

Anderson breaks down one of Justin Thomas' favourite golf shots pg p20

▲ MONTHLY ▲

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MCILROY**
WINS SCOTTISH
OPEN 2023

PLAY BETTER IN
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Brian Harman



The Month Gone by

A magnificent birdie-birdie finish sealed Rory McIlroy's second consecutive Rolex Series title at the Genesis Scottish Open. At though he entered the final round The Renaissance Club with a one-shot lead, it was home favourite Robert MacIntyre who threatened to seal a fairy-tale win.

The 34-year-old then produced some closing magic of his own, putting his approach to 11 feet and nervelessly holing his putt to sign for a 68 and seal a remarkable one-stroke victory on a dramatic day in high winds, taking him to the No.2 position in the world rankings.

McIlroy's first victory on Scottish soil now goes alongside the Hero Dubai Desert Classic title he claimed in January in his Rolex Series collection and takes his tally of DP World Tour victories to 16.

He also becomes the first player to win the Scottish Open, Irish Open and Open Championship the week before he goes in search of a fifth Major at Royal Liverpool, where he lifted

the Claret Jug for the first time in 2014.

American Brian Harman made a methodical march on the final day at the British Open to win by six strokes, finishing at 13 under par. With a final round defined by grit, Harman managed to hold off the challengers staying ahead. It was the largest margin of victory at a men's golf major tournament since Bryson DeChambeau's six-stroke win at the 2020 U.S. Open.

Our favourite Shubhankar Sharma did well posting the best ever result accomplished a the best-ever result by an Indian golfer at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Merseyside, England. He finished in a tied-eighth position alongside Cameron Young from USA.

Prior to this, Anirban Lahiri achieved a Top-5 result in 2015, and Jeev Milkha Singh attained a T-9 position at the 2008 PGA Championship in Michigan, USA. Jyoti Randhawa previously held the record for the best finish by an Indian golfer at the Open, securing a tied-27th position at Royal Troon in 2004. Anirban Lahiri's tied fifth-place finish at the PGA Championship in Wisconsin, USA in 2015 stands as the finest performance by an Indian in a men's major tournament.

Happy reading!

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26 BRILLIANT BRIAN HARMAN BECOMES CHAMPION GOLFER

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29 DP WORLD BECOMES A WORLDWIDE PARTNER OF THE RYDER CUP

Ryder Cup Europe and the PGA of America today announced a new agreement with DP World that will see the global supply chain leader become a Worldwide Partner of the Ryder Cup.

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Following a brief three-week hiatus, the JGTO stars are set to return to the greens for the prestigious Japan PGA Championship - a tournament that will mark

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43 BAILEY BRINGS HOME THE WIN AT RAMSIDE

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45 BOUTIER SEALS MAIDEN MAJOR WITH VICTORY

Celine Boutier stormed to a six-stroke victory with a closing round of 68 (-3) to win the 2023 Amundi Evian Championship. The Solheim Cup star made history as she became the first player from France to secure the Amundi Evian Championship since the event was designated a major.

Masterclass Instruction

Over the next few pages, leading players demonstrates the techniques and strategies you'll need to sharpen up.

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Don't waste time bashing balls into a field... a Toptracer Range will transform your practice. What does your average visit to the driving range look like? If it's anything like ours, you'll head there with all the right intentions, but end up hitting your favourite club your favourite yardage 30 times... and a load of drives into a field. Read to know more!

PGTI

56 SHUBHANKAR RECORDS BEST INDIAN FINISH AT THE OPEN

Sharma recorded the best Indian finish at The Open after he claimed tied eighth place at the 151st edition of golf's oldest Major at Royal Liverpool Golf Club in England. Shubhankar, who turned 27 years of age during round two of the event, posted scores of 68, 71, 70 and 70 to total five-under 279 for the tournament.



Disclaimer: The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and contributors in this issue do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the publication.

