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**MONTHLY**

# GOLFPLUS

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**No.1 Golf Magazine  
in India**



## FEATURE

**RORY EARNED HIS  
27TH CAREER PGA  
TOUR VICTORY**

**learn  
THE SWING FROM**

- TOMMY FLEETWOOD
- DUSTIN JOHNSON
- DANNY WILLETT

**INTERVIEW**  
**WITH MALAYSIA  
AIRLINES**  
... ..  
**SEAMLESS SKIES  
AND PERFECT  
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**W**elcome to the March issue of GolfPlus Monthly, where we bring you the latest insights, destinations, and innovations in the world of golf. From expert tips to exclusive interviews, our latest issue is packed with everything you need to elevate your game—both on and off the course.

The destination of the month is Malaysia as we explore the growing appeal of Malaysia as a premier golfing destination.

It is a heaven for golf enthusiasts, offering stunning courses set against breath-taking landscapes, from the beaches of Langkawi to the highlands of Genting. Beyond its world-class fairways, the country's vibrant culture, warm hospitality, and exceptional cuisine make it a destination that blends sport and leisure seamlessly.

We take a closer look at how Malaysia Airlines is playing a pivotal role in making golf and other sports travel more accessible and enjoyable.

With its commitment to Malaysian Hospitality, seamless connectivity, and tailored services like MHsports and Bonus Side Trip, the airline is elevating the experience for golfers traveling to and within Malaysia. Whether you're planning a dedicated golf getaway or looking to combine sport with exploration, Malaysia Airlines is ensuring every journey is as memorable as the game itself.

Malaysia as a destination offers great elements of enjoyment, Championship Golf courses, Pan Asian Cuisine, pristine beaches, sensational shopping, exciting eco adventures and terrific theme parks add to this seamless connectivity and it is a destination waiting to be explored.

Happy reading and happy golfing!

Editor-in-Chief  
editor@golfplusmonthly.com



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**Vol.-XVIII, Issue - 3**

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# GOLF WITH THE WIND — IN THAILAND —



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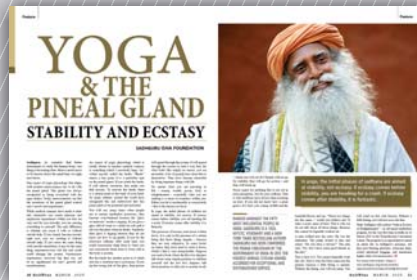
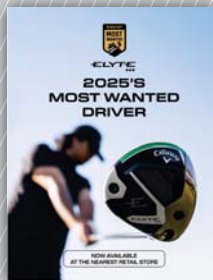
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March 2025

This month don't miss...



## Feature

### 18 GARY WOODLAND NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE PGA TOUR COURAGE AWARD

The PGA TOUR announced that four-time PGA TOUR winner and 2019 U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland has been named the recipient of the PGA TOUR Courage Award.

The PGA TOUR Courage Award is presented to a person who, through courage and perseverance, has overcome extraordinary adversity, such as personal tragedy or debilitating injury or illness, to make a significant and meaningful contribution to the game of golf.

### 26 KRUYSWIJK TRIUMPHS AT MAGICAL KENYA OPEN

Jacques Kruyswijk claimed his maiden DP World Tour title after an impressive display of frontrunning to win the 2025 Magical Kenya Open by two shots. He became the second South African winner of this event since it became part of the DP World Tour's Global Schedule.

### 28 BRYAN NEWMAN WINS AFRICA AMATEUR ON HOME SOIL

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England's Cara Gainer secured her first Ladies European Tour (LET) victory after defeating India's Diksha Dagar in a playoff at Lalla Meryem Cup in Morocco.

Going into the final day, only a two-shot

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### 46 ARWEFJÄLL LEADS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR STANDINGS

Sweden's Kajsa Arwefjäll sits atop the 2025 Rookie of the Year standings after the first two Ladies European Tour (LET) events of the season.

The Swede graduated from the LET Access Series at the end of 2024 winning both the Order of Merit and Rookie of the Year titles. Arwefjäll, who made her professional debut on the LET in Sweden in June last year, teed it up in the first event in Morocco.

## Masterclass Instruction

### 20 HOW TO DRIVE THE BALL LIKE WYNDHAM CLARK

American Wyndham Clark is one of the best drivers of the golf ball where he ranked 18th for Strokes Gained: Off the Tee in the 2024 season. The three-time PGA TOUR winner has strong fundamentals in the way he sets himself up on the tee box, which was evident when he won the 2023 U.S. Open. Todd Anderson breaks down the key elements in his golf swing.

### 37 TOMMY FLEETWOOD'S 5 KEY SWING SECRETS

Over the past few seasons, he's put in a lot of hours on the practice range to iron out the areas that, in the past, have made him fight hard to get the club square and on the right plane coming into the ball. When he was a kid, he used to have a bit of a loopy, draw that could easily get out of control.

Take a look at the moves he focuses on to maximise his power and accuracy.

## PGTI

### 56 SHUBHAM NARAIN TRIUMPHS ON THIRD PLAYOFF HOLE

Delhi's Shubham Narain put behind his disappointments of the past few seasons by registering victory on the third playoff hole against Panchkula-based amateur Anant Singh Ahlawat at the Final Qualifying Stage of the TATA Steel PGTI Qualifying School 2025 played at the Golmuri Golf Course in Jamshedpur. Twenty-seven-year-old Shubham emerged Q School champion with a par on the 13th hole.

### 58 YUVRAJ SANDHU DOMINATES FINAL ROUND AT GUJARAT OPEN 2025

Chandigarh's Yuvraj Sandhu made it back-to-back titles as he registered impressive five-shot win after dominating the final round with a score of seven-under 65, the day's best, at the INR 1 crore Glade One presents Gujarat Open Golf Championship 2025 played at the Glade One Golf Resort & Club in Ahmedabad.

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# Hole-in-One Achiever THIS MONTH



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# YOGA & THE PINEAL GLAND

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## STABILITY AND ECSTASY

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SADHGURU ISHA FOUNDATION

**Sadhguru:** As scientists find better instruments to study the human brain, one thing is becoming clear: there is much more to be known about the mind than we right now know.

One aspect of yogic physiology that aligns with modern neurosciences has to do with the pineal gland. This gland was always recognized as being associated with the agna chakra. Today, neuroscientists say that the secretions of the pineal gland control one's moods and experiences.

While medical sciences have made it clear that chemicals can create pleasant and unpleasant experiences within you that are very real for you. Actually, you are causing everything to yourself. The only difference is whether you cause it with or without outside help. If you simply become ecstatic right now, you are creating it without outside help. If you cause the same thing with outside stimulation, it may be the same thing experience-wise, but the end result could damage the system. Unconscious experiences, however big they are, are of no significance for one's growth and transformation.

An aspect of yogic physiology which is totally absent in modern medical sciences is something which I constantly keep "on" within myself, called the bindu. "Bindu" means a tiny point. It is a particular spot on the pineal gland. If you touch the bindu, it will release secretions that make you feel ecstatic. To activate the bindu, there is a certain point at the back of your head. So many cultures around the world have recognized this and understood that this point needs to be protected and activated.

You will see, many times when people are in certain meditative processes, they become overwhelmed because the "glass of ambrosia" inside is tipping. If you give a glass full of water to a child, he will spill it all over the place when he drinks. Similarly, their glass is tipping because they do not know yet how to sip gently. If you do the necessary sadhana, after some time, you could consciously drink from it. Once you can consciously drink from it, every cell in the body is ecstatic.

But the bindu has another point to it which also has a secretion but is poisonous. If you tip the wrong side of the glass, then poison

will spread through the system. It will spread through the system in such a way that, for what looks like simply no reason, you are miserable. A lot of people have done that to themselves. They have become miserable by doing improper things with life.

No matter what you are pursuing in life - money, wealth, power, God, or enlightenment - essentially what you are seeking is a sense of sweetness within you. Either you hit it accidentally or consciously - that is the choice you have.

In yoga, the initial phases of sadhana are aimed at stability, not ecstasy. If ecstasy comes before stability, you are heading for a crash. If ecstasy comes after stability, it is fantastic.

The processes of ecstasy were never written down. It is only in the presence of a certain being that those things happen - because they are very subjective. In some books on tantra, they have tried to write it down, which I feel is very irresponsible. Suppose you read a book where the first two chapters talk about some simple practices to stabilize yourself and the last five chapters talk about practices to take you to ecstatic levels



– which one will you do? People will not go for stability, they will go for ecstasy - and they will break up.

Never aspire for anything that is not yet in your perception. Just do your sadhana. That is why traditions have always been insisting on trust. If you did not know how a plant grows, if I show you a lump of filth and the

**In yoga, the initial phases of sadhana are aimed at stability, not ecstasy. If ecstasy comes before stability, you are heading for a crash. If ecstasy comes after stability, it is fantastic.**


**RANKED AMONGST THE FIFTY MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN INDIA, SADHGURU IS A YOGI, MYSTIC, VISIONARY AND A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR. SADHGURU HAS BEEN CONFERRED THE PADMA VIBHUSHAN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN 2017, THE HIGHEST ANNUAL CIVILIAN AWARD, ACCORDED FOR EXCEPTIONAL AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE.**

beautiful flower and say, “These two things are the same...” would you believe me? It takes a crazy sense of trust. That is why we do not talk about all those things. Because this cannot be logically worked out.

A man walked into the court. He was the defendant. The judge looked at him and asked, “Do you have a lawyer?” The man said, “No, but I have some good friends in the jury.”

This is how it is. You cannot logically work this out. That is why the Guru came into the picture, because a little fixing is needed. Without the fixing, you will not jump. You

will stand on this side forever. Without a little fixing, you will not cross the line.

**Note:** Sadhguru will conduct “Soak in Ecstasy of Enlightenment” - an advanced meditation program, for the very first time in Delhi on 16 March 2025 at the Yashobhoomi Convention Center. The program is an opportunity to spend an entire day in Sadhguru’s presence, ask him your burning questions, overcome deep-rooted emotional baggage, and experience higher states of consciousness. 

For more information: <https://isha.sadhguru.org/in/en/events/special-events/ecstasy-of-enlightenment>



The Indian Golf Union

The governing body for Golf in India

## LADIES AMATEUR MERIT LIST- FEBRUARY 2025

S.No.	Player	State	Total	Best 8
1	Mannat Brar	Chandigarh	323	323
2	Zara Anand	Uttar Pradesh	267	267
3	Heena Kang	Haryana	261	261
4	Kashika MISRa	Odisha	265	260
5	Saanvi Somu	Karnataka	273	258
6	Anvvi Dhayla	Haryana	261	257
7	Kaya Daluwatte	Sri Lanka	218	218
8	Anuradha Chaudhari	Maharashtra	218	217
9	Kena Badugu	Delhi	195	192
10	Guntas Sandhu	Chandigarh	191	191



Mannat Brar



Zara Anand

## IGU TELANGANA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP - 2025

Hyderabad Golf Association

Scores After Round 4, Friday, 28th Feb 2025

S.No.	State	Players	1	2	3	4	Total
			70	70	70	70	280
1	Karnataka	Veer Ganpathy	70	63	72	65	270
2	Delhi	Ranveer Mitroo	69	64	71	68	272
3	Uttar Pradesh	Kanav Chauhan	70	69	70	66	275
4	Delhi	Deepak Yadav	70	70	70	67	277
5	Karnataka	Varun Muthappa	67	69	71	71	278
6	Haryana	Gulfam Husain	72	70	69	69	280
7	Punjab	Ranvir Singh Pandher	71	70	71	68	280
8	Karnataka	Sumit Kotwal	73	67	72	69	281
9	Haryana	Rohan Singh Rana	68	70	69	75	282
10	Haryana	Karan Mahto	75	70	68	69	282
11	Telangana	Puthuru Raj Kumar	69	72	70	72	283
12	Maharashtra	Jaash Parekh	70	72	74	67	283
13	Haryana	Mirajul Ali	69	72	71	72	284
14	Uttar Pradesh	Arin Ahuja	71	69	71	74	285
15	Telangana	Mohit Balasubramaniam	74	73	71	67	285
16	Chandigarh	Vivek Kumar	72	69	70	75	286
17	Punjab	Danish Verma	68	75	74	69	286
18	Karnataka	Jaiveer	75	68	69	75	287
19	West Bengal	Sandeep Yadav	71	70	75	71	287
20	Chandigarh	Ayaan Gupta	75	70	73	69	287



Veer Ganpathy



Ranveer Mitroo



Kanav Chauhan

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# WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

The Indian Golf Union (IGU) is the Governing Body for Golf in India recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports as the National Sports Federation for Golf.

Collaboration, partnerships and interdependence are keys to progress at every level. Our vision of "Grow, Sustain and Excel" will help realise our objectives of creating world class facility and to explore new possibilities for promoting the game in India. Our Past initiatives and development programmes have been very well received and has produced players and officials who have performed exceedingly well at both national and international levels.

Furthermore, our New initiatives are aimed at transforming the game of golf in our country. We will work closely with Golf Clubs Golf across the country to ensure that India becomes a leading golf nation in the world by providing all the information, infrastructure and technology support for betterment of golf.

The IGU is globally affiliated to the R&A and recognizes it as the Governing Body for Golf and is also a member of the Asia Pacific Golf Confederation (APGC).

## Inspiring Track Record

The IGU is the owner of the Indian Open, since 1964 (now sanctioned by the European Tour) along with Indian Classic and Indian Masters. Peter Thomson and Jyoti Randhwa are each 3 time winners of the Honda Indian Open. Anirban Lahiri, an IGU protegee was winner of the Indian Open in 2015 Two IGU products S. Chikkarangappa and Shiv Kapur are performing creditably in the domestic and international tours.



## PRODUCTIVE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CONTINUOUS PROGRESS



We conduct The Faldo Series (2017-18) and have Initiated the program National Initiative for Golf in Schools (NIGS) and the program is currently conducted across the country.

The Junior Golf programme is organised with support to Clubs in the form of Coaches and equipment.



The Level 1 and Level 2 Rules School in collaboration with the R&A has been an ongoing activity for the past 7 years.



Level 2 Referee School at Hyderabad

Tournament Directors and Rules Instructors are trained and certified accordingly.



Junior Program at CIAL Cochin

There are over 250 Golf Rules Officials in the Country certified by the IGU and the R&A.

A specialized Rules Programs for Caddies in the Local language is also conducted. Certificates are issued co-signed by the R&A. This training programme and certification for caddies guarantees employment under the Government of Indias-Hunar Se Rozgar Scheme.

We have produced a Technical Handbook - "All you wanted to know about setting up a Golf Course and running a tournament but were afraid to ask" - Now a Reference Guide in 40 countries of the APGC



Along with the USGA, IGU conducts the Course Rating Program periodically. There are over 50 Course Raters in India who Course and Slope rate all our Clubs.

IGU provides the National handicapping Service with the USGA's GHIN, an essential tool going forward!



We select teams to represent India at all International events. We maintain a Merit list of the top performers (your Clubs top amateurs could be one of them). We organize such players into National Squads (by established Policy) and have special training camps for them.



Indian team at Eisenhower Cup



Indian team at Nomura Cup



National Squad Camp

## WHAT CAN THE IGU DO FOR YOU?

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## FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

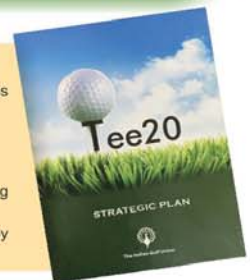
It is important to acknowledge that Clubs and golfers are at the heart of all of these initiatives at every level. We also appreciate that these initiatives require a collaborative network of people and support, to maximise their success.

Initiatives that are to be focused are on:

**Schools and Community, Clubs, Government support for land, Golf Partnerships, Coaching and Developing Talent.**

Ultimately, mobilizing the golf community and supporting activities that are focused on achieving our key outcomes will result in more people playing more often (in better quality environments) and realising their potential.

IGU is chanelising all its resources and has authored a Vision Document "TEE 20" to ensure that India becomes a leading golf nation in the world by providing more opportunities for participants to start, stay and succeed in the game.



THE IGU AND YOU CAN GROW THE GAME TOGETHER, BECOME A MEMBER NOW. LOG IN AND SIGN UP

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# 'WHERE GOLF MEETS LUXURY: MALAYSIA AIRLINES' PREMIUM TRAVEL FOR GOLFERS'

In an exclusive Q&A with GolfPlus Monthly, **Mr. Dersenish Aresandiran, Chief Commercial Officer of Airlines at Malaysia Aviation Group**, shares insights into how Malaysia Airlines, the national carrier of Malaysia, is enhancing travel experiences for golf enthusiasts. With its extensive global network, award-winning Malaysian Hospitality, and tailored programs like MHsports and Bonus Side Trip, the airline ensures seamless connectivity to world-class golfing destinations. Whether traveling for leisure or competition, Malaysia Airlines is committed to delivering convenience, comfort, and a premium travel experience.



