation and golf clubs are giving is really appreciable. If this is continued, five years from now I think we will have more Siddikurs and more golfers like Sohel, Jamal, Dulal.

Everyone says you have a simple teaching method. Can you elaborate it for us?

I believe that if basic is not right, you won't be able to succeed as a professional. I have worked with foreign trainers and implemented the lessons on my students. I teach members in one way and I teach the national team players in another way because the club members are older while national team players are young and fresh. So I try to teach them from the beginners' level in detail.

Do you have any suggestion for the professional golfers?

I think they should follow the dedication and hard work of Siddikur Rahman. Siddikur doesn't waste time on other things; he is always busy with his game and tries to learn every day. Everyone should do that to be successful.

TheGolfHouse has been promoting golf and tourism for more than two years now. What is your impression about it?

I wish we had this magazine in 2010 because the 2010 SA Games success was above everything for amateur golf in our country and wish that success was covered more by the media. I hope the game will have more coverage and people will follow the game more.



THANKFUL TO MY FAMILY

Mohammad Russel, a 22-year-old amateur golfer from Comilla, has already made an impression at the local scene. The young golfer hopes that with continued support from his family and with a bit of help from sponsors, he can leave a mark in overseas events as well.



Q&A

Let's start with the question we ask every golfer. How did you get involved with golf?

I came to the Comilla Golf Club with Farhad in 2006. I was a ball boy initially. We were given two days' opportunity each week to practice while we were ball boys. A year later, a Banglalink tournament held where I finished 35th. Siddikur bhai won the title that time. He won three titles in a row in that season. I played alongside him and I was inspired watching him.

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How has your career developed since?

In 2012, General Monir sir gave scholarship to five of our golfers. I did well in the Bangladesh Games which encouraged Selim Akter sir to get me enrolled in R&A. Then I finished first in Faldo Series in 2015 and I went to China to participate in the global event of the Faldo Series. I did well there too. After returning home, I could not do very well. I played three amateur tournaments in KGC, in two of which I did very well.

What do you think is your best achievement so far?

The last time I went to Vietnam, I was the leader after Day 1. Golfers from 24 countries took part in that tournament. I ended at five-under. I learnt a lot from that event. In fact I have learnt a lot since I came to Dhaka.

What is your future plan?

My plan is to play well and play on the European Tour one day. I know it's easier said than done but I will work hard for this and will need the support too. I'm following a routine set by Morshed sir. I think I can do better with further trainings.

What have you learnt from your trips abroad?

The thing is that there is not much difference between the foreigners and us. We need to work hard and work on our basics. I follow teaching methods on the internet and try to put those to use.

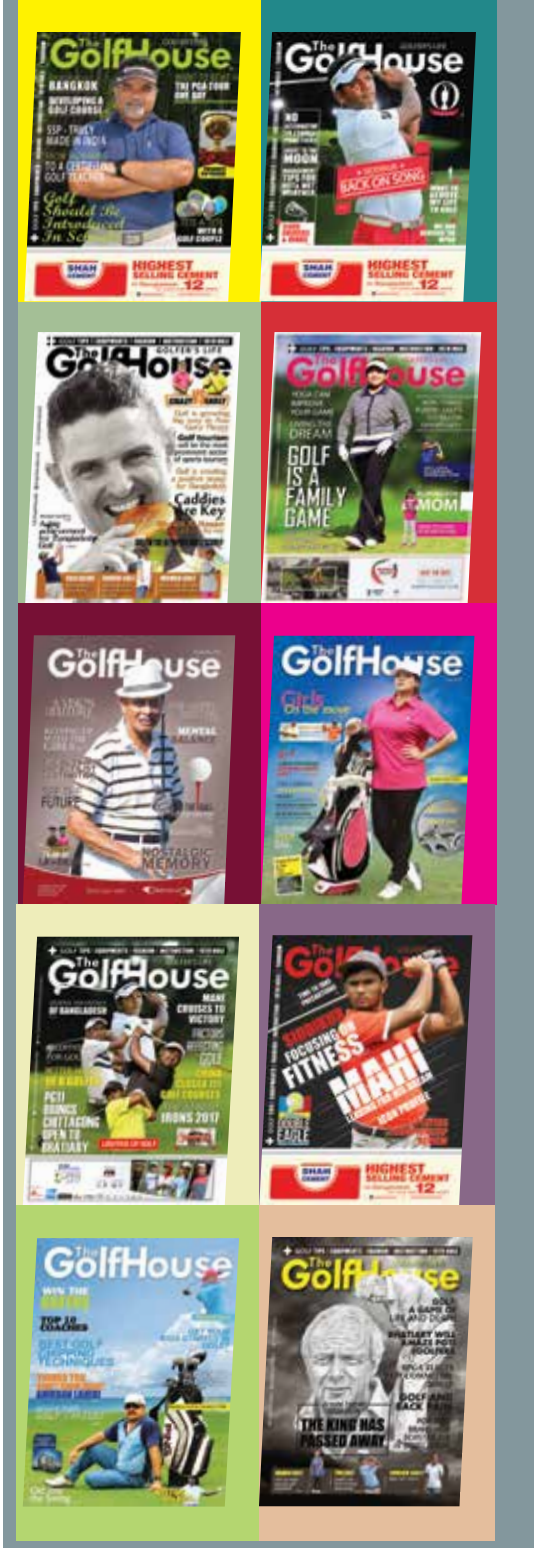
How was your performance last season and what is your plan for this season?