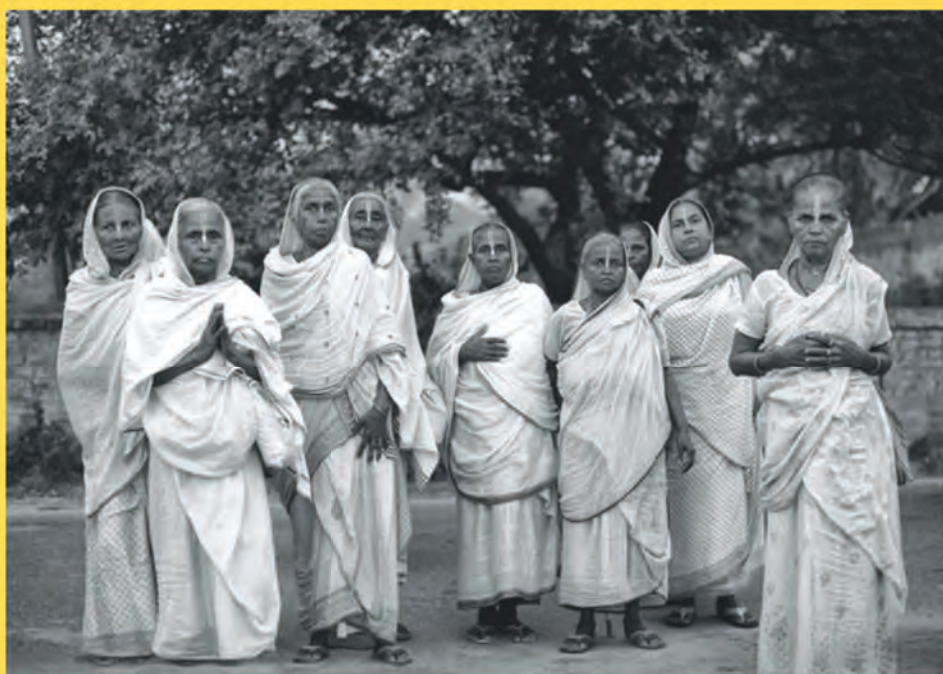
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6 TIPS TO BE A TRULY GREAT PARENT

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.

SADHGURU ISHA FOUNDATION

Sadhguru: A few hundred years ago, John Wilmot, an English lord, said something significant about parenting: “Before I got married, I had six theories about bringing up children. Now I have six children and no theories.” So what should you do in terms of parenting? Look back at yourself when you were a child – what kind of parents would have been the best? Remember what it was like to be a child, and you will clearly know.

Unfortunately, people have been made to believe that children are all born improper and we have to correct them, which is not true. If you

look at parents and children, generally, at least children below ten years of age are definitely more joyful. Then who should be the consultant for life – those who are more joyful, or those who are falling apart within themselves because they do not know how to handle their offspring? Children want to emulate what you do. If you set an example as someone worth looking up to, you do not have to do much parenting.

#1 EVALUATE YOURSELF

Before you decide to have a child, you must evaluate yourself in every aspect – the way you

sit, stand, speak, and react to situations. Ask yourself, if you were a five-year-old, would you like and look up to this person? Another thing you could do is spend sufficient time with children to see if they like you, and if you like them. This way, a lot of wisdom would blossom, and fertility clinics would close down.

#2 CREATE THE RIGHT ATMOSPHERE

If you already have a child, all you have to do is create a loving, supportive, and invigorating

atmosphere. There is really nothing to teach. You came here a few years earlier than the child. What you know about life that the child does not know are just a few tricks of the world, how to survive and how to make a living. But you do not know a deeper dimension of life. These tricks need not be taught to children too early. They will learn them later on. Right now, when a child enters your life, it is time to learn, not to teach. Children may not know what is dangerous, what is nice, and things like that. But hopefully you have a certain wisdom about life around you, which children may not have. If they are moving towards danger, exercise your wisdom. Otherwise, children are able to conduct life more joyfully than you. Learn those aspects from them.

Do not teach them commandments that have not worked for you, and that you yourself could never follow. In every society, there are some kinds of commandments. If everyone practiced them, the world would be very different. Obviously no one practiced them, but still these commandments survived because people teach them to their children. If you want your children to be better than you, the first thing you have to do is to establish integrity, because wherever they go, this will sustain them. If you try to teach your children things that you are not able to follow yourself, obviously they will see through that after some time. Your words and your behavior should match. If you create a loving and vibrant atmosphere, they will be fine.

#3 SKIP THE TOYS, CLIMB A TREE

You have to physically nourish and mentally ignite children about things. The simplest way is to take them out into nature, where everything, from an insect to a flower, is exciting. But most parents today want to buy some stuff, throw it in the children's room, lock it – everything is padded so that they cannot hurt themselves – and the parents can go to a party. That is not parenting.

Billions of dollars are spent every year on toys for twenty to thirty percent of the children on the planet, while the remaining seventy percent never get a toy in their lives. Those who are bought these toys are the ones who suffer most, on a mental and emotional level. The others may suffer because of lack of nutrition and other basic requirements. But the affluent ones are going through inner turmoil.