Malaysia Airlines prides itself on delivering a seamless travel experience for its guests.



**GP: For golf enthusiasts looking to explore golfing destinations, how does Malaysia Airlines ensure a convenient and tailored travel experience?**

**DA:** Malaysia Airlines prides itself on delivering a seamless travel experience for its guests. With our extensive global network, we connect travellers to prime golfing destinations across Asia and beyond. Additionally, our commitment to Malaysian Hospitality ensures every passenger enjoys personalized service, comfort, and flexibility. From ample baggage allowances to curated holiday packages, we ensure a hassle-free journey tailored to the needs of our passengers.

**GP: Could you elaborate on how Malaysia Airlines' MHsports addresses the unique needs of sports travelers?**

**DA:** Our MHsports program is specifically

**OUR MHSports PROGRAM IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO CATER TO ATHLETES AND SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS. GOLFERS TRAVELLING WITH MALAYSIA AIRLINES CAN BENEFIT FROM SPECIAL RATES, ADDITIONAL BAGGAGE ALLOWANCES FOR THEIR EQUIPMENT, AND FLEXIBLE BOOKING OPTIONS.**

designed to cater to athletes and sports enthusiasts. Golfers travelling with Malaysia Airlines can benefit from special rates, additional baggage allowances for their equipment, and flexible booking options. Whether travelling solo or as part

of a team, MHsports ensures that logistics are taken care of allowing sports travelers to focus solely on their performance. This commitment positions Malaysia Airlines as the ideal choice not just for golf enthusiasts but the sports community as a whole.

**GP: How can the Bonus Side Trip program benefit golf enthusiasts looking to combine a golfing holiday with exploring Malaysia?**

**DA:** The Bonus Side Trip program allows passengers to enjoy a complimentary stopover at one of seven domestic destinations in Peninsular Malaysia. For golf enthusiasts, this is an incredible opportunity to play at world-class golf courses in multiple Malaysian cities, such as Langkawi, Kota Kinabalu, or Johor Bahru, while also enjoying Malaysia's cultural richness and scenic beauty; perfectly blending sports and leisure travel. Additionally, with Malaysia Airlines'



**Malaysia Airlines** positions itself as a premium gateway to Malaysia's top tourism and golfing destinations, including Langkawi, Penang, and Kota Kinabalu.

introduction of the new A330neo on routes like Melbourne-renowned for its exceptional golf courses-and extensive connections to Australia, another paradise for golfers, the program opens endless possibilities for an unforgettable golfing holiday.

**GP: What aspects of 'Malaysian Hospitality' can a golf enthusiast expect when flying with Malaysia Airlines, whether for business or leisure?**

**DA:** At Malaysia Airlines, 'Malaysian Hospitality' is at the heart of every journey. From the moment you book your flight to your arrival, you'll experience

**AT MALAYSIA AIRLINES, 'MALAYSIAN HOSPITALITY' IS AT THE HEART OF EVERY JOURNEY. FROM THE MOMENT YOU BOOK YOUR FLIGHT TO YOUR ARRIVAL, YOU'LL EXPERIENCE WARM, PERSONALIZED SERVICE DESIGNED TO MAKE YOUR TRAVEL SEAMLESS AND ENJOYABLE.**

warm, personalized service designed to make your travel seamless and enjoyable. Whether you require assistance transporting your equipment, savoring premium in-flight dining, or accessing our award-winning lounges, we aim to make your travel as enjoyable as the game itself. Our focus on comfort, care, and

seamless experiences ensures refreshed and ready for what lies ahead.

**GP: How is Malaysia Airlines leveraging its services to promote the country as a golf tourism hub?**

**DA:** Malaysia Airlines positions itself as a premium gateway to Malaysia's top tourism and golfing destinations, including Langkawi, Penang, and Kota Kinabalu. As a full-service airline, it offers seamless connectivity and world-class hospitality, enabling travelers to explore the nation's unique blend of sport, culture, and breathtaking landscapes.

Through curated travel packages, programs like Bonus Side Trip, and tailored group solutions, the airline caters to diverse traveler needs. Whether for golf teams, clubs, or families, Malaysia Airlines ensures a hassle-free, memorable journey, reaffirming its role as a leader in premium travel experiences. **GP**





## PEAKE RECORDS INSPIRATIONAL LIFECHANGING VICTORY IN NEW ZEALAND OPEN

Ryan Peake triumphed in the New Zealand Open to complete a remarkable Hollywood-style comeback story.

The Australian lefthander dramatically holed a 10-foot par putt on the par-three 18th to edge it by one and avoid a play-off with three Asian Tour regulars: his compatriot Jack Thompson, Japan's Kazuki Higa, and South African Ian Snyman.

Ten years ago, at the age of 21, he was jailed for five years for assault. He was a member of the Rebels bike gang, having earlier been a promising amateur golfer. It was while he was in prison that renowned coach Ritchie Smith reached out and asked him whether he wanted to play competitive golf again. It was an offer he wisely accepted. His criminal record gave him visa issues entering New Zealand this week, and he only arrived on Tuesday evening.

He becomes the first lefthander to win New Zealand's National Open since Sir Bob Charles in 1973, and he earned a place in this year's Open Championship at Royal Portrush, as the event is part of the Open Qualifying Series.

Remarkably, he went bogey-free for his final 55



Ryan Peake  
Image courtesy: Steve McArthur

holes, having dropped his only two shots of the week on the eighth and 15th in the first round.

He was paired in the final group with Koh, who was three shots clear by the eighth. However, Peake made birdies on nine and 12 to join Koh in a tie for the lead. The

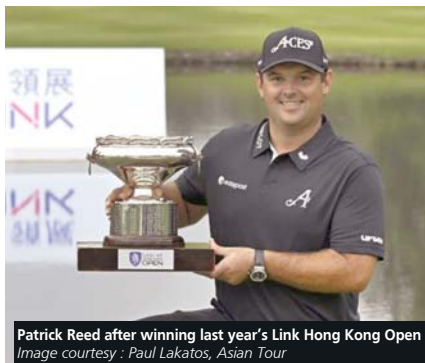
Korean then crashed out of contention with three bogeys in-a-row from the 13th hole, while soon after Peake shared top spot with Thompson, Snyman and Higa with two holes to play before the lefthander held his nerve to lift the Brodie Breeze Trophy. **GP**

## LIV GOLF STARS GARCIA AND REED TO RETURN FOR MACAU

Major champions Sergio Garcia and Patrick Reed are the latest big names confirmed for the International Series Macau presented by Wynn - which will take place at Macau Golf and Country Club, from March 20-23.

Both competed in the inaugural edition of the event last year, when The International Series event made its debut.

Spaniard Garcia is captain of the Fireballs GC team on the LIV Golf League and will be joined by his teammates Mexican Abraham Ancer, the LIV Golf Hong Kong 2024 champion, Spaniard David Puig, who lost in a play-off to American John Catlin in the Macau event



Patrick Reed after winning last year's Link Hong Kong Open  
Image courtesy: Paul Lakatos, Asian Tour



last year, and another Spaniard Luis Masaveu, a close-season signing for the team. All four Fireballs GC players have shown good form already this season, securing the team title at the recent LIV Golf Adelaide by an emphatic six strokes last Sunday.

Garcia tied for 21st last year in Macau while Reed finished fourth and even played with Catlin in the third round when he shot his 59

– the first ever sub-60 on the Asian Tour. Later in the year Reed fired a 59 en-route to winning the Link Hong Kong Open - so it will be a popular return to the Greater Bay Area for the 2018 Masters champion.

Catlin and Puig have confirmed they will return to Macau as will Hong Kong native Taichi Kho, the 2023 World City Championship winner. **GP**

## On the PGA Tour

# GARY WOODLAND NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE PGA TOUR COURAGE AWARD

➔ The PGA TOUR announced that four-time PGA TOUR winner and 2019 U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland has been named the recipient of the PGA TOUR Courage Award. After experiencing health struggles for much of the 2023 season, Woodland, 40, underwent surgery in September 2023 to remove a brain lesion and continues to manage symptoms as he competes full-time on the PGA TOUR.

The PGA TOUR Courage Award is presented to a person who, through courage and perseverance, has overcome extraordinary adversity, such as personal tragedy or debilitating injury or illness, to make a significant and meaningful contribution to the game of golf. Woodland is the seventh recipient of the PGA TOUR Courage Award, which was established in 2012, joining Erik Compton (2013), Jarrod Lyle (2015), Gene Sauers (2017), Morgan Hoffmann (2020), D.J. Gregory (2022) and Chris Kirk (2023).

Woodland was surprised with the PGA TOUR Courage Award during an exclusive interview with Michael Strahan that aired earlier this morning on ABC's "Good Morning America," and formally received the award during a presentation today at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches.

The Courage Award includes a contribution of \$25,000 from the TOUR to a charity of the award recipient's choice. Woodland has designated Champion Charities, an organization dedicated to research and patient



Images Credit : Getty Images

**THE COURAGE AWARD INCLUDES A CONTRIBUTION OF \$25,000 FROM THE TOUR TO A CHARITY OF THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S CHOICE.**

support in the following areas: brain tumor, brain disease and brain trauma. Woodland and his wife, Gabby, will match the donation, with a total of \$50,000 going to Champion Charities.

Woodland returned to competition in January

2024 at the Sony Open in Hawaii. He recorded three top-25s in 26 starts during the 2024 PGA TOUR Season, highlighted by a T9 at the Shriners Children's Open, his first top-10 since his initial diagnosis. Woodland continues to manage physical, emotional and mental symptoms as he strives to return to top form. Currently No. 73 in the FedExCup, he is on his final season of eligibility from his 2019 U.S. Open victory and will need to win or finish top 100 in the final FedExCup Fall standings to secure full status for the 2026 PGA TOUR Season. [GP](#)

# BRIAN CAMPBELL CASHES IN ON BIG BREAK, WINS MEXICO OPEN FOR FIRST PGA TOUR TITLE

➔ Brian Campbell cashed in on a huge break Sunday when his tee shot in a playoff bounced out of the trees and back into play, leading to a birdie on the second extra hole to win the Mexico Open at VidantaWorld over Aldrich Potgieter.

Campbell, who closed with a 1-under 70 at Vidanta Vallarta, won for the first time since he turned pro a decade ago and the timing could not have been better.

The victory sends him to the Masters, THE PLAYERS Championship and the PGA Championship, along with five of the \$20 million Signature Events left on the PGA TOUR schedule.

"To be in this position is just so unreal," the 31-year-old Campbell said after calmly holing a birdie putt just inside 4 feet on the 18th green for the win. "I can't believe it, really."

Campbell said it was grit that helped him win, and that goes back further than Sunday. He played his college golf at Illinois and was the low amateur in the 2015 U.S. Open at Chambers Bay. He earned a PGA TOUR card in 2017 and missed the cut 13 times in 20 starts. One of those was the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, where he received a penalty for slow play in a peculiar ruling because it also involved his partner, Miguel Carballo.

And then it was back to the minor leagues for the next seven years until



he was runner-up three times and finished No. 8 on the Korn Ferry Tour to get another crack at the PGA TOUR.

The victory gives him a two-year exemption through 2027 and a busy March and April with the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, THE PLAYERS Championship, the Masters and the RBC Heritage all on his schedule. [GP](#)

## THOMAS DETRY CONQUERS MIND ON WAY TO FIRST PGA TOUR WIN AT WM PHOENIX OPEN

Thomas Detry knew his talent was enough to win on the PGA TOUR, and his peers knew it too. “Freakishly talented,” said Justin Thomas, who first met Detry at the 2010 Junior Ryder Cup.

Detry earned his first PGA TOUR title at the WM Phoenix Open, closing with four straight birdies at TPC Scottsdale for a 24-under total, seven strokes clear of Michael Kim and Daniel Berger. Detry began the final round with a five-stroke lead and extended it to six on the front nine; Berger pulled within three strokes midway through the final nine, but Detry answered the bell with four consecutive closing birdies at one of golf’s most raucous events. With his first professional victory since the Challenge Tour’s 2016 Bridgestone Challenge, Detry became the first Belgian to win on the PGA TOUR.

It was all made possible through internal improvements. Detry has a tendency for forward-thinking, creating mental pictures in his head of what could be, which runs counter to the TOUR-speak ideal of sticking to the process in every moment.

Detry’s work paid off Sunday, notably on the par-5 13th hole, where he three-putted for par as his playing partner Berger made birdie to pull within three. A previous version of



**DETRY’S WORK PAID OFF SUNDAY, NOTABLY ON THE PAR-5 13TH HOLE, WHERE HE THREE-PUTTED FOR PAR AS HIS PLAYING PARTNER BERGER MADE BIRDIE TO PULL WITHIN THREE.**

Detry might have become flustered and let the adversity throw him off his routine. The WM

Phoenix Open, where fans might shout any number of things at any given moment, offers the ultimate test for a TOUR pro’s mental game. Detry answered the bell.

Detry’s golf story is far from finished, but in many ways, his first TOUR title is the culmination of a decade-plus stateside golf journey. He came from Belgium to attend the University of Illinois, and now he’s Belgium’s first PGA TOUR winner. **GP**

Images Credit : Getty Images

## LUDVIG ÅBERG IS CALIFORNIA COOL AT THE GENESIS INVITATIONAL

The Genesis Invitational was always going to be about California Rises, the initiative to help rebuild fire-stricken Los Angeles. It’s a two-hour trek north to the tournament’s usual home, The Riviera Country Club. Farther north is Stanford, alma mater of tournament host Tiger Woods, who won 11 times in college, tied for most all-time.

And California really was rising.

Patrick Rodgers (71, T3), also a Stanford alum with 11 wins there, seized the 54-hole lead.

Maverick McNealy (yep, also 11 wins, tied with Woods and Rodgers in the Stanford record books), was the clubhouse leader at 11-under after shooting a final-round 64 at Torrey Pines.

Åberg, who loves Torrey Pines and California, but whose bid to win here three weeks ago was derailed by illness, birdied holes 13-15 and two-putted the par-5 18th hole from 74 feet to shoot a final-round 66 and edge McNealy by one.

“I feel like this is my last day on the West Coast for quite some time, so I think In-N-Out



(Burger) would be appropriate,” Åberg said of his likely celebratory meal.

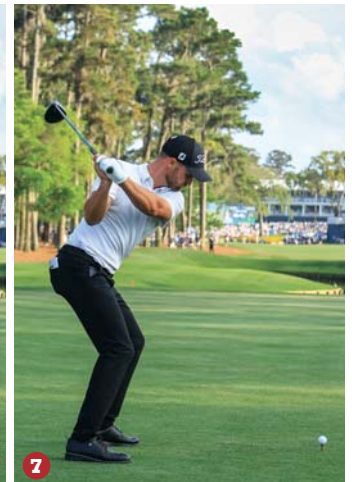
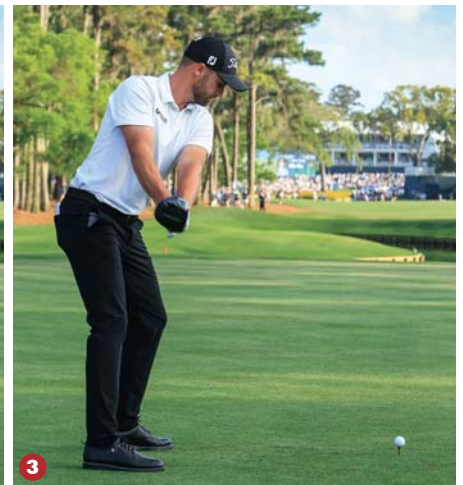
Spoken like a true native. Indeed, there is something very California about the Åberg swagger and vibe. He plays fast, looks like he doesn’t have a care in the world, and at Torrey

Pines was cool until the very end, rolling in a nearly 7-foot birdie putt for the winning margin on 18. “He doesn’t get rattled by much,” Skovron said. “He just keeps going.” That kind of poise is hard to explain, but at least we now know what to call it: California cool. **GP**



## TODD ANDERSON INSTRUCTIONAL

# HOW TO DRIVE THE BALL LIKE MAJOR CHAMPION WYNDHAM CLARK



### INTRODUCTION

American Wyndham Clark is one of the best drivers of the golf ball where he ranked 18th for Strokes Gained: Off the Tee in the 2024 season. The three-time PGA TOUR winner has strong fundamentals in the way he sets himself up on the tee box, which was evident when he won the 2023 U.S. Open. Let's break down the key elements in his golf swing.