The last season went pretty well. I won the Runner Cup and won the hole-in-one trophy there. I did pretty well in Vietnam and in the Faldo Series. I'll be going to New Zealand with Akbar and I will try to give my best there. However, we need support to do well. We need more sponsorship.

Does your family support you?

Thankfully my family is very considerate and supportive of me. My parents tell me to continue playing golf and hence I can play without any stress.





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TRUST BANK DEFENSE SERVICES CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

Brig Gen Md Mohiuddin Siddique won the title of Trust Bank Defense Services Cup Golf Tournament 2017 which was held at Kurmitola Golf Club from 5-6 October 2017.

Col Abdul Hannan Sharif (retd) grabbed the senior event title and Fatema Matiur won the Ladies' event title.

The Quarter Master General of Bangladesh Army Lt. Gen. Anwar Hossain distributed prizes among the winners as the chief guest of the concluding ceremony. Besides the other participant members of the tournament, vice president of Kurmitola Golf Club Mej Gen Abdullahil Baquee, the adjutant general of Bangladesh Army and vice president of Trust Bank Mejor General S. M. Motiur Rahman, club captain Brigadier General Kazi Shamsul Islam, chairman of tournament committee Brig. Gen. Abidur Reza Khan (Retd), Club CEO Brig Gen Mohd Obaidul Haque (Retd), General Manager of golf operation Lt. Co. Md. Abdul Bari (Retd), and Managing Director and CEO of Trust Bank Mr. Ishtiaque Ahmed Chowdhury, high officials of the club with their families were present on the occasion.

TURKISH AIRLINES

TURKISH AIRLINES WORLD GOLF CUP

Turkish Airlines hosted the world's largest amateur golf competition in Bangladesh. The winner of the event will meet and play with some of the world's top golfers.



Turkish Airlines, Europe's Best Airline for six consecutive years according to the recent Skytrax Passenger Survey, presents the 5th edition of Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup, the famous amateur golf tournament around the world. The global amateur golf competition, where thousands of participants will compete at qualifying events in 100 destinations worldwide, is one of the several international sports organizations backed by Turkish Airlines, the airline that flies to more countries than any other.

The 89th of 100 qualifiers for the global event, which in the first year started with 12 events and 700 players has grown every year since the tournaments inception. Now in the fifth year of staging the Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup, last year boasted 8,000 players competing globally. Kurmitola Golf Club featured 108 players, all personally-invited guests of Turkish Airlines.

Brigadier General Mohammed Siddiqui Alam Sikder won the individual competition with 41 points and progresses to the Grand Final in Antalya, Turkey, this October and November. Major Md Almas Uddin was runner-up, Mrs Mahmuda Chowdhury was third and Mr M S Zaheedee won the nearest-the-pin prize. "We would like to offer our congratulations to everyone who made the Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup qualifier in Dhaka such a special day," said Murat Irdesel, General Manager for Turkish Airlines Dhaka. "It was a fantastic tournament day and well done to our winner, Brigadier General Sikder. They still have so much to play for in Antalya but everyone else will be looking forward to coming back again next year.