If instead, you take the trouble of taking your children out, making them climb a tree, walking somewhere with them, taking a swim or some such thing, the child will grow up physically and mentally healthy.

#4 PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A 20-YEAR PROJECT

Once you have a child, it is a twenty-year project – if they do well. If they do not do well, it is a lifelong project. If you are not ready for

that, you should not get into it. Unfortunately, many couples think that for their marriage to survive, they have to have a child. A child is not a personalized project. We are creating the next generation. In some way, the next generation should be at least one step ahead of where we are. If we do not aspire and work towards that, we should not have children. What is the point if the next generation is going to be just like us, nothing more?

And above all, humanity is not on the verge of extinction - there is no need for everyone to reproduce. It almost looks like we are trying to compete with the insect population in terms of numbers. It is time we slow down in many respects.

Those who decide to have children must have dedicated time for them, because this is about making the next generation better than who we are. And above all, you must fix yourself. You must be a kind of a person the child will look up to and love to be with. Then, even time can be adjusted. If they are really looking up to you, five minutes of contact can be worth five days.

The responsibility of having a child requires involvement. Suppose you made the mistake of having a child without being able to offer the necessary involvement, please hand over the child to someone who is loving, caring and joyful, someone who is able to give his or her life to the child. You can provide the financial support. Whether they are the biological parents or not – the child does not care. Whoever is most loving, most joyful, is the one who children would like to hang around with.

#5 EXPLORE THE POSITIVE AND WONDERFUL WORLD

Nowadays it's not uncommon to find three-year-old kids glued to the television or smartphone screen. And we don't know what they are taking in and how they understand what's shown there because even you can't figure what's going on. One moment, somebody is talking about creating a beautiful world, the next moment there is a bombing happening, the next moment something else.

Every parent needs to think about what they want to expose their children to. The exposure that they have had is what will stick with them for life, not a moral teaching. You must expose them to all the positive, wonderful things in life. Positive things do not mean right versus wrong - simply life the way it is.

This may sound extreme, but I think if people want to have children, they should be ready to withdraw with them to a natural space for at least two months in a year, rather than living in city burrows or bird nests of apartments. Even if you have to live in a tent somewhere, children need to be in nature if you want them to be physically and mentally healthy and balanced, which is the most important thing.


Once you have a child, it is a twenty-year project - if they do well. If they do not do well, it is a lifelong project.

#6 PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SECURITY

The number of people going crazy today is too large. In the European Union for example, which has enjoyed economic wellbeing for much of the last two centuries, thirty-eight percent of the population has psychological problems. This is mainly because they grew up in conditions where they were uncared for. There was emotional insecurity even about their parents. They did not know if their mother or father would leave them at some point. Now as adults, there is serious emotional insecurity about their spouses and partners. That man or that woman may leave you anytime.

When there is no emotional security, human beings become psychologically imbalanced. If you want a generation of people to be productive, they either must be conscious or they must have emotional security – otherwise, they will go crazy. We have destroyed all these things, and then we wonder why we are not living well, why our children are acting crazy, why our children are shooting someone or shooting themselves. This is so because right from childhood, there is no emotional security.

For most people, I would say emotions make up at least eighty percent of who they are. Being such a big power, if you do not harness your emotions, if you do not make them into a positive force in your life, they can smother and destroy you. Today, being emotional is equated with having negative emotions. When we say someone became very emotional, it means he went a little crazy. We have to change this concept in the world. Why do we not acknowledge that joy, bliss, love, devotion and ecstasy are emotions?

Emotional security is absolutely important, because emotions are still the largest dimension of most human beings. If one becomes really conscious, then emotions do not matter. But until then, emotions play a significant role. So, if we want to bring up our children well, there should be a loving atmosphere around them all the time - not just at home, but also in school and on the street. 



The Indian Golf Union

The governing body for Golf in India

NATIONAL SQUAD CAMP



The Indian Golf Union organised a National Camp for the Men's Amateur National Squad at Jaypee Green, Greater Noida from 3rd to 8th July 2023. The camp focuses on psychological, physiological, nutritional and mental aspects of the game along with more data and analytical approach towards their game. The team of experts include Mr. Monish Bindra (Head Coach), Dr. Ravindra (physiotherapist), Dr. Nanki Chadha (Psychologist), Mr. Sandy Parihar (physical trainer) and Mr. Fawad (nutritionist) who are supported by their respective teams.