#### Photo 1

Wyndham has a balanced square set up where

his spine angle is symmetrical to the angle from his hips to knees, and with his arms hanging slightly outside the shoulders with a low hand position.

#### Photo 2

His low hands at address help promote a connected takeaway with the club head staying outside his hands.

#### Photo 3

You will notice here that the club head swings in line with the hands and is parallel to the

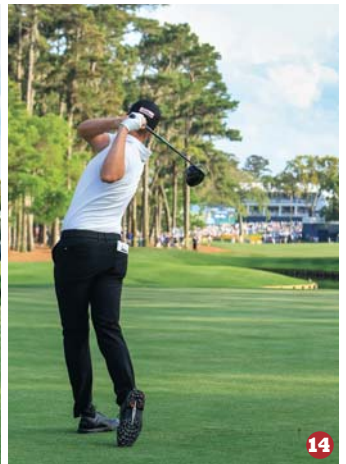
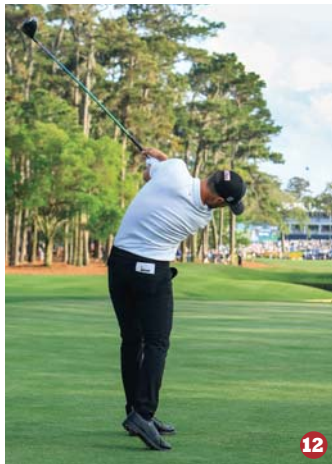
body lines when the shaft is parallel to the ground.

#### Photo 4

Hands stay in front of his chest as the left arm starts rotating over the right to get the club head behind the hands. You'll notice he has a 'quiet' lower body with a lot of knee flex.

#### Photo 5

Left arm swings across the chest bisecting the plane of the shoulders while his right elbow stays down and close to the body. Square club



face illustrated by a flat left wrist and the club face parallel to his left forearm.

### Photo 6

He is in a great position here with a full windup of upper body and minimal hip rotation. The knee flex increases throughout the backswing to increase downward pressure into the ground.

### Photo 7

Here, his lower body squats down as arms and club lower to maintain an angle between the left arm and club shaft. Hands and shaft continue to bisect his right shoulder as the club swings down.

### Photo 8

Club shaft is in a beautiful position on top of the right forearm, storing the arm/wrist angles to set up for a powerful release of angular momentum.

### Photo 9

You'll notice that his feet/legs are using the ground to push up as the lower body is unwinding. Right forearm points at the ball with the right arm inside the left which creates a shallow inside out delivery path.

### Photo 10

His hips are more open than upper body at impact with the right arm and shoulder down and behind the strike at impact. (Slight toe strike illustrated by the face deflecting open after impact).

### Photo 11

Club head continues accelerating on an arc back to the inside and realigns with hands on the forward swing. He maintains his spine angle as lower and upper body continue to rotate.

### Photo 12

Wyndham keeps his head down and maintains his spine angle well after impact. Shaft bisects

shoulder plane illustrating a full release of the club and right side.

### Photo 13

His arms are extended as hands and club rotate around the body to complete his swing.

### Photo 14

Momentum of swing folds arms carrying hands behind his head into a full finish with right shoulder pointed towards the target.

Spend some time analysing these positions and it could well result in your drives being more consistent from off the tee like Wyndham Clark. [GP](#)

*Todd Anderson is the Director of Instruction at the PGA TOUR Performance Center at TPC Sawgrass, home of THE PLAYERS Championship. The 2010 National PGA Teacher of the Year has seen his students amass more than 50 victories across the PGA TOUR and Korn Ferry Tour, including two FedExCup titles. He is currently rated by Golf Digest as one of the top 20 golf instructors in the United States. In this tutorial, Anderson breaks down the golf swing of Charlie Woods, son of 82-time PGA TOUR winner Tiger Woods, and focuses on four key fundamentals.*





# THE PLAYERS IS SIMPLY CRAFTED FOR A CHAMPION

by Jim McCabe



Scottie Scheffler

➔ Against a backdrop of weekly golf competitions which share labels of similar fare - they are Tournaments or Championships or Invationals or Classics or Opens - only one stands out with distinction because of the first words in its title.

THE PLAYERS.

It caps, all respect.

“It’s our championship,” said Jordan Spieth.

“To me, THE PLAYERS is THE PLAYERS. Everyone knows it is such a huge event; everybody knows it’s a major,” said Justin Thomas. “Every person in this field would be

very, very content with holding the trophy at the end of the week.”

Added Jason Day: “It has that feel and it’s got a lot of history behind it.” Were you to focus on “that feel” with THE PLAYERS, it would revolve around a trio of elements. One, it is played on the same stage each March, THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach.

Two, it features the best field in golf. And three, the uniqueness of the Pete Dye-designed golf course - “It’s a very simple formula here,” said Tiger Woods. “Hit it good.” - doesn’t favour

big hitters over medium hitters, nor does it take the driver of your hand, though errant shots are seriously penalized.

As for the “history” behind THE PLAYERS, consider this nugget: After a string of players who adhered to the fairways-and-green mantra - Tim Clark, K.J. Choi, and Matt Kuchar in 2010-11-12, respectively - seven of the last 11 winners of THE PLAYERS Championships have at one time or another sat atop the Official World Golf Ranking.

We’re talking Tiger Woods, Martin Kaymer, Day, Rory McIlroy, Justin Thomas, and Scottie



Jordan Spieth



Adam Scott, Min Woo Lee and Jason Day



Scheffler (back-to-back the last two seasons), each of them in possession a set of golf skills that enabled them to not only stand clear of every other competitor at THE PLAYERS but also across 12 months.

Digest that for moment. It will help you understand why THE PLAYERS is promoted as being “Crafted for a Champion” and how it is the “Gold Standard” at the PGA TOUR level. Only



**Digest that for moment. It will help you understand why THE PLAYERS is promoted as being “Crafted for a Champion” and how it is the “Gold Standard” at the PGA TOUR level.**



K.J. Choi

the elite of the elite qualify, so it's no wonder why the list of winners reads like a Who's Who of professional golf - Scheffler, Scheffler, Thomas, and McIlroy in four of the last five years; and a stretch from 1990 to 2004 where the winners included the likes of Davis Love III (twice), Woods, Steve Elkington (twice), Lee Janzen, Fred Couples, Justin Leonard, David Duval, Hal Sutton, and Nick Price.

And trust them, those who will be arriving for THE PLAYERS Championship this year (March 13-16) agree on what runs deep within their competitive spirit.

“I just think that it's special to us as being members of the PGA TOUR because it's our tournament. It's our premier event,” said Scheffler. “This is the home of the PGA TOUR and so for us, I think it's a special place to come back year after year (where) we get to play this golf course and compete with the best players in the world and the best players on the TOUR.”

The trophy which will be presented to the winner is a solid gold trophy of a golfer at the top of his swing on his follow-through. Should you think you see the likeness of a former PLAYERS Champion in the trophy, it's for good reason.

Tiffany & Co. used a process called “electroforming” which is both fascinating and a testament to the PGA TOUR's respect of a rollcall of winners. Through 2018, the year the trophy was created, there had been 38 winners of THE PLAYERS Championship so through computer modeling Tiffany designers incorporated aspects of each of those champions - from Jack Nicklaus (in 1973) to Webb Simpson (2018).

That the first “Gold Man” trophy went to McIlroy after his 16-under 272 total that held off Jim Furyk in 2019 is rather fitting because the Northern Irishman had said earlier in the week that his career would not be considered



complete without a win in THE PLAYERS.

That Thomas (2021) and Scheffler (2023-24) have also taken home a “Gold Man” statue since then is more proof that the best rise to the occasion when THE PLAYERS Stadium Course provides the stage.

Ah, yes, the stage. THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass first hosted THE PLAYERS in 1983 and the love for this watery and beguiling Pete Dye design has resonated more passionately as the years have gone by.

“I’ve always loved this golf course,” said Australia’s Adam Scott, who won in 2004. “I think it’s an amazing tournament venue.”

Though it stretches to more than 7,300 yards, THE PLAYERS Stadium Course does not demand that you rip it forever off the tee or rely only upon your power game. Rather, one must plod his way along fairways that twist and turn and avoid diabolical bunkers that are placed strategically throughout.

Even the most esteemed ball-striker in history, Woods, struggled at first to understand the nuances of this golf course.

“The golf course is one that Pete has set up to intimidate you visually. You have to overcome that part of it,” said Woods, who first played in THE PLAYERS in 1997 but didn’t win until his fifth start, in 2001. “I think we all have to accept that you’re going to hit good shots (but) get weird hops and some really, really funky lies.” Woods, who did win a U.S. Amateur at this



Justin Thomas

Images Credit : Getty Images



**We’re talking Tiger Woods, Martin Kaymer, Day, Rory McIlroy, Justin Thomas, and Scottie Scheffler (back-to-back the last two seasons), each of them in possession a set of golf skills.**

course, has had stances in and around bunkers that have challenged his creativity but he said those who have mentally prepared themselves for such obstacles are the ones who have played nicely here.

And being mentally prepared emphatically means having the ability to compose one’s

self when you step up to the tee at the island-green 17th. Arguably the most publicized par 3 in the world, No. 17 would be considered an easy shot for any elite professional, a 9-iron or wedge at approximately 137 yards.

“Sometimes when you’re standing there in the practice round, you’re like, ‘How could people ever miss this green?’” said Scheffler. “Then you get up there and you start standing over your shot and you’re like, ‘Man, the wind’s blowing off the right’ and (suddenly you realize) it’s a lot harder in competition than it is in practice.”

So, yeah, the 17th can be daunting, a gut-check of a shot that you know has ruined many a dream at THE PLAYERS. But guess what? Scheffler, who could become the first to win THE PLAYERS three straight times, would rather be nowhere else in March. “It’s always really special,” he said. “You grew up watching this golf tournament and to be here playing it is always a special treat.”

The No. 1 player in the world will have that opportunity again in March, but he’ll have plenty of company as just about every top 100 player will also be in attendance. A gold standard, to be sure.



Scottie Scheffler



Rory McIlroy



CRAFTED FOR A CHAMPION



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## KRUYSWIJK TRIUMPHS AT MAGICAL KENYA OPEN



“It’s special. I’m a little bit lost for words but this is for my family back home, my friends, my team and this is for South Africa.” said Jacques Kruyswijk after he claimed his maiden DP World Tour title after an impressive display of frontrunning to win the 2025 Magical Kenya Open presented by absa by two shots.

Kruyswijk did not put a foot wrong in the final round as he carded four birdies in a sublime 67 to finish two shots clear of Englishman John Parry and reach 18 under par, complete a bogey-free weekend and become the second South African winner of this event since it became part of the DP World Tour’s Global Schedule.

The 32-year-old started the day with a one-stroke lead but trailed halfway leader Parry after five holes of Sunday’s fourth round, with the Englishman making back-to-back birdies at the fourth and fifth to hit the front.

But Kruyswijk soon hit back, rolling in lengthy birdie putts on the sixth and seventh to lead by one at the turn.

A fine bunker shot on the tenth helped Kruyswijk get up and down for a birdie to move two shots clear but Parry birdied the 12th to cut the gap once more and remain within striking distance.

However, Kruyswijk looked comfortable leading from the front as he continued to



Jacques Kruyswijk  
Photo credit : Getty Images

give himself birdie chances and confidently knocking in par putts.

After Parry’s wayward tee-shot on the 14th saw him drop further behind, Kruyswijk never looked like giving up his lead, holing from range for another birdie on the 16th to stretch his advantage to three before paring his way home to enter the winner’s circle for the first time on the DP World Tour.

Parry finished in solo second on 16 under, continuing an impressive start to the season that has seen him record a victory and two

second-place finishes in three visits to Africa so far this campaign.

Deon Germishuys was three shots further back in third, one ahead of fellow South African Jayden Schaper in fourth, while Italy’s Gregorio de Leo and Englishman Jamie Rutherford, who came agonisingly close to a closing albatross, shared fifth place on 11 under.

Kruyswijk had to hang in there in the early stages of his round, producing a magnificent par save from ten feet on the third to keep hold of his one-shot lead. **GP**

## LI CLAIMS COMMERCIAL BANK QATAR MASTERS TITLE



Li Haotong claimed his fourth DP World Tour title as he birdied the final hole to win the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters by one stroke.

The Chinese carded a three under par closing round of 69 at Doha Golf Club to sign for a 16 under par total, one shot ahead of last year’s HotelPlanner Tour Number One Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen.

The 29-year-old started the day with a two-stroke lead, which he doubled with birdies on the first two holes. He then cancelled out bogeys on the eighth and 11th holes with gains on the ninth and 12th, but Neergaard-Petersen had made his move and was six under par through 15 holes.

The Dane, who represented Continental Europe at the Team Cup last month, took the outright lead after his seventh gain of the day at the 16th as Li bogeyed the 15th hole. Momentum swung immediately back in Li’s favour, however, as Neergaard-Petersen’s par putt on the 17th stayed above ground and Li birdied the short par four 16th after driving the green to move ahead on 15 under par.

Neergaard-Petersen birdied the last to sit in the



Li Haotong  
Photo credit : Getty Images

clubhouse on 15 under after recording the lowest round of the day, a seven under par 65, but Li made up and down from a greenside bunker on the 18th, holing his birdie putt from 15 feet for a 16 under par total and his first victory since the 2022 BMW International Open.

Brandon Robinson Thompson recorded his best DP World Tour result as he finished third on 13 under par and 2021 Commercial Bank Qatar Masters champion Antoine Rozner carded a four under par final round of 68 to finish fourth. **GP**

## ROSE, HOMA AND AN CONFIRMED FOR GENESIS SCOTTISH OPEN



Global stars Justin Rose, Max Homa and Byeong Hun An are set to join defending champion Robert MacIntyre at the 2025 Genesis Scottish Open.

Major winner and former Scottish Open champion Rose, US Ryder Cup Star Homa - who counts the 2021 Genesis Invitational amongst his six PGA TOUR victories - and the latest Genesis Championship winner An will tee it up as part of a world-class field at Renaissance Club from July 9-13.

Rose, who claimed the U.S. Open in 2013 and the Olympic Gold Medal in 2016, is aiming for a second victory in Scotland's national open, following his two-shot win at Royal Aberdeen in 2014.

The four-time Ryder Cup winner said: "I have great memories of my win in 2014 – not least the reception from the Scottish fans – and the Genesis Scottish Open is an event that I always look forward to."

Homa is set for a fourth consecutive Genesis Scottish Open appearance and is aiming to add a second DP World Tour title after triumphing in the Nedbank Golf Challenge in November 2023.

The 2023 Ryder Cup star said: "The Genesis Scottish Open is an event that I always circle



on the calendar. It's always a fun experience and it would be cool to add another Genesis trophy to my collection."

An sealed his second DP World Tour title with an emotional victory on home soil in October, when he defeated fellow home favourite Tom Kim in a play-off at the Genesis Championship in Korea.

The two-time Presidents Cup star ended a nine-year wait for further DP World Tour

success with that memorable victory in front of friends and family in Incheon, and will head to North Berwick aiming to better his tied third place Genesis Scottish Open finish in 2023.

An said: "It was incredible to get the win at the Genesis Championship to round out a great 2024, and I can't wait to get back to Scotland and see what we can do at Renaissance Club this summer."

## HOME FAVOURITE DYLAN NAIDOO WINS PLAY-OFF TO SECURE MAIDEN WIN



Dylan Naidoo claimed his maiden DP World Tour title with a dramatic play-off victory on home soil at the Investec South African Open Championship after the tournament was reduced to 54 holes on Sunday. The fourth round was first suspended and then cancelled due to a flooded course at Durban Country Club, and with Englishman Laurie Canter and South African Naidoo locked together at the top of the leaderboard on 14 under par after three rounds, a play-off was required to decide the winner.

The pair returned to the 18th at 15.00 local time, with Naidoo's birdie at the first extra hole enough to see him enter the DP World Tour winner's circle for the first time.

There was little to separate the two challengers after their tee-shots, with both men coming up just short of the green.

But 27-year-old Naidoo seized the initiative as he chipped to around four feet with his second shot to set up a good birdie chance.

Canter, meanwhile, could only send his second shot to 15 feet, and after he missed his birdie try, Naidoo made no mistake with his to spark jubilant scenes around the green as the fans celebrated a sixth successive home victory at this historic event on the DP World Tour.

Naidoo's victory earns him a spot at The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush, with Marco Penge and Darren Fichardt also qualifying.

After his thrilling victory, Naidoo said "This is a special moment for me, it's a special moment for everybody here in Durban - it's overwhelming."