All finalists are to enjoy a seven-night stay at the five-star luxury Titanic Deluxe Belek hotel in Antalya, Turkey and will be flown there Business Class from their qualifying destination by Turkish Airlines. The overall winners of the two-round Grand Final at the Titanic Golf Club progress to play in the 2017 Turkish Airlines Open pro-am. The Financial Times, National Rent A Car and Conte of Florence are offering their substantial support to the hugely-anticipated tournament. Turkish Airlines, voted Europe's best airline for the sixth straight year by Skytrax in 2016, launched the World Golf Cup in 2013, featuring 12 qualifying events. After that initial success, there was a rapid expansion to include 100 events worldwide last year.













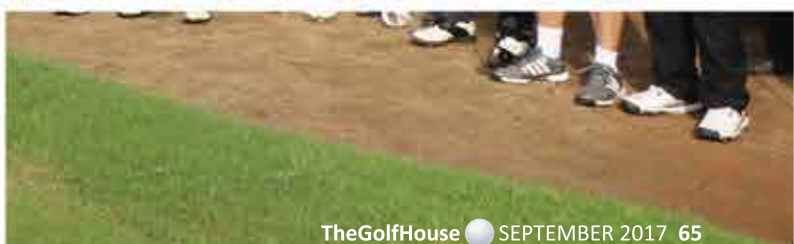







2nd Federation Cup Golf Championship Tournament 2017

The two-day Federation Cup Golf Championship 2017 concluded at Kumitola Golf Club on September 23-24, 2017 under the supervision of Bangladesh Golf Federation.

The Army Golf Club won the team title and Kurmitola Golf Club grabbed the Runner-up. Zahirul Islam of Savar Golf Club emerged individual champion in the men's group while Lt Col Humayan Rashid of Moinamoti Golf and Country Club won the runner-up title. Fatema Motiur of Army Golf Club emerged individual champion in the women's group while Mrs J S Yoon of Kurmitola Golf Club won the runner-up title.

In the junior group, Master Sadman Rahman of Army Golf Club became individual champion and Master Tousif of Jessore Golf and Country Club won the runner-up title.

Senior Vice President of Bangladesh Golf Federation (BGF) and Vice president of Kurmitola Golf club Major General AKM Abdullahil Baqee distributed the prizes among the winners as the chief guest of the closing ceremony.

Besides the other participants, the secretary general of Bangladesh Golf Federation Brig. General Kazi Shamsul Islam, tournament director Brig. Gen. Abidur Reza Khan (Retd), federation joint secretary and CEO of KGC Brig Gen Mohd Obaidul Haque (Retd), Co-ordinator of Bangladesh Golf Federation Lt. Co. Md. Abdul Bari (Retd) and other civil and military officials with their spouses attended the function.






Prize Distribution Ceremo


e Distribution Ceremo

















2ND ANWAR ISPAT-ANWAR CEMENT CAPTAIN CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017



The "2nd Anwar Ispat-Anwar Cement Captain Cup Golf Tournament 2017" ended through a colourful ceremony at Army Golf Club, Dhaka on 14th October, 2017.

A large number of contestants of different golf clubs from all over the country participated in the male, female, Veteran and junior groups.

Capt Mohammad Nazrul Islam (BN) won the winner title, Ahnaf Tajwar grabbed the runner up title, Dr. Tawfiq-E- Elahi Chowdhury won the veteran title, Shamim Ara Sadeque won the ladies' event title and Master Sazidul Islam won title in the junior category.



Col K Lenin Kamal (Retd) won senior event title, Brig Gen Md Ahsanul Huq Miah grabbed 01-12 Handicap event title and Maj Md Waliur Rahman (Retd) won the 13-24 Handicap event title. Other awards were distributed among

Maj SK Md Yousuf Reza (Retd) for title of 01-12 Handicap Runner Up, Brig Gen AAK Mahbub Hasan (Retd) for title of 13-24 Handicap Runner Up, Maj Gen Alauddin M A Wadud (Retd) for Senior Runner Up title, Lt Col Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury (Retd) for Veteran Runner Up title, Sarmim Jahangir Runner Up in the ladies category, Master Azrun Md Rafinullah for Junior Runner Up title, Nishat Bin Zia for Longest Drive title and Lt Col Md Shahabuddin Ferdous for winning the title of Nearest to Pin.





Major General Md Shamsul Haque, PSC, Director General of National Security Intelligence attended the ceremony as the chief guest and distributed awards among the winners. The ceremony was participated by a large number of golfers and high civil and military officials with their families.



Daffodil Captain Cup Golf Tournament 2017









The three-day Daffodil Captain Cup Golf Tournament concluded at Kurmitola Golf Club on October 12-14, 2017.

Major General Rezanur Rahman Khan won the title of the tournament, Brigadier General Mohammad Siddiqul Alam Sikder grabbed the Runner-up title and Mrs Shaheen Mahbuba Haque won the title of Ladies Winner.

Lieutenant General Chowdhury Hasan Sarwardy, Commandant, National Defence College distributed the prizes among the winners as the Chief Guest of the ceremony at the Banquet Hall of Kurmitola Golf Club. Major General A K M Abdullahil Baquee, Commandant, Defence Services Command & amp; Staff College and 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 Salahuddin Mohammad Reza (Retd), General Manager, Club Affairs, Kurmitola Golf Club and Dr. Md Sabur Khan, Chairman, Daffodil Family were also present.

A large numbers of participants, other members of the Daffodil Family and high civil and military officials with their spouses attended the function.









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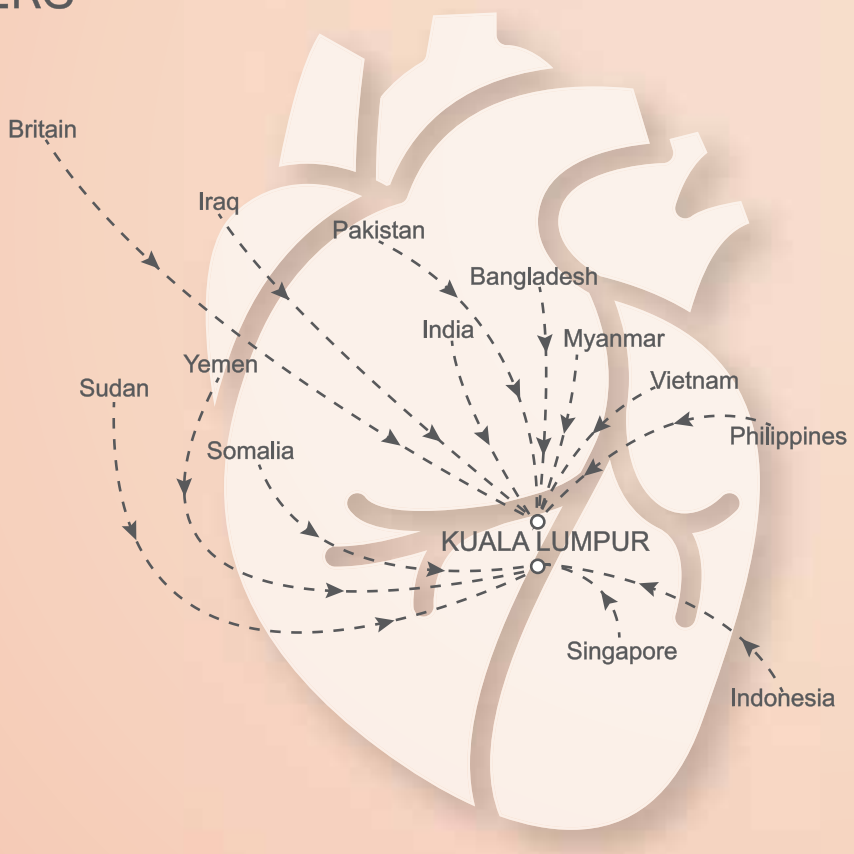

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FLAIR *Without* GLARE

Sunglasses are more than just a fashion accessory, particularly when it comes to golf. The golf-specific sunglasses featured in these pages are designed to not only protect your eyes from harmful UV rays but also improve your golf through features like specially designed golf lenses.



BOLLÉ BOLT

Featuring Bollé's Modulator V3 Golf lenses to provide clarity of vision, the Bolt's Photochromic lens adapts to different light conditions and the brown tint highlights golf course subtleties. Moisture is managed by a Hydrophobic treatment on the outside and Anti-fog treatment on the inside. While the variety of colours, including the Ryder Cup edition pictured, adjustable nosepiece and interchangeable lenses offer personalisation.