## GIA RAAD WINS AFRICA AMATEUR WOMEN'S INVITATIONAL AT LEOPARD CREEK

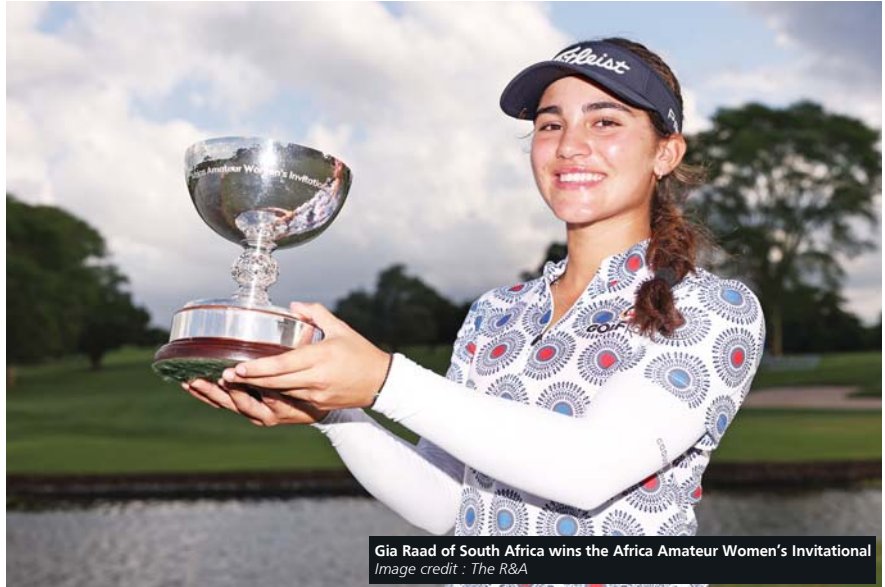
**G**ia Raad claimed the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational title at Leopard Creek today with a two-shot victory over her fellow South African Bobbi Brown.

Thanks to her win Raad earns starts in The Women's Amateur Championship, Final Qualifying for the AIG Women's Open, Joburg Ladies Open, The Investec South African Women's Open and the Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq.

Raad, who finished third in last year's inaugural Africa Amateur Women's Invitational, took a three-shot lead over last year's runner-up Brown going into the final round.

The 17-year-old made a nervy start and a double bogey seven on the par-5 2nd opened the door for her rival. The Golf RSA squad member settled down, however, and rallied with consecutive birdies on the 5th and 6th. She let a shot go at the 11th but holed a gutsy 12 footer at the 14th to stay two clear of Brown. A fine birdie at the 15th extended Raad's lead to three with three to play.

Brown had an eventful front nine cancelling out three birdies with four bogeys as she



Gia Raad of South Africa wins the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational  
Image credit : The R&A

tried to catch Raad. The 21-year-old dropped another shot at the 10th but bounced back in style with an eagle three after finding the green with her tee shot at the par-4 11th. A three-putt bogey at the 12th slowed her momentum but she followed it up with consecutive birdies as she battled to stay in touch with Raad.

At the par-3 16th, Raad almost holed a lengthy birdie putt but had to settle for a par, as did Brown. Both players parred the 17th and, although Brown produced a fine birdie at the last, Raad calmly rolled in her par putt for a two-shot victory and a four-under-par total of 212. **GP**

## BRYAN NEWMAN WINS AFRICA AMATEUR ON HOME SOIL AT LEOPARD CREEK

**B**ryan Newman of South Africa won the Africa Amateur Championship at Leopard Creek after cruising to a two-shot victory over Zimbabwe's Keegan Shutt. Newman said, "It feels really amazing. It's so special. To do it here at Leopard Creek makes it even more special."

Thanks to his victory in the second staging of the championship Newman earns an exemption into The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush as well as places in The Amateur Championship, the Alfred Dunhill Championship, The Investec South African Open and the Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq.

The 17-year-old began the day with a five-shot lead over compatriot Roelof Craig and knew that someone from the chasing pack would have to make a serious run to challenge him.

A dropped shot at the 3rd opened the door a little to Newman's rivals but a birdie three at the 6th helped steady the nerves before another shot was lost at the 9th.

Newman moved up a gear with a 20ft birdie putt at the 10th and another birdie at the 13th gave him a cushion which meant he could afford bogeys at the 16th and 17th. Newman



Africa Amateur champion Bryan Newman  
Image credit : GolfRSA

laid up his second shot at the 18th and played a safe approach over the water to the left side of the green leaving himself a comfortable two putts to claim the Africa Amateur trophy with

an eight-under-par total of 280.

South African Charl Barnard carded a one-over-par 73 to finish in fourth position on one-under-par. **GP**

## SOUTH KOREAN ACTOR SONG JOONG-KI BECOMES NEW R&A GLOBAL AMBASSADOR

**S**outh Korean Actor Song Joong-Ki has been appointed as an R&A Global Golf Development Ambassador to make more people aware of the benefits of playing golf and inspire new audiences to take up the sport.

Joong-Ki, 39, is a multi-award winning actor best known for his roles in *Reborn Rich*, *Vincenzo* and *Descendants of the Sun*. He is also a well-known fashion icon and an active sports lover.

Having amassed over 12 million followers on social media, Joong-Ki will use these platforms to contribute to his role as an ambassador.

Joong-Ki said, “Golf is a sport that anyone of all ages can enjoy. I have been impressed by The R&A’s vision and values, and honoured to be able to encourage more people to experience golf and its benefits through this partnership.”

Additionally, Joong-Ki has a strong interest in supporting young people, believing that the power of sport—particularly golf—can make a significant impact in their lives. Through his ambassadorship with The R&A, he hopes to encourage young aspiring golfers to give it a go.

Joong-Ki will represent The R&A at the HSBC Women’s World Championship Business Forum in Singapore at the end of February where he will share his passion for the sport and his desire for golf to be more inclusive and accessible.

Golf in Korea continues thrive with participation data released by The



R&A last year demonstrating that in its affiliated markets (outside of the United States of America and Mexico) South Korea has the second highest rate of participation with 8.7 million on-course adult golfers. [GP](#)

## NURTURE FUTURE TALENT

**T**he R&A and Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation (APGC) have launched the Women’s Amateur Asia-Pacific (WAAP) Academy to support the development of world-class players in countries throughout the region.

The initiative, funded by Samsung and The R&A Foundation, builds upon the success of the Women’s Amateur Asia-Pacific championship, which was introduced in 2018 to provide a pathway for the region’s elite women amateurs to reach the international stage and earn life-changing opportunities to play in three major championships.

Golfers are invited to take part in a week-long programme under the guidance of leading instructors and experts who specialise in strength and conditioning, sports psychology, data analysis and bio-metrics, and short game and swing technique.

The first cohort attended the Siam Country Club in Thailand in December last year.

Dominic Wall, Regional Managing Director - Asia-Pacific at The R&A, said, “The growth of golf in countries around the world is core to our purpose and this includes supporting young golfers in their development by providing more opportunities to nurture their



Rianne Malixi of the Philippines  
Image credit : R&A

skills both on and off the course.

The six-day gathering brought together 13 players, including Malaysian Mirabel Ting and Rianne Malixi of the Philippines, third and fourth respectively in the WAGR, who benefitted from a week of world-class instruction in various aspects of the game.

Malixi, winner of the US Women’s Amateur and US Girls’ Junior Amateur Championship last year, said, “This is certainly giving us an advantage because we’ve learned so much from this Academy. This will help us to grow as people and as players. We can use the lessons we learned when we’re out on the course.” [GP](#)



Boston Commons team includes Hideki Matsuyama, Rory McIlroy and Keegan Bradley  
Photo credit : TGL

# INAUGURAL TGL SEASON HITS HIGH MARKS AS GOLF BROADENS ITS HORIZON

by Chuah Choo Chiang

**W**ith the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi season approaching its climax, the scorecard for the innovative and prime time team golf league backed by Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy makes for some impressive reading.

Star power, entertainment value, great golf, eye-catching virtual holes - check.

Impressive TV ratings, smooth delivery of sophisticated tech, fun and buzz for in-person fans - check.

Strong buy-in from a wide range of investors, nimble management and full backing from PGA TOUR - check.

Six weeks on from its highly-anticipated launch, TGL has proven to be additive to golf's landscape and a massive success story.



Patrick Cantlay  
Photo credit : TGL

The league has achieved so much in so little time that many believe will help advance the sport's growth, especially amongst new and

younger audiences.

"It's just a different form of golf," said two-time major winner Justin Thomas, whose Atlanta

Drive team has secured a spot in the Playoffs.

McIlroy, whose Boston Common team includes Japanese star Hideki Matsuyama, added: "I think people have enjoyed watching it on TV. There's nowhere I can go that people aren't talking to me about it."

For sports fans in Asia, TGL is broadcast live primarily on Tuesday and/or Wednesday mornings, which makes for easy viewing on TV or a device for those who skip work! The transformative league comprises of six teams (four players each) which are owned by some of the U.S.'s biggest sports franchise owners and A-list celebrities. They include Stephen Curry and Serena Williams plus Steve Cohen (owner of New York Mets), Arthur Blank (owner of Atlanta Falcons) and Fenway Sports Group (owners of Boston Red Sox and Liverpool).

With Mike McCarley, a long-time media executive, serving as CEO of TMRW Sports and with Woods and McIlroy co-founders of the venture, TGL is taking small but confident steps in showcasing a unique, engaging and exciting product that is so refreshing and different from the traditional 72-hole individual competitions which the PGA TOUR is the benchmark.

Each TGL match is played over 15 holes - chosen from 30 original and frankly, mind-blowing creations by three companies including Nicklaus Design - with an emphasis on risk-reward and stunning visuals. The Spear, The Lava, On the Rocks and Boomerang are amongst the virtual holes created to test the players in the purpose-built, and tech-laden SoFi Center on the campus of Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Golfers hit their tee shots and approach shots in the ScreenZone, off of real grass or sand, from 35 yards out into a giant, five-story simulator screen with state-of-the-art technology that is more than 24x larger than the standard golf simulator. Within approximately 50 yards, players move into the GreenZone, a specially-built short game area which has a 41 yard wide rotating putting surface with the technology under the green to change the undulation of the greens.



Korea's Tom Kim represents Jupiter Links with Tiger Woods and Kevin Kisner  
Photo credit : TGL

## Each TGL match is played over 15 holes - chosen from 30 original and frankly, mind-blowing creations by three companies including Nicklaus Design - with an emphasis on risk-reward and stunning visuals.

McCarley, a former top executive at NBC Sports and Golf Channel, loves the team golf concept which brings out the characters of players and delivers high octane entertainment, and it's delivering on all fronts. The first nine holes are played in Triples format - each team member hits a shot in sequence - before going into the Singles format (1 vs 1) over the last six holes. The one fun twist is "The Hammer" which, when an orange towel is thrown by any team/player, can make a hole worth two points.

There's no messing about as players are on a Shot Clock to ensure they rip shots into the giant screen or hit a shot within the short game area inside of 40 seconds, and each match lasts approximately two hours. Inside SoFi Center there are 73 camera sources capturing the action including 20 robotic ones and 10 in

the virtual world. Included are six Full Swing monitors at both the front and back tee boxes, and six additional ones below a slope closer to the giant screen.

TV ratings have been above expectations - averaging 765,000 viewers across the six prime time matches on ESPN with three of the matches reaching a peak audience of 1.2 million viewers. Additionally, the TGL audience is one of the youngest in sports with 42% of its audience in the advertiser-coveted Adult 18-49 demographic.

There are no gimmicks in TGL, and the format makes the matches compelling, and golfers being golfers, they have taken the competition seriously and the mic-ed up feature for every player provides for interesting insights and thrash-talking.

Nearly every golfer in TGL as also commented on how much fun they are having playing TGL. Following Monday's match, Atlanta Drive GC's Patrick Cantlay commented, "It's fun being on a team with these guys. I think we get along great. There's good chemistry between us, and it's a fun environment out there." And Los Angeles Golf Club's Sahith Theegala said, "This is the most fun golf I've played in a really long time."

The regular season concludes on March 4, followed by the semifinal playoff series on March 17 and 18 and a best-of-three Finals series for the SoFi Cup on March 24 and 25. If you've not seen TGL yet, don't get left behind. It's fun. [G+](#)



The Spear - Par 5 - 604 Yards  
Photo credit : TGL



# YOUR SHOE COLLECTION

# STEP IT UP IN 2025

By Randy O. Williams

**A**fter years of trial and error (and the painful blisters, toe jams and eventually limping home for their efforts), when golfers eventually find their favorite manufacturer that trust is practically unbreakable. Through dozens of rounds, they've walked the miles in that

brand and the resultant happy feet have continued to earn their trust.

And for those who happen to prefer names like Puma, Ecco and Asics among others, in addition to your preferred links spikes, you'll find that these companies also produce top-of-the-line shoes for casual and recreational

activities off the course as well.

We now present the best in shoes for 2025, the newest styles by the leading brands, the kind that are truly the unsung players of golf equipment.

However, don't forget the socks! And in that regard the true all-star is Thorlo. **GP**



**A** Top of the line technology with a classic look. The Saddle Shoe from Allen Edmonds emphasizes a relaxed fit, lightly roomier feel. It features premium waterproof leather and is comfortable right out of the box.



**A** The new IGNITE ELEVATE X from Puma features notable technologies including a FLOATPLATE, full length IGNITE foam, and semi-translucent carbon rubber outsoles with 100+ traction lugs. Distinctly, the X is built with a unique outdoor aesthetic and an engineered mesh EXOSHELL upper with a TPU film for enhanced waterproofing.



3



▲ The new IGNITE ELEVATE 2 from Puma is designed with IGNITE foam that runs the full length of the sole, providing enhanced comfort and energy return with every step taken. Look for PUMA GOLF athletes Rickie Fowler, Max Homa, Gary Woodland, and Viktor Hovland to wear the Tour version from the IGNITE ELEVATE family which will be available for purchase in March 2025.

5



▲ The Velo from Sqairz continues to break the mold of conventional shoe design. The cornerstone of their design is the patented toe box. Unlike other shoe brands that angle your toes inward, Sqairz opened the toe box for your toes to spread naturally, creating better balance and more ground connection, thus increasing your performance from the ground up.

4



▲ The JAPAN S GOLF shoes from ASICS are based on one of our throwback offerings from 1981. This reworked iteration retains its classic aesthetic, but modified for the golf course. Mimicking the aesthetic of a retro basketball sneaker, this heritage style is formed with synthetic leather overlays that help create a comfortable fit. The shoe's outsole is constructed with a turf tread pattern to help provide grip and stability on the links.

6



▲ Travis Mathew's Daily Pro is your all-round hybrid engineered knit resulting in lightweight breathability for all your activities on and off the course. Available in seven colors, it features traction design for ultimate versatility.

## Feature



7

The Daily Pro Plus Golf Shoe from Travis Mathew is created with a spikeless design and a waterproof, synthetic upper. Blending a responsive midsole foam with a cushy, supportive insole and add the fact that they are waterproof and you have all day balance between comfort and performance.



8

Under Armour's New Curry 1 Golf Shoe capitalizes on the basketball great Steph Curry's fascination with the links game. Smooth, flexible, spikeless rotational traction now add in being waterproof, you'll be stylin'.



9

Appropriately named, The Dandy from Duca Del Cosma is both a sophisticated and comfortable choice for golf enthusiasts. These Nappa leather golf shoes are modern and elegant, making a fine fashion statement while ensuring all-day comfort, the ultimate fit, waterproof and simply exceptional style.



10



Are you ready to wake up the country club!? Authentic and simply awesome, try these Viper - Python Men's Golf Shoes from William & Harry. Their exotics leather line features a stunning hand-painted finish on natural python sourced from the finest Italian leather shops. Lightweight, comfortable sneaker-style design with a cushioned elastic sock liner to ensure the perfect fit. Experience unrivaled performance, looks and comfort on the golf course with these exotic leather golf shoes.

11



New from True Linkswear is their True OG Crush. Introducing an all-new OG grip tread, designed to provide superior coverage and traction on all surfaces, this model is ready for any terrain - perfect for your active lifestyle. Available in five different shades, you will find yourself wearing them straight from the links to everyday living as well as other fitness activities like hiking.

12



A young company's new X 002 LE, Paynter has incorporated some fine technical details to their latest golf shoe. These include: Graphite power plate Dual Density PMX Foam midsole, a molded ORTHOLITE footbed, an ARIAPRENE tongue and finishing it with a NEVERWET superhydrophobic treatment.

13



ASICS has you covered quite well actually off the course as well with the GEL-KAYANO 20 sneaker. Cool colors. Cool design. Structural comfort for everyday experiences, the distinctive features include dual GEL technology inserts and a GUIDANCE TRUSSTIC support system that help provide advanced comfort and stability in everyday scenarios.