NIKE SHOW X2

Nike's Show X2 are designed for sport with outstanding comfort delivered through adjustable temples and a ventilated nose, for reduced fogging. Nike Max Optics interchangeable lenses deliver 100% UVA and UVB protection while providing minimal distortion across the curve of the lens as well as zero straight ahead and the golf-specifi c tint enhances contours for improved green reading.



BOLLÉ FLYAIR

New for 2017, the Flyair incorporates the same Bollé Modulator V3 Golf lens as the company's Bolt model, with B-Clear lens technology offering glass-like clarity and impact resistance. Thermogrip temple tips and nose pads help the medium fi t Flyair stay in place and provide all-day comfort to complement the impressively clear and protective lenses.

UNLEASH YOUR INNER ATHLETE:GOLFER OR NOT!

In the past, golf has been viewed as a relaxing way the "inactive population" spend a day. It's the perfect sport with little athletic ability needed and no grueling off and pre-season training. There are now over 28 million people, almost 20% of our population playing golf yearly. Golfers are everywhere and wearing everything! Times are definitely changing! If we take a look back at the body types of many professional golfers in history. Fitness was NOT a focus…and, at the time, really didn't seem to be needed.

Now as we look at what is happening to the bodies of the pros, we see more athletic builds and weight loss throughout the entire tour. From senior players to the younger generations alike, no matter what age, aesthetics may not entirely be the focus, but function and fitness definitely are! If you want to play better golf today, you practice by swinging the club a bunch of times and whacking a lot of balls. If you want to continue to play better golf tomorrow and years down the road, then it's time to get on the cutting edge of the fitness movement. Get out of your comfort zone and put the extra effort in to fine tune your body.

The Power of Decision

Making a decision to improve oneself by working out more, eating better, or perfecting that golf game may seem easy, but it is a decision many people have a hard time executing past the third week of January. It's easy to want change, but it is difficult to follow through with what is necessary to achieve it. Being dissatisfied with oneself requires a deep level of critical reflection. The depth of your dissatisfaction will equal the depth of your desire and decision to commit yourself to change.

When you know exactly what you want to become, small daily decisions become clearer and easier. If your goal is to lose weight, it's easier to choose what to eat, what to do with your time, and when to take supplements. If you want to be a better golfer, you will focus on hitting the gym, the range, and the course more often and purposefully. It is not enough to just KNOW. Information is power ONLY when it's ACTED upon.

The Importance of Goal Setting

You've heard about "setting goals" a thousand times, but what you don't often hear is why it's so important. Having focus towards a long-term goal is vital when you make day-to-day decisions that ultimately lead up to that defining end-point. When life gets stressful, many people are quick to indulge in short-term comforts such as drinking, smoking and/or overeating. By not creating a sustainable goal, you are not preparing for a difficult mental and physical journey ahead. Robbins states, "It's all the small decisions along the way that cause people to fail. It's failure to follow up. It's failure to take action. It's failure to persist. Conversely, success is the result of making small decisions: deciding to hold yourself to a higher standard, deciding to contribute, deciding to feed your mind rather than allowing the environment to control you."

What is your Belief System?

We've all heard the saying, "You are what you eat," but there is also another saying that is equally true. "You become what you think"is powerful in determining our successes and failures. So what are you telling yourself? Are you saying, you're fat, lazy, tired or stressed? Are you telling yourself that you will never amount to anything or will never complete a real fitness goal? How about, "I will never be as good a golfer as so and so"? Many people already believe they are going to "fail" a program before they even begin. So what usually happens to these negative beliefs? They usually come true.

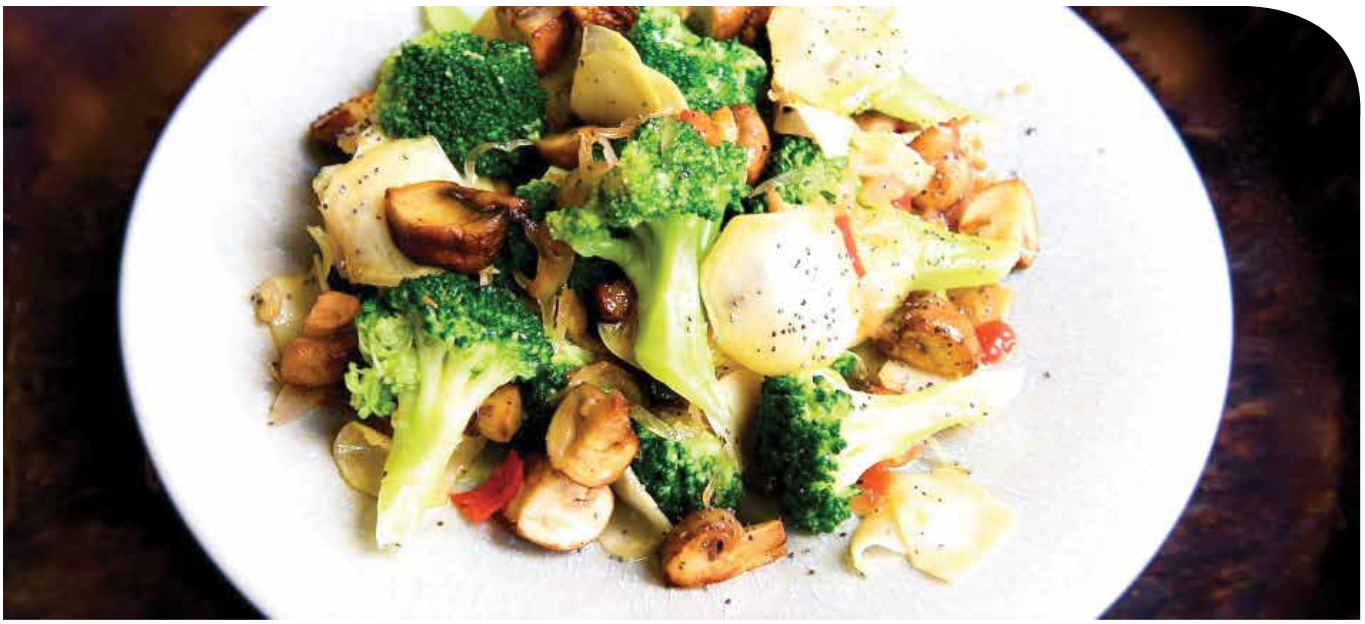
It is difficult to envision future success when you focus on past and present failures. You become limited by what you find possible and comfortable. If you want to be someone you've never been, then you must do things you've never done! We all have an athlete within us ready to transform our body into a strong, fit, and healthy machine. We all have the ability to strive beyond mediocrity and become a person of greatness.

"If you want to continue to play better golf tomorrow and years down the road, then it's time to get on the cutting edge of the fitness movement. Get out of your comfort zone and put the extra effort in to fine tune your body".



FIERY BROCCOLI AND CHESTNUT MUSHROOM SALAD

by Dula Afreen



I acknowledge that ingredients such as fresh chillies and root ginger are now an integral part of our everyday lives. They are definitely not native to Britain, but finding them at this very busy farmers' market in a secluded spot in the heart of Suffolk, brought it home to me that on a daily basis we embrace the ingredients and cooking styles of many other cultures from all over the world. By doing this and by combining the 'traditional' with the more 'contemporary', we end up with a wide range of spectacular, individual and rather wonderful dishes.

As I source local organic mushrooms and broccoli, I need to use as much of each vegetable as possible, because part of our ethos is to limit the amount of food waste that we generate. Hence, in recipes such as this one, we use nearly the entire head of broccoli – florets, stalks and all.

Broccoli stalks are in fact delicious and they certainly add an extra dimension to this dish. The best part is that you end up with nearly a quarter more in volume, than if you had only used the florets – a bonus in my eyes.

INGREDIENTS & METHOD

1 head of broccoli (about 300g total weight)
2 tablespoons olive oil
3 shallots, sliced
1 large fresh mild red chilli, deseeded and cut into julienne (matchstick) strips
2 tablespoons caster sugar
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
finely grated zest and juice of 1 lemon
15 fresh chestnut mushrooms, quartered
sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper
poppy seeds, to garnish

Remove the broccoli florets from the stalk and cut them all to the same size. Cook the florets in a saucepan of boiling salted water for 4 –5 minutes or until tender. Drain, refresh in iced water, then drain again and set aside.

Peel off the outer layer from the broccoli stalk, then use a mandolin to finely slice the stalk into wafer-thin discs. Set aside.

Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large, non-stick frying pan over a high heat and sauté the shallots for about 5 minutes or until golden. Add the chilli, then reduce the heat and sauté for a further 3 minutes. Add the sugar, white wine vinegar and lemon zest and stir to dissolve the sugar, then bring to the boil. Once the mixture starts to boil, remove the pan from the heat, add the broccoli stalk discs, stir and then transfer to a bowl. Set aside to cool and infuse.