16



**Beckett Simonon's Laval Chukka Boot** is a classic design that is handcrafted out of full-grain leather. They are one of the few styles that ensure you'll never be overdressed or underdressed. Put simply, you're going to look great with these boots on your feet no matter the occasion. Elegant in brown, oak, tan, black or bordeaux they reflect the ultra-skilled craftsmanship evident in every pair.



14



Waterproof, lightweight, breathable, plush, warm and stylish, once you slip into these lined, Distillery Boots from Baffin, don't be surprised their grip and comfort will have you trying to play golf in them! Instead, they will be your go-to long journey shoes for years to come, that and sitting in front of a fireplace on a cold day.

15



The Ecco Men's Biom 2.2 Leather Gore-Tex Sneaker is an example of one of the few superior shoe companies that makes an equally good pair of non-golf shoes. Appropriately labeled an "athleisure" shoe, this Biom 2.2 style is not only crafted from premium Ecco leather from their own tanneries, but in addition to Gore-Tex waterproof protection, it uses an innovative Ecco LYTR Technology that makes their signature anatomical fit and comfort even lighter.



Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy earned his 27th career PGA TOUR victory with a two-shot triumph over Shane Lowry at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, which was the second Signature event of the 2025 season. The three-time FedExCup champion shares his thoughts from Pebble Beach following his latest win.

**T**here are a few venues in our game that I would call cathedrals of golf - Pebble Beach, Augusta National, St Andrews obviously, and maybe a few more that you could add in there. They mean a bit more than others which is probably to do with the history and the golfers who have won on those courses, and what those people have meant to the game of golf.

Starting the week, I had a big fat zero on all of those venues, and to finally knock one off at Pebble is very cool. I'm a big historian of the game and I remember all the championships that have been played here, and to add my name to that list is pretty cool.

It's been a great week for a lot of different reasons, hole-in-one during the first round, playing Cypress for the first time, and obviously getting a win. I couldn't have wished for a better start for my PGA TOUR season. I've been on a nice run of form since last fall and I've played some really good golf and continued that into this year. It's a great way to start my year.

Coming down the last hole at Pebble with a three-shot lead and being able to enjoy it somewhat was really nice. It was special to have the time to stand on the 18th tee box and just honestly look at one of the most beautiful holes in golf and enjoy it, enjoy the stroll up 18 and not feel like there was too much pressure.

Halfway up 18, I was rooting for Shane (Lowry) to make 4 so he would finish second on his own. It was nice to be able to have that and to also share this win with Harry (Diamond, his caddie). I'm the one who gets to lift the trophy, but there's a lot of people behind me and it's good to be able to share it with them.

Pebble Beach is a very different test than what you would typically expect at a U.S. Open. However, I do feel my game can travel to any sort of golf course in any conditions, in any set-up. I feel like I'm a very well-rounded golfer and I can adapt to whatever I need to adapt to. I



Rory McIlroy  
Photo credit : Getty Images

was able to show that this weekend, especially during the third round with the wind and rainy conditions. I can win on different venues, different tests, firm courses, soft courses, windy, calm, rain, long golf courses, short golf courses. Anything that I feel is thrown my way, I feel like I'm prepared to handle it.


With more experience, I've become better with strategy and picking conservative targets at times, and maybe picking more conservative clubs off the tees too. Another big thing is obviously my short game. Last year, it was a little up and down where I would have a good week, then I'd have a bad week. There wasn't a ton of consistency in it. The up-and-down on the first hole during the final round for example, it's a big up-and-down just to get things going.

I'm a big admirer of Scottie's Scheffler for a lot of different reasons, and every time I play with him and watch how he plays and how disciplined he is, it's a really cool thing to watch. And I'm trying to take a little bit of a leaf from out of his book. When one of your peers has the year like he had last year, and honestly the year like he had in '23 as well, you start to take notice at what he is doing and what has made him or helped him separate himself from the rest of the fields. There're impulses that I have on the golf course that it looks like Scottie doesn't have and

I have to rein those in, and I have to try to be a little more disciplined about it.

For me, it's really about trying to get the best out of myself. I know if I can play to my capabilities and do what I did out there a little bit more, the world rankings or the career PGA TOUR wins will take care of themselves. Scottie is and has been the best player in our game for the last couple of years and I feel like I've been close. That's motivating to try to get the best out of myself and try to become the best player in the world again.

I want to do the right things every day, and that's being consistent, being disciplined, getting enough sleep, eating the right diet, doing the right amount of practice, recovering, making time for other interests in my life that can get me away from golf a little bit, too.

It's always been the mental side for me. That probably is the biggest barrier between me being good and being great. For the most part over the course of my career, I've had the physical attributes and hit the ball long and been able to do things that maybe some other guys aren't able to do, but it's sometimes been my mind or my thought processes that has held me back a little bit. I think I'm much better equipped now to handle whatever is thrown my way. 

INSTRUCTION FROM THE GAME'S TOP PLAYERS AND COACHES

# Learn

TOUR  
RECAP/

TOMMY FLEETWOOD

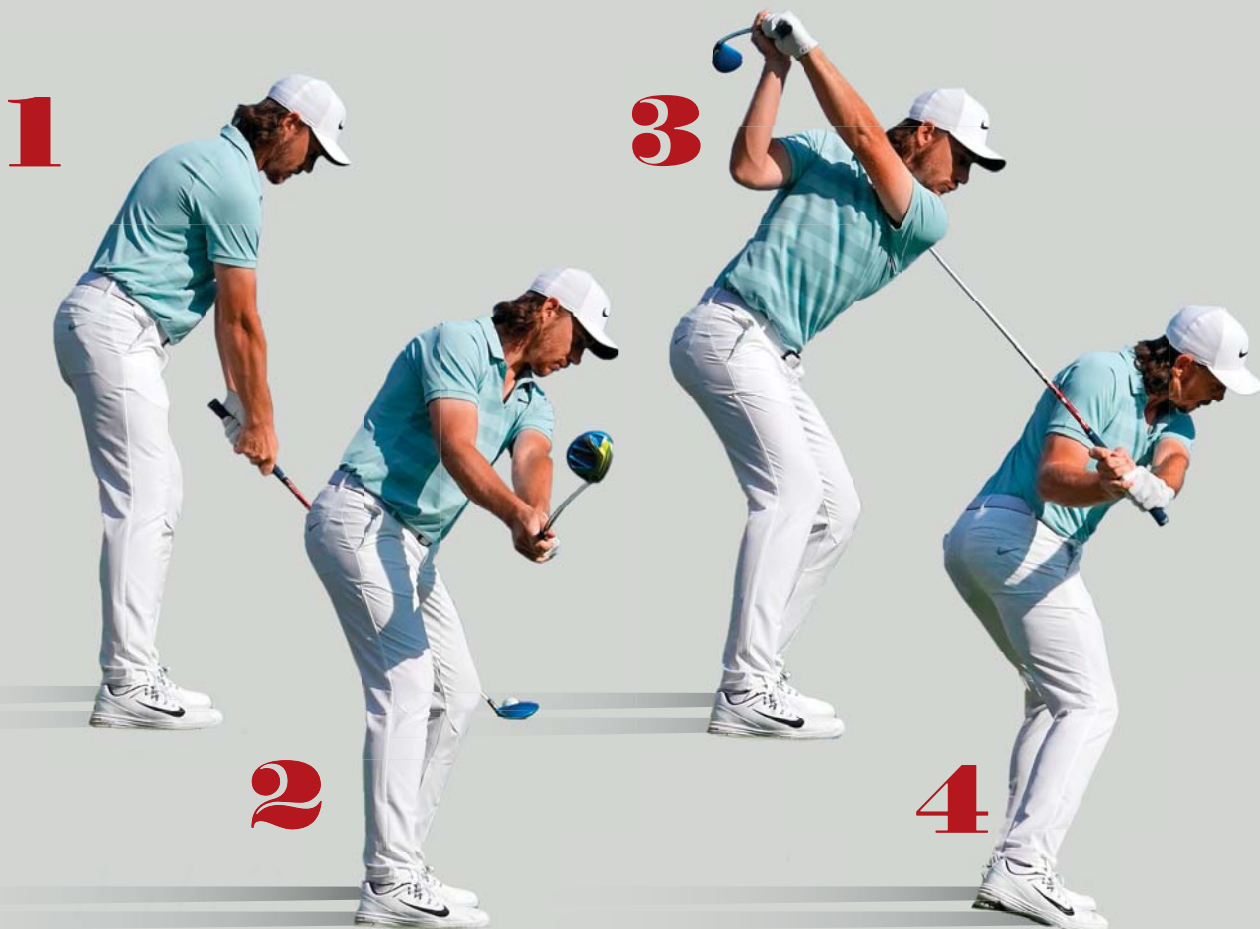
## MY 5 KEY SWING SECRETS

The moves I focus on to maximise my power and accuracy will help you, too

Any swing that delivers the club in a neutral position through the impact area is a good one in my book. Over the past few seasons, I've put in a lot of hours on the practice range to iron out the areas that, in the past, made me have to fight hard to get the club square and on the right plane coming into the ball. When I was a kid, I used to have a bit of a loopy draw that could easily get out of control. ▣



SWING SECRETS \* PUTTING \* TOUR INSIGHT \* STRATEGY \* SWING STUDY \* WEDGES



if I wasn't careful. While I still slightly favour that right-to-left shape, I'm a much straighter hitter now and am also comfortable working the ball the other way. People often ask me if I lose distance when I grip down on the club for a little more control. My answer is that there's no real loss of yardage because the quality of strike is invariably better.

1. At address, think only of good posture and alignment

My back isn't as straight as a textbook swinger like, say, Adam Scott but I'm certainly not slouched at address either. I like to be athletic and comfortable, without being too rigid. Not everyone is built the same so you have to find the posture that works best for you.

I don't really think about anything at set-up — except alignment, an area I need to monitor constantly. If your feet, hips and shoulders are square at

address, your swing path is likely to be square, too.

2. Get neutral with your takeaway

I work hard on moving the club away on a good plane and path, neither inside or outside the ideal line. That means quieter hands and more of a one-piece move for the first few feet. I turn my left shoulder under my chin to set the club in position, but also move my arms and hands away from my body to create width.

I like to see the shaft of the club parallel to the target line when horizontal to the ground, with the toe of the clubhead pointing straight up in the air.

Fleetwood favours a draw but is comfortable shaping the ball both ways.

3. Keep it compact at the top

If I'm totally honest, I never really think about where the club is at the top of the backswing. I used to get across the line when I was younger and just starting out on Tour, but it's in a much better position now. That's down to my more balanced takeaway path. When I'm hitting an iron, I like my swing to be compact and just short of parallel at the top. With a fairway wood like this, the backswing will be a little longer.

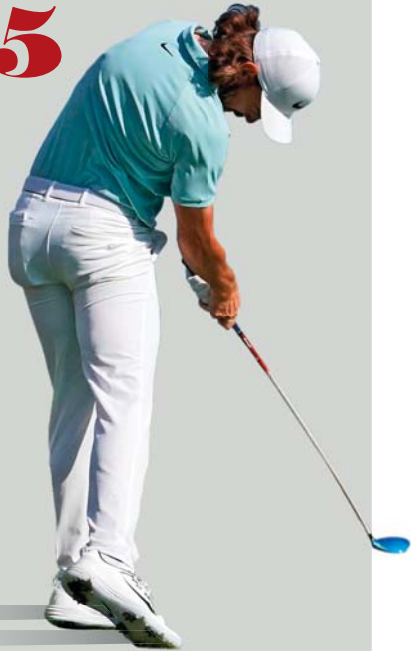
4. Starting your downswing, hit against the wall

To achieve more stability and, in turn, deliver more power through the hitting area, I try to keep my left

**‘At impact, I want the club doing as little as possible and the hands even less’**



5



## PUTTING

BLOCK OUT  
DISTRACTIONSHOW TO GET A MORE ACCURATE VIEW ON  
THOSE TRICKY-TO-READ PUTTS

At many traditional British parkland golf courses, you'll face a lot of putts that are difficult to read. The breaks are often very subtle and seemingly imperceptible to the human eye. How many times have you looked at a putt from several angles and still struggled to figure out which way it was going to move? The problem with reading putts is that your eyes take in a lot of supplementary

information that can affect your decision-making. A row of trees or a distant hedgerow, water features and even the shaping of the surroundings of the green can trick your eyes into seeing slopes that don't exist.

You've probably seen Tour pros crouching down to read putts with their hands cupped around their face and over the top of their visor (right). What they're doing is 'zoning' in on the putt, blocking out everything beyond the hole from their field of vision. That way, they have a much clearer view of the true slope and break. Try it for yourself and

see how blocking out external distractions can help you better visualise the break, too. **GP**

– Stuart Dowsett, Head Pro at Sundridge Park GC in Kent and coach to several Tour players.



side firm with my left thigh staying solid. I like to feel like I'm hitting against a wall. This helps my bottom half stay square longer before turning towards the target. I splay my left foot slightly open to help my weight move onto my left side starting down.

People often advise a three-quarter swing for control, but I'm not a big fan. I have to hit it hard and go all the way through.

## 5. Keep your right palm down

At impact, I want the club doing as little as possible and the hands even less. If I have a thought, it's keeping my right palm facing down through impact. That helps me squeeze the ball out properly. If the right hand gets underneath the handle, the ball is going right unless you compensate. A fairway wood needs a level impact that brushes the grass. But with irons you need to take a divot, a thing I always check. **GP**



DUSTIN JOHNSON

# HOW I DIAL IN MY WEDGES

In 2015, my team and I sat down and evaluated my whole game. The glaring opportunity for improvement was my wedges. My Strokes Gained stat was 0.09 – very average for the PGA Tour. I didn't really practise my wedge play – and if I did, it was with little-to-no discipline. Yet my length off the tee meant I was often in the wedge zone. I grabbed the

opportunity. Within a year, my Strokes Gained stat had reached 0.35 and I was the US Open Champion. Wedges are all about distance control. If you can pitch pin-high but are 10ft out for line, you'll have a 10ft putt. With my coach, Claude Harmon, I created a system to improve my distance control. Let me explain.



**DJ's wedge stats**  
**Model:** TaylorMade Milled Grind 48°, 54°, 60°; Hi-Toe 64°  
**Sand Saves (2019):** 63.86% (3rd)

## HOW I COVER MY PITCHING YARDAGES

**Three backswings, three wedges equals nine pitching distances**

I like to keep things simple, so we decided on mastering the 'nine stock distances' system. Here, you create your nine distances by making three different swing lengths with three different wedges. I carry a 48°, 54° and 60° wedge (I also have a 64°, but I only use it for specialist shots). By honing three swing lengths with each club – half, three-quarter and full – I can create nine stock shot distances to call on when needed. Between them, they cover pretty much every shot between 60 and 150 yards. If I find myself in a gap, I make the shorter swing and just add a little speed through the ball. From here, it is really just a question of practice and repetition to train the feels and controlled acceleration that create consistency of speed at each swing length. There are so many different ways you can work on this. You can work on a certain swing length, on a certain distance, on a particular club or any combination of the three. The key is to stay disciplined, honing those swing lengths and all the time checking what you are doing against your nine yardage targets. **GP**







## FIVE-MINUTE LESSON

### PABLO LARRAZABAL

The 36-year-old Spaniard reveals three of the key secrets to his enviable short game.

**GW** How did you develop such a sharp short game?

PL: Competitive practice growing up. I got good at chipping fast when I was a kid because there were many good players at my club and we spent a lot of time at the chipping area. I lost lots of money! Being competitive in practice will make you better under pressure.

**GW** How do you visualise the shot you need to hit?

PL: Creativity is key. You have to create shots and see the ball rolling or pitching and stopping the way you want. It's all about seeing it. You can play the same shot with three or four different clubs, so you have to feel what you're most confident with.

**GW** How aggressive are you with your shot selection and expectations around the green?

PL: I think about the percentage for success with each of the clubs I could use and that tells me what to do – high or low, release or spinny, sand wedge or 9-iron. Go with the shot that gives the highest percentage. It can be better to leave a 12-foot putt than risk too much.

**GW** Some of that must be gut instinct?

PL: Chipping is all about sensation and what you feel in that moment. Sometimes you arrive at a tough shot and you go for it because you instantly feel it and you're confident. When you feel good, you have more percentage of doing it right. Trust your gut instinct. **GP**

## STRATEGY

### PLAY WITHIN YOURSELF ON A TOUGH OPENER

Take a double out of play on a demanding 1st hole

**POINT 1** The first hole is always important, but especially so when it's a tough one like Wentworth's long par 4 here. You don't want to run up a big score so early, so it's a good idea to play within yourself. A four is always a good score but a five isn't a disaster, especially if you get a shot. Use a strategy to help you make a bogey at worst.

**POINT 2** Hit the tee shot that leaves you the easiest second shot. This isn't always about hitting it as far as you can off the tee. This hole is a good example. Hit it too far and you can end up on a downslope – not good when you're hitting to a raised green. Hit the ball as far down the hole as you can while keeping it on a flat part of the fairway.

**POINT 3** For most golfers, any hole over 400 yards means a long approach – at least a mid- to long iron. Aim for the centre of the green. If you miss, you're usually better off on the opposite side to the pin as it gives you more green to work with.

– By Robert Karlsson,  
11-time European Tour winner



# SWING STUDY: DANNY WILLETT

MAJOR POSTURAL CHANGES HAVE LEAD TO A MORE DYNAMIC GOLF SWING

It is generally not considered a smart move to overhaul your golf swing after winning a major championship but in Danny Willett's case, he had little choice. Writing on the European Tour's website in 2017, Willett admitted he'd been suffering with severe back issues. "I'd be taking painkillers in the morning after waking up in pain, getting an hour of physio before each round, playing the

round with a swing that hurt, then needing an hour of physio after the round. I was just knackered." In 2017, Willett took the decision to change coaches, switching from Pete Cowen, with whom he had worked for almost a decade, to Sean Foley. Two years on, Willett has validated his decision with victories at the 2018 DP World Championship and the BMW PGA Championship. **GP**



1

## ADDRESS

The biggest set-up change Willett has made is creating more spine angle and adding more knee flex with the goal of setting his weight more towards the mid-part of his feet instead of forward towards his toes.

2

## TAKEAWAY

In the past, Willett's arms hung almost vertically from his shoulders. Now they're a little more extended from the ball. As a result, he has a more stable base and is able to reduce the "up-and-down" nature of his swing.

3

## AT THE TOP


Willett's 'old' swing was very upright with limited hip turn. The action placed a lot of pressure on his back during the swing. His shoulder and arm plane are now a little flatter – the result of the address tweaks.

4

## DELIVERY

Willett has struggled with hip mobility issues since he was involved in a car accident many years ago. Having said that, he has been adding more pelvis and hip rotation into his downswing in order to shallow out his plane.

## STATS AT A GLANCE

HOT  COLD	PUTTS PER GIR: 1.67 (1st)
	PUTTS PER ROUND: 28 (4th)
	STROKE AVERAGE: 70.2 (27)
	DRIVING DIST: 302 yards (49)
	GREENS IN REG %: 68.98 (62nd)
	DRIVING ACC: 52.4% (170th)

## MASTER YOUR WEDGES

# GET SPIETH-STYLE SPIN

### HOW TO MASTER THAT DREAMY ONE-STOP-HOP-AND-GLIDE PITCH SHOT

“The one-stop-and-hop pitch is probably the most difficult to execute but it’s one of my favourites, especially when I’m playing a links course. It will help you set up more birdie chances on par 5s and shorter par 4s. Whenever I’m faced with a half pitch to a tight pin and/or a super-fast green, this is my go-to shot because it’s the easiest to control the distance. The problem is that it goes against convention and how you might expect to play it. But if you can fight your natural instincts, you’ll breathe new life into your short game and approach those awkward, in-between shots with confidence.”

#### STEP 1

“Using your highest loft wedge in the bag – mine is 60° – take a fairly narrow stance, play the ball in the centre, and stand square to the target with your weight forward and the clubface slightly open. This will automatically promote a descending angle of attack – the key to generating lots of backspin.”

#### STEP 2

“Make a half swing by hinging your wrists to the max and then unwind by feeling like you’re cutting low and across the ball – almost as though you’re mimicking a cut shot. To maximise spin, keep the clubhead low to the ground for as long as possible after impact.” **GP**



5

## IMPACT

Willett says the swing changes have paid large dividends with his driver. Previously, his attack angle was -2 degrees. Now it is +3, which shows he is hitting up on the ball through impact – a key for longer carries and more distance.

Swing sequence photography by Mark Newcombe, Visions In Golf



#### Bow Your Wrist

For a lower trajectory and even more zip, finish with your left wrist pointing at the target.

#### Take A Divot

Speed is crucial. Be aggressive, accelerate into impact and really ‘squeeze’ that ball into the turf.



## GAINER CLINCHES FIRST LET VICTORY IN PLAYOFF AT SEASON OPENER

**7** England's Cara Gainer secured her first Ladies European Tour (LET) victory after defeating India's Diksha Dagar in a playoff at Lalla Meryem Cup in Morocco.

Going into the final day, only a two-shot difference separated the top 10, making it a tight leaderboard with lots of players in contention to win the season opener.

Since turning pro in 2020, Gainer started the day in T5 and produced a solid final round of 69 (-4) at Royal Golf Dar Es Salam. This marked her third visit to the tournament having previously come T30 in 2024 and T49 in 2023. The maiden LET winner will take the full 500 points to sit top of the Order of Merit. The 29-year-old rolled in birdies on holes two, four, and eight, before another three off the bounce on the back nine. She dropped her only two shots of the day on the front nine.

"First tournament back of the year, you can't really ask for any better," said Gainer. "I was aware when we started how many people were in with a shout, but I knew there's a lot of good players. I knew people were going to be shooting low scores, so I just wanted to keep in my own bubble, and I thought if I had shot, maybe three or four under, there could be a chance. Then, when I started to birdie the last few, I thought hold on a minute, this could really be real."

Talking about her final round, the 29-year-old said: "I missed short putts on 11, 12, 13, and 14 which were all makeable putts, so was getting frustrated. Then we got to the par-five,



Cara Gainer  
Image courtesy: Mark Runnacles/LET

where my caddy [Seb Brock] and I said we could still win this if we birdie. Then from there I just kept racking them up, hitting really great iron shots, with straight up the hill putts so that was great."

Gainer had her fiancé Seb Brock on the bag this week. She continued: "He's come with me to caddy this week. It's really special to have him here and celebrate my first win with me." During the offseason, she analysed last season. Gainer had a bit of wrist injury during 2024 so was a tricky year but focused on what she needed to do to hit the perfect shot during the break.

Diksha Dagar came just short in the playoff to claim second place at the season opener. This still makes a very good start to Dagar's 2025 campaign, which saw her also set the clubhouse record on -9 with a stunning final round of 67 (-6).

Having started the day in T14, she made seven birdies across the last 18 holes, and dropped her only shot of the day on hole 14.

Sweden's Kajsa Arweffjall finished the highest rookie and marks a solid start to her first LET season. The Swede clinched LETAS Order of Merit winner and Rookie of the Year last year so will be one to watch. **GP**

## THITIKUL CRUISES TO 2025 PIF SAUDI LADIES INTERNATIONAL CROWN

**7** Jeeno Thitikul secured her fifth Ladies European Tour (LET) title after storming to a four-stroke victory at the 2025 PIF Saudi Ladies International.

The Thai star, who is number four in the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings, began the day with a three-shot lead at Riyadh Golf Club.

Thitikul rolled in a birdie on the first before adding further birdies on the fourth and seventh holes to put herself in a commanding position.

Another birdie on the 10th was followed by a bogey on the next hole however, she soon added another birdie on 12 before a dropped shot on the 14th hole.

A round of 69 (-3) on the final day to end the week with a score of 16-under-par was more than enough to ensure Thitikul began her 2025 season in the best way.

"It means a lot to win and it's a really nice



Jeeno Thitikul  
Image courtesy: Mark Runnacles/LET

start for my 2025 season," said Thitikul, who won the 2021 LET Race to Costa del Sol and Rookie of the Year titles. "I think everyone will be proud especially my team out there,

they know how hard we work so it's paid off. It doesn't look easy at all, especially to me! The greens are quite hard here and I am just trying to be more present and play my best out here. It feels like Scotland today. It was a challenging week here; it was tough on the tournament days with the weather. I am just trying to be myself out there on the course, I don't want to take things too seriously. That's why I can play smoother and be myself out there. We play week in, week out alongside the best players in the world. At the same, we're trying to do our best and that's what sport is. Turning 22 next week and having this win as an early birthday present. is really special."

Korea's Somi Lee finished the week in second place in the Individual competition with a score of 12-under-par after she captained her Team to victory. England's Annabell Fuller recorded her best-ever finish on the LET with solo third place on 11-under-par. **GP**

## VANI USES EXPERIENCE TO CARVE OUT A WIN IN 4TH LEG OF HERO WPGT

**7** Vani Kapoor used all her experience to land a crucial birdie on the back nine to win the fourth Leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club Ltd. It was Vani's first win in 2025 and the first since the success at the DLF Golf and Country Club in the 12th leg of the 2024 season. Vani, 31, bogeyed the 11th and the 13th and at that stage trailed two amateurs, Saanvi Somu, the overnight leader, and Anuradha Chaudhuri. The three were playing together in the final group.

Then came the turnaround as Vani birdied the Par-4 15th. On the same hole Anuradha dropped a bogey for a two-shot swing. From being one ahead Anuradha fell one back.

Saanvi, who with five holes left was even par for the tournament and in the lead, also bogeyed the 15th to fall to 1-over. She was then tied with Vani.

Saanvi, who has finished runner-up four times in the past, parred the 16th but dropped shots on the 17th and the 18th, which were parred by Vani and Anuradha.

The pars helped Vani stay ahead of the field at 1-under 69 for the day and 1-over 211 total. Anuradha was stranded at 2-over and was sole second. Saanvi meanwhile fell to 3-over and



finished in a tie for third alongside Sneha Singh (66) and Ridhima Dilawari (67), who had earlier taken the clubhouse lead at 3-over.

Vani opened the day with two birdies on the first two holes, but then endured eight pars after that. She bogeyed the 11th and the 13th to fall back but produced a winning birdie on the 15th.

Anuradha played consistent with one birdie and one bogey, but the latter proved costly, while Sneha and Ridhima produced the two best cards of the day. Sneha was bogey free with 66 and Ridhima shot 67 with four birdies against one

bogey.

Saanvi had three birdies and five bogeys, three of which came in the last four holes and cost her a maiden win on the pro tour, while still being an amateur.

Lavanya Jadon (71), Shweta Mansingh (70), amateur Mannat Brar (72) and Jasmine Shekar (75) occupied the sixth to the ninth place while three players including the 2024 Hero Order of Merit winner, Hitaashee Bakshi (75), amateur Keerthana Rajeev (73) and Khushi Khanijau (71) tied for the tenth place.

Among other prominent players Gaurika Bishnoi (77) was T-13, Seher Atwal (80) was T-16, Amandeep Drall (75) was T-18th and Neha Tripathi (77) was T-21.

Sneha Singh, who was tied fifth in the first leg and won the next two, finished tied-third this week. She continues to lead the Hero Order of Merit with winnings of Rs.5,76,900 while Vani Kapoor moved into second place with Rs.4,54,000 and Jasmine Shekar with Rs.3,26,500 was third.

It was a great week for amateurs, who had four finishers in the Top-10. Two of those amateurs, Saanvi and Mannat are headed to the Women's Amateur Asia Pacific Championships in Vietnam next week. **GP**

## LETAS ANNOUNCES THE ISLANTILLA OPEN WITH RECORD PRIZE FUND

**7** The LET Access Series (LETAS) has today announced a new event on the 2025 calendar, the Islantilla Open, which will take place this July. DoubleTree by Hilton Islantilla Beach Golf Resort will play host to the 54-hole stroke play tournament from 17-19 July, which will boast a record-breaking prize fund of €100,000.

Following on from the huge success and growth of the La Sella Open over the past few years, the promoter, the Anpora Group felt it was a natural and necessary progression to increase their support of the professional women's game with a tournament on LETAS.

A field of 126 players will be teeing it up at the renowned golf resort, which has previously held a European Tour event, the Turespana Masters Open de Andalucia in 1995.

The addition of the Islantilla Open to the LETAS schedule in 2025 means there are now 16 events on the calendar, with the overall prize money for the season reaching €742,500 which surpasses last year's total purse.

Speaking about the announcement, Alexandra Armas, CEO of the Ladies European Tour, said: "We are excited to announce that the Islantilla Ladies Open will be part of the



2025 LET Access Series schedule. Anpora's continued commitment and support of our players over recent years through the La Sella Open has been fantastic. LETAS provides an excellent pathway to the LET and having the event, with a record-breaking prize fund in this year's calendar offers another playing opportunity, which helps develop the professional game and strengthens the Tour."

Ana Larraneta, LETAS Tour Director, added:

"We are delighted to announce this addition to the schedule and to host another fantastic tournament in Spain. It is great to work with the Anpora Group which share our vision of giving female professionals more opportunities to play competitively; providing them the chance to compete for larger prize funds and increase their exposure, so that we can continue to work towards change, drive for equality and help with providing the pathway to the LET." **GP**



# OLYMPIC CHAMPION LYDIA KO WINS 2025 HSBC WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

**7** Lydia Ko finally conquered the LPGA's HSBC Women's World Championship, clinching her first title at her 11th attempt with a dominant four-stroke win over Ayaka Furue and Jeeno Thitikul in Sunday's final round.

The 2024 Olympic gold medalist and Women's British Open champion overcame a middling start before finding her rhythm with a birdie on the par-5 sixth.

Ko added back-to-back birdies on Nos. 7 and 8, seizing control of the leaderboard from then on.

Despite dropping two bogeys after the turn,

**THE 2024 OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST AND WOMEN'S BRITISH OPEN CHAMPION OVERCAME A MIDDLING START BEFORE FINDING HER RHYTHM WITH A BIRDIE ON THE PAR-5 SIXTH.**



Image courtesy: Getty Images

the world No. 3 closed with a solid 69, sealing a 13-under-par 275 total at Sentosa Golf Club.

"I dreamt last night that I won but then I woke up, and I was like, dang, it's not real yet," said Ko, who secured her 23rd LPGA title and her first victory since the Kroger Queen City Championship last September. Ko's previous best finish here was a lone

second place in 2015.

"It's exciting to finally add Asia's major to my major collection," the New Zealander said.

World No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul fought hard to chase Ko down, but her charge fell just short.

Jeeno fired a 70, finishing at nine under, tied for second with Japan's Ayaka Furue, who

carded a closing 68. The Thai star made an early push with two birdies in the first four holes to trail Ko by a stroke at 9-under but couldn't maintain the pressure.

Charley Hull, just one shot behind Ko entering the final round, saw her title hopes fade after a frustrating 74, settling for a share of fourth at seven under alongside Im Jin Hee, who fired the day's best round of 67, and Gaby Lopez (70). **GP**

## ARWEFJÄLL LEADS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR STANDINGS

**7** Sweden's Kajsa Arweffjäll sits atop the 2025 Rookie of the Year standings after the first two Ladies European Tour (LET) events of the season.

The Swede graduated from the LET Access Series at the end of 2024 winning both the Order of Merit and Rookie of the Year titles.

Arweffjäll, who made her professional debut on the LET in Sweden in June last year, teed it up in the first event in Morocco.

Rounds of 68-75-71 at the Lalla Meryem Cup saw the 24-year-old start the year with a T8 finish at Royal Golf Dar Es Salam.

Arweffjäll now leads the Rookie of the Year rankings with 69 points to her name ahead of USA's Brianna Navarrosa.

The 22-year-old American secured a T16



finish in Morocco and played at the PIF Saudi Ladies International thanks to a sponsor invitation.

Navarrosa carded rounds of 68-69-78 to end the week in a share of 47th place and move up to second in the standings with 55.75 points.

India's Avani Prashanth is in third place with 48 points after also finishing in a tie for 16th place at the season-opener in Morocco.

Spain's Blanca Fernandez is fourth with 40 points and England's Mimi Rhodes is fifth with 36.50 points.