To cook the mushrooms, wipe the frying pan clean, then heat the remaining oil in the same frying pan over a high heat, add the mushroom quarters and salt and pepper and sauté for about 8 minutes or until golden brown. Stir in the lemon juice.

Mix the sautéed mushrooms, broccoli florets and pickled broccoli stalk discs together. Arrange the salad in your chosen bowl or on individual serving plates and garnish with a sprinkling of poppy seeds. The salad is now ready to be served slightly warm, or it can be cooled and chilled before serving, if you like.

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BMW M5 GOES ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE

by Shaer Reaz



BMW re-defined the idea of what a performance sedan could be with each subsequent generation of the M5 super-saloon since it was introduced in 1985. That first attempt, based on a modified BMW 535i chassis and worked on by the now world famous skunkworks at M-division, got an altered version of the engine that powered BMW's iconic M1 racecar, and made it the fastest four door sedan in the world. With each generation, the M5 got bigger, more powerful, and signified the Bavarian auto-makers penchant for modernity and forward thinking by being absolutely ahead of the curve. That's exactly the case with the latest generation of the M5.

Modernity does not usually sit well with enthusiasts, which brings about the problem of appealing to that segment through technological innovation and forward thinking for brands like BMW. This has happened before – the E39 M5, produced from 1998 to 2002, was a highly rewarding performance car with all the traditional features that make a good drivers car included, such as a "proper" manual gearbox, relative simplicity of design and ease of use; when the time came to replace it with the E60, BMW went all out with an aggressive new age design, high-tech gearbox and an oversized engine. That's what BMW thought would be the performance sedan of the future, and indeed it was because the rest of the automotive industry soon switched to their formula of in-your-face styling and hyper-quick gearboxes as opposed to traditional manual ones. The E60 was vilified by enthusiasts and the automotive world alike for its Chris Bangle penned design, most calling it the "ugliest" M car of all time – fast forward a decade and nearly every large sedan from every major manufacturer has traces of the E60's residual design elements in them. It helped that the E60 was super quick, but with time, it won over the automotive enthusiasts who would now recognise it as one of the best M cars ever for the impact it had. Following the E60, the F10 generation M5 pared back the aggressiveness and became a car that literally did whatever you asked of it in a quiet, dignified manner that comes with being confident in your ability to deliver.

The F90, the latest, has moved away from the traditional M5 domain of rear-wheel-drive performance into the realm of all-wheel-drive traction, which some enthusiasts would seek in much…-lesser cars like the Subaru Impreza and Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution, which are no less in performance but do have a slight



unrefined smudge on their image. However, BMW's reasoning is this – considering the drivetrain technology of today is advanced enough to warrant a shift to AWD for better grip and traction with more scope of spirited driving by switching off the power delivery to the front wheels and converting the M5 to RWD on the fly, the move was certainly warranted. The fact that there is a behemoth of a motor up-front just adds to the package.

The 4.4 litre M TwinPower Turbo V8 is an advanced version of the S63 motor from the previous generation F10 M5. 600 HP and 553 lb-ft of torque make this generation the most powerful M5 ever, naturally. Quoted figures for acceleration from 0 to 60 MPH is just 3.4 seconds, an astounding fact that belies the extra weight added that may have been added onto the car thanks to its AWD drivetrain. In fact, forge the notion of extra weight – the F90 is actually 40 KG lighter than the outgoing F10 M5. Top speed is limited to 155 MPH or 250 km/h, although removing the limiter enables this super-sedan to go all the way to 190 MPH or 305 km/h. The eight-speed automatic may not involve the driver as much as the sublime six-speed manual transmission fitted to the E39 M5, but it's likely going to be the smoothest and fastest gearbox in the BMW range.

It's quite the looker too – some say the outgoing F10 series was a little too muted in M5 form, barely distinguishable from the basic 5-series. That simply is not the case with the F90, because it seems to have developed muscles in all the right places. It's handsome, poised and ready for action even when at a standstill, so there is no doubt the F90 will be a hit with even the people who purchase cars to look good in it.