Close behind is Lalla Aicha Q-School winner Daniela Darquea of Ecuador and Ireland's Sara Byrne – both on 32 points after T24 finishes in Morocco. **GP**



# MEET THE 13 FOUNDERS OF THE LPGA

Founded by 13 women in 1950, the LPGA organization is celebrating its 75th anniversary this season. Meet the **13 incredible women** who helped to create what is now the longest-running women's professional sports league in the world:




**1. Alice Bauer**   
Hometown: Eureka, South Dakota  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 2022/2024




**2. Patty Berg**  
Hometown: Minneapolis, Minnesota  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 1951/1974



**3. Bettye Danoff**   
Hometown: Dallas, Texas  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 2022/2024




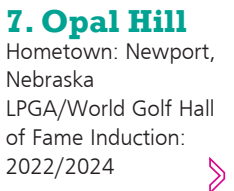
**4. Helen Dettweiler**   
Hometown: Washington, D.C.  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 2022/2024




**5. Marlene Hagge - Vossler**   
Hometown: Eureka, South Dakota  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame Induction:  
2002/2002




**6. Helen Hicks**  
Hometown:  
Cedarhurst, New York  
LPGA/World Golf Hall  
of Fame Induction:  
 2022/2024



**7. Opal Hill**  
Hometown: Newport,  
Nebraska  
LPGA/World Golf Hall  
of Fame Induction:  
 2022/2024




**8. Betty Jameson**   
Hometown: Norman, Oklahoma  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame Induction:  
1951/1998



**9. Sally Sessions**  
Hometown: Detroit,  
Michigan  
LPGA/World Golf Hall  
of Fame Induction:  
 2022/2024




**10. Marilynn Smith**   
Hometown: Topeka, Kansas  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 2022/2006




**11. Shirley Spork**   
Hometown: Detroit, Michigan  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 2022/2024



**12. Louise Suggs**   
Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 1951/1979



**13. Babe Didrikson Zaharias**   
Hometown: Port Arthur, Texas  
LPGA/World Golf Hall of Fame  
Induction: 1951/1974

# Drive to Save Lives

**T**he Hyderabad Golf Association Golf Course came alive with excitement as golf enthusiasts gathered for a cause that transcends the game—saving lives through organ donation. The MOHAN Foundation, a pioneering nonprofit dedicated to organ donation awareness for over 28 years, organized this charity tournament to support organ donation and transform the lives of organ failure patients.

The charity tournament attracted over 100 enthusiastic golfers, including a few from outside Hyderabad. A very special highlight was the presence of Mr. Karhun Nanda, a heart transplant recipient and a golfer, whose inspiring journey underscored the life-changing impact of organ transplantation. His presence served as a poignant reminder that, just like in golf, in life too—“Every shot counts and sometimes the second shot is what counts.” This resonates well with what golf legend Jack Nicklaus once said, “Success depends on the second shot.” The tournament followed the popular Stableford 2-Ball Scramble format, the evening ceremony commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee of MOHAN Foundation, followed by Mrs. Lalitha Raghuram, Country Director, who introduced the guests. The evening concluded with a lively gathering, where players enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere and an exciting lucky draw featuring prizes such as Amazon vouchers, golf bags, and a grand trip to Thailand.

The event was made possible with generous support from esteemed organizations, including Vamsiram Builders, NMDC, Dodla Dairy, Azad Engineering, Kapil Steel, Volvo, GolfPlus Monthly magazine, Akshaykalpa Organic, and Ballantine, among others. **GP**



Heros Pictures



Golfer Photo Shot



Mr. Madha Kota & Dr. Swetha Gullapalli- Winner



Mr. Rajendar Reddy Gaddam & Mr. Vasant Raju - 1st Runner-up

## RESULTS:

<b>Team Winners</b>	: Mada Kota & Dr. Swetha Gullapalli
<b>1st Runners-Up</b>	: Rajendra Reddy Gadam & Vasanth Raju
<b>2nd Runners-Up</b>	: Santosh Kumar & Dr. Ram Bandaru
<b>Closest to the Pin</b>	: Ranadhir Reddy Gurram
<b>Longest Drive</b>	: Sanjay Gaddipatti
<b>Straight Drive</b>	: Sankeerth N



# IN MEMORIAM: AJAY RAJ SHARMA A STALWART OF LAW AND AN AVID GOLFER

**S**ome men leave behind legacies that transcend their professions. Ajay Raj Sharma, the fearless IPS officer who reshaped Indian policing, was one such man. While he will always be remembered for his fearless leadership, unwavering integrity, and indomitable spirit, those who knew him well also saw another side of him—a golfer who found peace, joy, and camaraderie on the greens.

Sharma's golfing journey was not just a hobby but an extension of his character. Even after a lifetime of high-pressure policing and strategic leadership, he found solace on the greens, where he applied the same focus and determination that once helped him eliminate organized crime. Despite undergoing knee surgery, he never let his physical setbacks deter him from his passion. He would often share stories about his best shots, his misses, and the lessons golf taught him about patience and perseverance.

On the day he was hospitalized, Sharma had just finished a round of golf. That speaks volumes about his love for the game. For him, golf was more than a sport; it was a way of life—one that taught him grace under pressure, much like his time in uniform.

His legacy extends beyond policing; it is also reflected in the friendships he built on the course, the lessons he imparted, and the sheer joy he found in every swing. Ajay Raj Sharma was not just a top cop; he was a golfer at heart, proving that true passion never fades, no matter the stage of life. **GP**

Ajay Raj Sharma was not just a top cop; he was a golfer at heart, proving that true passion never fades, no matter the stage of life.



## NYRA'S PAR ROUND WINS HER THE TITLE

**H**urricane Junior Tour India held its 1st event of 2025 at Tarudhan Valley Golf Resort.

The field was small but very competitive and it showed in the scores and the positions were lost and won by small margin. **GP**

### Age Groups playing were:

Boys 10 & Under, 11-13

Girls 13 & Under & 14-18

### The age division winners were:

Nyra Singh - Girls 14-18

Zorawar Singh Monga - Boys 11-13

Vedika Loyalka - Girls 13 & Under

Varnit Malik - Boys 10 & Under

### In the Overall Competition the Top 3 were:

1st: Nyra Singh - G14-18

2nd: Varnit Malik - B 10 & Under

3rd: Vedika Loyalka - G 13 & Under



# QUTAB GOLF LEAGUE - ALAG HAI

Golf has historically been seen as an elite sport, often difficult to access for the general public. And Golfing events have also been equally restrictive, but with the advent of the Qutab Golf League (QGL), that barrier has come down considerably through its unique inclusive format.



Tvesa Malik & Ajeetesh Sandhu International Champions conducting Masterclass of Qutab Golf League 2025



Simi Mehra conducting Masterclass of Qutab Golf League 2025



Overall Winner Anmol Handa - Team Skullcandy Icons



Hole In One on 10th hole and Overall Winner Prithvi Singh Karayat from Team Casual Gurus

**T**he partnership between Game of Life Sports (GOLS), led by Amit Kharabanda and Samant Sikka, and Digraj Golf Inc. (DGI) has brought a fresh, exciting energy to the Qutab Golf League and indeed to the sport of golf itself. With Rs 20 lacs in prize money being offered, with the first-place team securing Rs 12 lacs-an impressive incentive that will undoubtedly fuel fierce competition, and we are already seeing that happen. Where else but at the Qutab Golf League, can a golfer who has no access to a membership in any golf course, compete, on one of Delhi's best golfing facilities, with equal playing rights, same as a member would enjoy?

In its inaugural season, the Qutab Golf League features 10 teams with each team comprising of 16 members. The uniqueness and fairness of the League reflects in the format it is played on - an Individual Stableford Format, with each player playing to 75% of their original handicap. This format provides an equal opportunity for teams and players alike, to stage a comeback. Incidentally, it's a League rule that each team has to include players that are from the Armed Forces, Government Service and includes Ladies, Juniors and Seniors above 70 years as well. Two-thirds into the League's inaugural season, let us take a look at how things have shaped up thus far.

The first two rounds featured each team

represented by 12 players. Of these 12, the nine best Stableford Scores were counted to come up with the team's daily score.

On a freezing winter morning on the 4th of January 2025, teams 'Mighty Pathaans' and 'Swinging Shers' soared into the joint lead tying at 310 Stableford Points, opening up a nine point lead over three other teams who were tied for third place. The second round, played on the 1st of February, witnessed team 'Swinging Shers' claiming the sole lead with a total of 631 Stableford Points aided by a second-round tally of 321 points.

On Day-Two, Anmol Handa of 'Skulcandy Icons' won the Overall Category while Akshay Ojha of 'Ishum Eagles' finished second. Not to be left behind, Prithvi Bijlani



Team Par Excellence performing

of 'PPGA Falcons' stole the show with a Hole-In-One of the par-3 13th hole.

To add to all the excitement, the Qutab Golf League received a tremendous boost when the crème de la crème of Indian golf graced the League with their presence during the two 'Masterclasses' with leading Asian Tour star golfer Ajeetesh Sandhu and European Tour golfer Tvesa Malik.

The legendary golfer Simi Mehra conducted a 'Long Driving' Masterclass for all the participants and invited Juniors. Her 'Masterclass' was followed by a Long Driving Contest and also a Putting contest for all the participants.

Back to the future!!! The 1st of March - the final day of the inaugural edition of the Qutab Golf League. Every member will have to contribute as the final score will comprise the cumulative stableford scores of all 12 players' in the team. And this will be added to the Teams score from the first two rounds to get the Team Total. The team with the highest cumulative score after all three rounds will be crowned the Winner of the Qutab Golf League.


The 10 teams participating in the league are Casual Gurus, Golf Spartans, Ishum Eagles, Mighty Pathaans, Nuts for Us, Pars Excellence, PPGA Falcons, Skullcandy Icons, Swinging Shers and Victorious Choice.



Yuvraj Bhatia, Digraj Singh, D Sarkar, Amit Kharbanda, Wg. Cdr. Arun Singh, Varun Khanna and Samant Sikka unveiling the Qutab Golf League Trophy

## The legendary golfer Simi Mehra conducted a 'Long Driving' Masterclass for all the participants and invited Juniors.

Sponsors who have come forth to support the league are MG Motors, Shudhee, Asia Spa Resort, Talisman, The Amber Vermont

Estate, Chimmys, Wild Vitamin Drink, Kairali, Styzen, Miam and GolfPlus is the official Golf Magazine. 

# SILVER JUBILEE FOR THE GOLF FOUNDATION!

*The lush greens of the Willingdon Sports Club in Mumbai, the crisp January air, and a community of people coming together for something bigger than the game.*



**T**he 16th Edition of The Golf Foundation's Fundraiser Tournament was held on January 24, 2025—an event that's as much about heart as it is about handicaps.

For over two decades, The Golf Foundation has been quietly rewriting the rules of the game. Founded in 2000, TGF had one simple idea: that raw talent, no matter where it comes from, deserves a shot. The Foundation has been a lifeline for young golfers from underprivileged backgrounds, providing not just equipment, coaching, and tournament access but also scholarships, mentorship, and, quite frankly, hope.

Take Ashok Kumar's story, for example. A young caddie with nothing but a dream and determination, Ashok caught the eye of Amit Luthra—National Golf Champion, Asian Games Gold Medallist, and Arjuna Awardee. Amit saw something extraordinary in Ashok: talent, grit, and the determination to succeed. Ashok didn't

have the resources to chase his dream, but Amit stepped in. He provided equipment, mentorship, and a belief that changed the course of Ashok's life. Ashok went pro, racked up 18 professional wins, and proved what we've always believed: talent finds a way when given the chance. His story isn't just one of triumph on the course; it's a reminder that when we lift others up, we create something far bigger than ourselves.

**The Golf Foundation has managed to raise 2.30 Cr and we truly appreciate the time and effort you dedicated to supporting such a worthy cause.**

**The Fundraiser Tournament is more than just a day on the course. It's an investment in a future where talent trumps circumstance.**



## IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS


- 1** Golf Foundation's 16 yr old girl-**Mannat** has won girls & Women's All India titles.
- 2** **Anshul** - also 16, also won boys & Mens National titles.
- 3** **Danish Verma** - won 2 World Jr titles.

The Fundraiser Tournament is more than just a day on the course. It's an investment in a future where talent trumps circumstance. Your participation ensures young golfers—boys and girls, abled and differently-abled—get the resources they need to shine, not just on the greens but in life.

Over the years, we've been joined by incredible supporters: Aamir Khan, Abhishek Bachchan, Boman Irani, and many others who've recognised the power of this mission. We'd love for you to join this legacy. **GP**



# GO GOLF 2025

The second Gulmohar Golfer of the Year event took place on 15th and 16th February as part of the Bimavale-Go Golf 2025 calendar. It had 68 participants fighting for the Claret Jug replica. 

**Total 31 golfers from 4 categories earned reward points.**

Category 1 winner : Tejas Deswal

Category 2 winner : Shyam Nathani

Category 3 winner : Savan Godiawala

Category 4 winner : Devjeet Singh Panesar



Shyam Nathani



Devjeet Singh Panesar



Tejas Deswal



Savan Godiawala

## MANNAT BRAR LEADS INDIA AT WOMEN'S AMATEUR ASIA-PACIFIC IN VIETNAM

Mannat Brar, 18, the number 1 ranked Amateur in the country, who is also the highest placed Amateur of the country in the World Amateur Golf Rankings, is leading the Indian challenge at the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific Championship starting at Hoiana Shores Golf Course at Danang, Vietnam from 6-9 March

Mannat is accompanied by other Amateurs Heena Kang, Zara Anand, Sanvi Somu, Kashika Mishra and Guntas Sandhu. The Championship is being held in at this venue in Vietnam for the first time with participation of 95 players from 23 countries. 

**Mannat is accompanied by other Amateurs Heena Kang, Zara Anand, Sanvi Somu, Kashika Mishra and Guntas Sandhu.**



Mannat Brar

# MALAYSIA TRULY ASIA

**MALAYSIA HAS BEEN A DESTINATION OF CHOICE FOR THE MATURED GOLFER SEEKING PAN ASIAN FLAVOURS. FOR GOLF, CUISINE AND LEISURE.**



**An array of well-designed Golf courses throughout the country, each one offering a unique experience for the players, a heady mix of Malay, Chinese and Indian cuisine, great shopping and leisure activities makes Malaysia truly Asia!**



## Activities Galore!

Sepang International Circuit is a motorsport race track in Sepang, Selangor, Malaysia. Located approximately 45 KM south of Kuala Lumpur close to KL international Airport. The races are worth a visit at the Sepang Circuit besides other activities!



## Golf in Malaysia!

**While Malaysia has more than 200 Golf Courses, some of the 'Must Play' are below:**

■ Kuala Lumpur Golf & CC East Course was voted Malaysia's fourth best course. The design takes full advantage of the land's beauty and makes you feel at one with nature. It has natural grasses and wetlands, as well as natural habitats for many species of wildlife and birds.

■ Kuala Lumpur Golf & CC West Course is the longer and more difficult of two private golf courses at the club. The golf course designed by Robin Nelson winds its way

through abandoned rock quarries in the Bukit Kiara foothills.

■ The Mines Resort -Situated just outside the city of Kuala Lumpur, cleverly uses the abandoned Tin mines as the setting!

■ Redesigned Ernie Els, The Els Club in Langkawi is earning rave reviews with its spectacular scenery, cooling jungle environment, immaculately presented course very attentive staff and some spectacular

holes beside the sea.

■ Set between ancient tropical rainforests and the immense South China Sea the Nexus Golf Resort Karambunai is quite simply in the perfect location. About half an hour drive from the centre of Kota Kinabalu City and the international airport the golf course is set on the Nexus Resort.

Also In Kota Kina Balu, an hour's drive through picturesque rain forest is the Borneo

Malaysia has a number of Islands like Penang, Langkawi, Tioman, Sipadan and many more.



Golf & Country Club a gem in the Land below the wind!

## Island Ahoy!

Malaysia has a number of Islands like Penang, Langkawi, Tioman, Sipadan and many more.

One of the Largest islands off the east coast of peninsular Malaysia and as well as one of the most beautiful islands in the world is the Redang Island in Koala Nerus District, Terengganu, Malaysia, famous for its crystal clear waters and white sandy beaches.

Nestled on the beautiful island of Redang is The Taaras Beach & Spa Resort. Surrounded by the spectacular, crystal clear waters of the South China Sea, the resort bestows a contemporary barefoot luxury experience amid warm Asian hospitality.

## Taste of Asia in Malaysia!

A melting pot of cultures and communities Malaysia sees this literally in its cuisine which is a heady mix of Indian, Chinese, Malay, Indigenous reflecting the best of Asian cuisine. Have Nasi Lemak The national dish of Malaysia. Laksa or Curry mee another national delicacy a noodle soup made in heaven, Roti Canai and Nasi Biryani with the Indian influence and wash it down with hot Chai called Teh Tarik or ‘Pulled tea’ as it passes from the pan to the mug in a traditional Indian tea stall move, the exception being the condensed milk! 🇲🇾



# SHUBHAM NARAIN TRIUMPHS ON THIRD PLAYOFF HOLE TO WIN TATA STEEL PGTI QUALIFYING SCHOOL 2025



Winner Shubham Narain receives the trophy and cheque from Mr. Amandeep Johl, CEO, PGTI (left) and Mr. Ujjal Chakraborti, Executive-in-Charge, Tinplate (right)



Shubham Narain - Winner

**D**elhi's Shubham Narain put behind his disappointments of the past few seasons by registering victory on the third playoff hole against Panchkula-based amateur Anant Singh Ahlawat at the Final Qualifying Stage of the TATA Steel PGTI Qualifying School 2025 played at the Golmuri Golf Course in Jamshedpur.

Twenty-seven-year-old Shubham emerged Q School champion with a par on the 13th hole (third playoff hole). Shubham's opponent Anant missed out on a par on the third extra hole.

Shubham Narain (71-64-67-66) and Anant Singh Ahlawat (67-64-67-70), both sons of Army officers, went into a playoff after they were tied at the top at totals of 16-under 268 at the end of the regulation 72 holes. Both players then made pars on the first two playoff holes. As further play was not possible due to the fading light, the resumption of play was scheduled for the next day at 7 am (February 8).

Shubham, who turned pro in 2017 while he

was still a teenager, came out on the morning of February 8 and made a two-on and two-putt for par on the par-4 13th hole which was used as the third playoff hole. He tapped-in for his winning par putt from one and a half foot. The 28-year-old Anant, a former All India Amateur champion, on the other hand, missed his par putt from eight feet that brought his challenge to an end.

Shubham, who bagged the winner's cheque worth INR 75,000, said, "First sealing my full card and now winning a tournament after eight years and that too my first one as a professional is very special. I also ended up with my lowest four-day total at an event. This may be just the Q School but a win is a win and that gives me a lot of self-belief going ahead.

"I was delighted with the way I held my game and my thoughts together despite the added pressure of coming out and playing an extra day. The learnings from the past few seasons have helped me change my approach towards the game. Earlier, I feel I was too hard on myself. But I'm more patient now, I don't keep

my expectations too high and give myself more room for error. Hopefully, I can carry forward this form into the season."

The cut in the final round had gone at three-under 281 which meant that the top 33 players earned their full cards for the 2025 PGTI season. The top 33 included five amateurs and six foreigners (three from Bangladesh and one each from the USA, South Korea and Italy). **GP**



Anant Singh Ahlawat - Runner-Up

**Content Editor :** Nikhil Kalaan, Media Manager, PGTI







# YUVRAJ SANDHU CONTINUES LOVE AFFAIR WITH TOLLYGUNGE CLUB, TRIUMPHS AT SEASON-OPENER BY TWO SHOTS



Champion Yuvraj Sandhu receives the trophy and cheque from Mr. Kapil Dev, President, PGTI and Mr. P S Barman, President, The Tollygunge Club Ltd.

**C**handigarh's Yuvraj Sandhu continued his love affair with Tollygunge Club as he triumphed by two shots at the INR 1 crore TATA Steel PGTI Players Championship 2025 presented by The Tollygunge Club Ltd, the PGTI season-opener.

Yuvraj (63-61-68-68), who was in the lead in all three previous rounds, shot a final round score of two-under 68 to emerge wire-to-wire champion with a total score of 20-under 260. The 27-year-old Sandhu thus bagged his second title at Tollygunge Club where he had previously won in 2022.

Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain (65-62-66-69), who posed a serious challenge to Yuvraj on the back-nine in round four, produced a 69 on the last day to finish runner-up at a total of 18-under 262.

Yuvraj Sandhu, who enjoyed a slim one-shot lead heading into the final round, built on his advantage with a strong front-nine where he delivered three birdies at the cost of a lone bogey.

Yuvraj seemed to be cruising to victory after he made birdie on the 11th. But Sandhu had some late jitters when he found the hazard on the 15th and dropped a bogey even as Jamal collected a couple of birdies to narrow the lead to one shot.



Yuvraj Sandhu - Winner

**“Jamal really challenged me over the last 36 holes but I think it’s just the comfort level that I have at Tolly that helped me stay ahead and bring out my best.”**

However, Yuvraj roared back with a timely 12-foot birdie conversion on the 16th to extend his lead to two shots.

Sandhu's bogey on the final hole couldn't stop him from marching to his seventh PGTI title

and overall 10th professional win. Yuvraj took home the winning purse worth INR 15 lakh.

Yuvraj, who fell just one stroke short of matching his record for the lowest winning total at Tollygunge, said, “All the work I did with my mental coach recently seemed to have paid off as I was in control of the situation and stayed calm through the week.

“Jamal really challenged me over the last 36 holes but I think it’s just the comfort level that I have at Tolly that helped me stay ahead and bring out my best. I really like the warmth at this club and the food here. Last time I won here at Tolly, my career had a jump-start. Now, I’m hoping this win can once again give me a lift.” **GP**



Jamal Hossain - Runner-Up





# YUVRAJ SANDHU DOMINATES FINAL ROUND AT GLADE ONE PRESENTS GUJARAT OPEN 2025, REGISTERS BACK-TO-BACK TITLES



Champion Yuvraj Sandhu (2nd from left) receives the trophy and cheque from Mr. Himanshu Madan Mohan, Director, BSafal (4th from left) and Mr. Rakesh Mehta, Zonal Head, IndusInd Bank (2nd from right)

Chandigarh's Yuvraj Sandhu made it back-to-back titles as he registered impressive five-shot win after dominating the final round with a score of seven-under 65, the day's best, at the INR 1 crore Glade One presents Gujarat Open Golf Championship 2025 played at the Glade One Golf Resort & Club in Ahmedabad.

Yuvraj Sandhu (32-34-68-65), who had also won the season-opener the previous week in Kolkata, totaled 17-under 199 for the week in Ahmedabad. The 27-year-old Yuvraj thus bagged the first two events of the 2025 PGTI season.

Delhi-based Saptak Talwar (34-34-69-67) posted a last round of 67 to finish runner-up at 12-under 204.

The first two rounds of the tournament comprised nine holes each. The third and fourth rounds comprised 18 holes each. The tournament was played over a total of 54 holes. The par for the course in the first two rounds was 36 and in the third and fourth rounds was 72. The 9-hole course was played twice in rounds three and four with different pin positions.

Yuvraj, the overnight leader by one shot, continued his hot streak in round four making



Yuvraj Sandhu - Winner

seven birdies on what turned out to be an error-free day for him. Yuvraj, who made 17 greens in regulation in the last round, had a fabulous front-nine where he sank five birdies including some long putts.

Sandhu kept up the intensity on the back-nine by scoring two more birdies to romp home to victory with ease thus lifting his 11th title and recording his eighth win on the PGTI.

Yuvraj also became the first player in over two

years to win back-to-back titles on the PGTI. Manu Gandas was the last player to achieve the feat in December 2022.

Sandhu, who bagged the winner's purse of INR 15 lakh to further consolidate his lead in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking, said, "I was just thinking about my checklist of achieving back-to-back wins at the start of the day. I was a bit nervous and anxious but wanted to stamp my authority today.

"The key for me in the first two weeks of the season has been staying calmer. I've been working on that aspect for some time now and I've been able to achieve those goals."

Saptak Talwar's final round of 67 helped him climb two spots and post his second runner-up finish on the PGTI. **GP**



Saptak Talwar - Runner-Up





# INAUGURAL SECL CHHATTISGARH OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY CHHATTISGARH TOURISM LAUNCHED

**T**he TATA Steel Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board jointly announced the staging of the inaugural SECL Chhattisgarh Open Golf Championship presented by Chhattisgarh Tourism. PGTI's first-ever event in the state of Chhattisgarh carried a prize purse of INR 1 crore and was scheduled to be held at the magnificent Fairway Golf & Lake Resort in Naya Raipur from February 25 - 28, 2025.

SECL was the Title Partner for the event, Chhattisgarh Tourism Board was the Presenting Partner, while Chhattisgarh Herbals, NMDC, NRDA and Purple Goat were Associate Sponsors.

The star-studded field at the tournament featured leading Indian professionals Om Prakash Chouhan, Udayan Mane, Rashid Khan, Manu Gandas, Aman Raj and Chikkarangappa S, to name a few.

**Shri Arun Sao, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh**, expressed his excitement about the first-ever professional golf event in the state. Sharing his vision for the event and its significance for the region, **Shri Sao said:**

"I am delighted to support the staging of the first-ever professional golf event in Chhattisgarh in association with the PGTI. The inaugural Chhattisgarh Open Golf Championship will play a pivotal role in promoting the state as an attractive golfing destination and placing it firmly on the international golfing map. This event will not only bring leading professionals from India and overseas to Chhattisgarh but will also inspire budding golfers in the state to dream big and aim high."

The championship aligned with Shri Arun Sao's commitment to driving sports development and creating opportunities for local talent to grow while showcasing Chhattisgarh's potential as a destination for major sporting events.

**Mr. Kapil Dev, President, PGTI**, said, "We at the PGTI are very excited about exploring new territory by taking the tour to Chhattisgarh for the first time thus expanding PGTI's base across the country. This is in line with PGTI's core objective



L - R: Udayan Mane (Olympian & Former PGTI No. 1), Mr. Amandeep Johl, CEO, PGTI, Shri Arun Sao, Deputy Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh and Om Prakash Chouhan (Former PGTI No. 1), pose with the trophy at the Press Conference

**"I am delighted to support the staging of the first-ever professional golf event in Chhattisgarh in association with the PGTI."**

**Shri Arun Sao, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh**

of creating maximum playing opportunities for our Indian professionals. We thank the Government of Chhattisgarh, SECL, Chhattisgarh Tourism Board, Fairway Golf & Lake Resort and all other event partners for extending their support to the event and sharing our vision of growing professional golf in the country."

**Shri Biranchi Das, Director (Personnel), South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), Bilaspur**, expressed his pride in SECL's association with the tournament, highlighting the organization's commitment to sports development and regional growth.

**Shri Das** said, "SECL is proud to support the first-ever professional golf tournament in Chhattisgarh, a landmark event that will not only elevate the state's sporting profile but also inspire young athletes to pursue excellence. Our commitment extends beyond industry-we aim to contribute to the overall development of the region, and sports play a crucial role in this vision. We look forward to witnessing top golfing talent compete in this prestigious championship and hope it paves the way for

many more such events in the future."

**Mr. Chinmay Tiwari, Founder of Purple Goat Sportstentment**, shared his enthusiasm for the event, emphasizing its impact on the state's sporting landscape.

**Mr. Tiwari** said, "It is an honor to be part of the first-ever professional golf event in Chhattisgarh, in collaboration with the PGTI. The Chhattisgarh Open Golf Championship marks a significant milestone in the state's journey toward becoming a premier sporting destination. This tournament will not only attract top golfing talent from across India and beyond but also serve as a source of inspiration for young athletes in the region. We are committed to fostering a vibrant sports culture in Chhattisgarh, and this event is a testament to that vision."

**Mr. Amandeep Johl, CEO, PGTI**, said, "The staging of the SECL Chhattisgarh Open is a major landmark moment for the PGTI as we expand our geographical base by adding Chhattisgarh to our schedule for the first time. The professionals are extremely excited about taking up the challenge of playing at the outstanding Fairway Golf & Lake Resort for the first time. We thank the Government of Chhattisgarh, SECL, Chhattisgarh Tourism Board, Fairway Golf & Lake Resort and all the event partners for their support in making this event possible. We seek to work in partnership with all other stakeholders involved in the event in bringing the spotlight on Chhattisgarh as a leading tourist and golfing destination." **GP**





# SHAURYA BHATTACHARYA STAMPS AUTHORITY WITH FINAL DAY 63 FOR RESOUNDING FIVE-SHOT WIN



Champion Shaurya Bhattacharya receives the trophy and cheque from Shri Arun Sao, Deputy Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh (3rd from right) and Mr. Kapil Dev, President, PGTI (2nd from left). The other dignitaries seen in the picture are Mr. Amandeep Johl, CEO, PGTI (extreme left), Mr. Rahul Mehta, Owner, Victorious Choice (2nd from right) and Mr. Chinmay Tiwari (extreme right).

**S**haurya Bhattacharya of Delhi stamped his authority with an error-free final round of six-under 63 to register a resounding five-shot victory at a total of 27-under 249 at the INR 1 crore SECL Chhattisgarh Open 2025 presented by Chhattisgarh Tourism played at the magnificent Fairway Golf & Lake Resort in Naya Raipur.

Shaurya Bhattacharya (64-61-61-63), the overnight leader by five shots, drove home the advantage in round four to record his second professional win. The 22-year-old Shaurya, who was the PGTI Emerging Player of the Year in 2024, dropped just one bogey during the tournament. Bhattacharya picked up the winning cheque worth INR 15 lakh that catapulted him from 59th to second position in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking.

Delhi's Sachin Baisoya (67-62-64-61) fired the last day's best score of 61 to climb five spots and claim the runner-up position at 22-under 254 at the Par-69 course.

Shaurya Bhattacharya, a winner in his rookie season on the PGTI last year, had a slow start to the day as he made pars on the first seven



Shaurya Bhattacharya - Winner

holes. Shaurya then picked up the pace by capitalizing on the three Par-5s, the eighth, 11th and 13th, with birdies on the first two and an eagle on the last. He also sank a birdie on the 12th. Bhattacharya all but sealed the title with his superb tee shot on the Par-3 17th that landed two feet from the pin and gave him his last birdie of the day.

Shaurya said, "It was a solid week for me with just one bogey through the four rounds. Today it was all about focusing on my breathing and



Sachin Baisoya - Runner-Up

staying in the present.

"I was striking it well through the week so that gave me a lot of confidence at the start of the final day. The plan was to attack the flags on day four since it is a scoring course. I gave myself a target of three to four under for the day as I knew that would be good enough to win. I'm glad that I managed to do even better."

Sachin Baisoya's runner-up cheque of INR 10 lakh helped him jump from 20th to third place in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking. **GP**





# INDUSIND BANK PARTNERS WITH PROFESSIONAL GOLF TOUR OF INDIA AS ITS OFFICIAL BANKING PARTNER



➔ IndusInd Bank announced its partnership with the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) as its Official Banking Partner on February 19, 2025. This collaboration underscores the bank's commitment to providing a superlative experience to its Ultra High Net Worth Individuals (UHNIs) & High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs) under the umbrella of PIONEER banking. This partnership is an extension of various initiatives taken by IndusInd Bank over the years that not only caters to the diverse banking requirements of UHNIs and HNIs, but also provides value-added premium experience aligned to their lifestyle and way of living, especially in the field of sports.

As an exclusive Banking Partner, Bank will actively support PGTI events throughout the tournament, contributing to spread the reach of the sport and strengthening India's professional golfing landscape. Under the leadership of Kapil Dev, President - PGTI and cricketing legend, Amandeep Johl, CEO - PGTI, the tour features more than 20 tournaments across the year. Under this partnership, IndusInd Bank's PIONEER customers stand a chance to participate in various engagement activities across the tournament cities.

IndusInd Bank's PIONEER banking program offers a comprehensive range of full-stack banking and wealth management solutions to

the UHNI and HNI segment of the customers. These solutions are further categorized into personal banking, business banking, wealth management and NRI banking. Wealth management solutions offer a wide range of investment products ranging from Mutual Funds, Alternate products, Sovereign Gold bonds and NPS. Legacy planning is another key offering under wealth management

**AIMED TO PROVIDE  
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solutions. Under PIONEER program, IndusInd Bank offers credit card and debit card as well. A stand-out feature of the credit card offering under PIONEER program is the select Golf lessons offered to PIONEER credit cardholders aligned to the needs of the Golf enthusiasts.

Mr. Sumant Kathpalia, Managing Director & CEO, IndusInd Bank, said, "IndusInd Bank has always believed in keeping customers at the centre of everything we do and provide an

experience to our customers, that goes beyond just banking. We have a firm philosophy of integrating an 'experience' at every possible touch-point of customers. Golf is a lifestyle sport, and IndusInd Bank's association with PGTI is another step in our constant endeavour to offer a lifestyle banking experience. We are glad to associate with Professional Golf Tour of India as its Official Banking Partner to promote professional golf in the country."

Kapil Dev, President, PGTI, commented, "My association with Golf as a sport has evolved over the years and I find the spirit of golf and cricket alike. Golf is a lifestyle sport and likewise IndusInd Bank is also a lifestyle bank which makes IndusInd Bank an ideal Banking partner for PGTI. This association will bring a superlative experience for audience as well as the players, which aligns with the philosophy of PGTI."

Apart from the lifestyle connect for this sport, IndusInd Bank firmly believes in the philosophy of driving diversity, differentiation and domination through various initiatives to support sports in India under the umbrella of 'IndusInd For Sports', an initiative of IndusInd Bank launched in 2016. This directly impacts the three most important pillars of the bank i.e. customers, employees and the community. The partnership with PGTI is partly an extension of this philosophy, at IndusInd Bank. **IP**





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[www.maitriindia.org](http://www.maitriindia.org)

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