Overall, the first impressions of the F90 M5 is fantastic. It promises ballistic, poised performance with the option of partaking in the same kind of hooliganism that made its previous generations famous, it looks good, is highly well-equipped and has all the makings of a future classic. BMW has done it again.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Shaer Reaz started writing for The Daily Star newspaper as a freelance contributor at the age of 18. He joined the paper as a sub-editor and has since become the in-charge of Bangladesh's first weekly automotive publication, Shift, printed every Wednesday with The Daily Star's business page. A graduate of Economics from the University of Dhaka, Shaer loves everything to do with cars, gaming and technology.

10 BREATHTAKING DESTINATIONS

Sri Lanka

Head to Sri Lanaka, one of the top ten travel destinations for foodies, this season. Our fall is when Sri Lanka is at its best, and it's also when some of the country's biggest cultural highlights are. "Witness the Esala Perahera festival in Kandy, the most spectacular festival in Sri Lanka and one of the most colorful religious pageants in Asia," says Dominique Callimanopulos, founder and president of Elevate Destinations. Surf camps and other activities in Sri Lanka also have about a 30 percent discount during the off-season, which can be found on their websites, says Kristen Slizgi, founder of The Luxury Travelist, a travel consulting company.





Paris

Tourist destinations like Paris won't be as crowded during shoulder season, which means less time spent waiting in line, says Rachel Swanson, a certified travel associate with Travel Leaders, a network of travel agencies. She still recommends booking tours and other tourist-y activities in advance, like dinner at the Eiffel Tower. Brush up on these must-know French phrases before your trip.

Greece

The country of islands makes for a fantastic shoulder season trip because the temperatures stay in the 70s through October and in the 60s in November, says food- and beverage-focused communications agency YC Media, which works the Greece National Tourism Organization.





Take a cruise and see it all

Why limit yourself to just one country when you can hop around a bunch? "There are many benefits to cruising during shoulder season. Some of the best reasons to travel after Labor Day are price reductions and incentives, not to mention many of the summer promotions are extended to the shoulder season, which can include drink packages, free Wi-Fi, shipboard credit and more," says LynnDee King, a cruise consultant for Cruise Specialists. "Aside from cost, you'll beat the crowds, as most kids are back to school and family vacations are over. Not to mention, this in turn means it will be easier to get to attractions, restaurants and events in popular ports of call." Find out all the insider tips you need to have the best cruise ever.

Eastern Europe

Countries like Poland and the Czech Republic make for great budget travel destinations, especially with the current exchange rates, says Swanson. Likewise, hotels tend to be cheaper in eastern European countries. Want to stay local? Here's are small American towns you'd swear were from Europe.





Tokyo

In a city of 9.2 million people, large crowds can make sightseeing a bit difficult. By choosing to travel during shoulder season, the city will be more accessible to tourists. "The weather is much cooler and there are fewer tourists, so it's not as crowded at the more popular sites and destinations," says Karl Peterson, air product manager for STA Travel. "Foliage season trumps the cherry blossom one with maple and ginkgo trees turning bright red and yellow, turning every city parks and gardens into a symphony of colors," adds Callimanopulos. Want to stay stateside? Here are the 11 best road trips where you'll see stunning fall foliage.

Nantucket, Massachusetts

Outside of the summer season, Nantucket loses the crowds but none of its appeal. "Fall weather is a little more quiet but the restaurants are still open," says Slizgi. Plus, you don't have to book your car ferry months in advance. Learn more about our favorite islands in the U.S.





Rome

Rome is an easy city to reach on a budget, especially when you're traveling from another European country. Known for its beautiful ruins and excellent pizza, Rome will still be warm enough to walk around but won't be swarming with tourists. Travelers should ask their travel agent to ask about off-season deals or inquire with the tour agency itself, says Slizgi. Commit these 12 Italian phrases to memory before your trip.

Cambodia and Laos

For travelers who want to feel like they're on a different planet, Slizgi, suggests traveling to these southeast Asian countries. The cost of living is so low, she says, that a four-star hotel might only warrant $50 a night. She also advises against booking everything in advance. "I always advise people to book one or two things in the beginning, but leave room to meet people and to get advice from people and go with the flow," she says.





New Zealand

While traveling to the Southern Hemisphere, travelers should remember that the seasons are flipped. However, shoulder season, entering the fall, is also flipped; travelers in New Zealand will be on the shoulder of spring. It's one of the 16 most incredible beauty destinations in the world and a great place to be immersed in nature. While the flight is long, the views are worth it.

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