The President, IGU emphasised on the more technical aspects of an athlete when they are representing the country at the highest level and was very happy with the arrangements made for the camp. Mr. Simarjeet Singh, Chairman, National Squad of IGU introduced the players and the instructors to the media and explained all the aspects of the camp. The name of the national squad players are Harimohan Singh, Anant Singh Ahlawat, Jaiveer, Rohit, Shaurya Bhattacharya, Yuvraj Singh, Sandeep Yadav, Vinamra Anand, Rajesh Gautam and Milind Soni. **GP**



IGU AND WGAI SIGN R&A CHARTER ON WOMEN'S GOLF

The IGU is committed towards promoting more women participation and their development in golf by signing the R&A Women in Golf Charter which aims to provide awareness of sport & career option for women. Recognizing the need for a

fundamental cultural shift, the charter aims to encourage golf industry bodies across the world to enable women to grow, get quality coaching, have women friendly amenities and create player development programs.

"The Charter is a strong statement of intent

from the golf industry that it has to change and a commitment on behalf of all of us to take measures designed to achieve positive change for women, girls and families. This is crucial to growing participation in the sport in the years ahead." said Martin Slumbers, CEO of The R&A **GP**



The Indian Golf Union

The governing body for Golf in India

Q&A with **ZARA ANAND**

GP: Who prompted you to take up golf out of all the other sports?

ZA : My grandfather is an avid golfer and we used to go to the range together when I was just 4 years old. He lives at Jaypee Greens Golf Club and whenever I visited him in my younger days I would play with him on the range or around the practice greens and bunkers. I also really started enjoying the sport because I was introduced to this game in a fun way by my coach.

GP: How did you manage your time to juggle between golf and studies?

ZA : Until 8th grade I was a full time student at Shiv Nadar School, Noida. Last year I started high school and decided to switch to an online American School called Laurel Springs based in California, US. Laurel Springs offers me a lot of flexibility of time. It's definitely still a challenge to juggle both academics and golf especially when I am travelling for tournaments but due to the flexibility offered I can login for school whenever I want and complete my school work on time to stay on schedule irrespective of my location where I am travelling or the time zone I happen to be in.

GP: What has been the role of IGU in your journey as an amateur golfer?

ZA : IGU is definitely a great platform for golf in India. It allows you to play challenging golf courses for multiple weeks in a year with the best players from across the country. It has helped me develop as a player and allowed me to compete some weeks over stretches to get used to the rigor of travelling and playing non-stop. Moving forward, I aspire to make it to the India squad and represent my country at the best junior tournaments across the world. I am



FAVORITES?

Food	Pan asian and Italian
Book	Unstoppable by Maria Sharapova
Golfer	Myself, Zara Anand

moving to Category A at the end of July 2023 and I am looking forward to playing for the rest of the season.

GP: What are your future plans?

ZA : The long term goal for me is definitely to play and win on the LPGA tour. The immediate goal would be to reduce my scoring average. It is currently 72 but I want to get it to the 60s. This will definitely help me to compete at the highest level of tournament golf both in amateur and professional tournaments and also to help me get into a top college golf program.

GP: How important is fitness for your game and what is your regime?

ZA : Fitness is the most important thing in my training program and consistency is the key part of it. It ensures the longevity of my career by remaining injury-free and helps me stay in good form when I play consecutive weeks of tournament golf. I work out every alternate day to ensure proper recovery and avoid injuries. I work out with my coach Mr. Amit Dube, who plans a well balanced work out for me which includes strength, speed and flexibility. Last

year, I was diagnosed with thyroid issues and prior I also battled with COVID which caused loss of strength, weight and my driving distance. Consistently working out and supplementing it with a nutrition plan has definitely helped me not bounce back but has helped me in setting new benchmarks for myself.

GP: How are you keeping up your practice regimen?

ZA : During tournaments, I like to keep my practice regimen simple. Focusing mainly on my fundamentals and maintaining all aspects of my game. During the off season, I put in 2-3 hours on the range with my coach to work on my swing and consistency, followed by another 2-3 hours on the short game. I definitely feel the need to spend more hours on my short game to gain precision and increase my chances to shoot lower scores. I play on the course 2-3 times a week alternating between Jaypee Greens, Delhi Golf Club and Noida Golf Club.

ZARA

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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 Rules School at Hyderabad

Tournament Directors and Rules Instructors are trained and certified accordingly.



Junior Program at CIAL Cochin

There are over 250 Golf Rules Official 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 India - 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 Nouruz Cup



National Squad Camp

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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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BRENT PATERSON AND JACKIE FOSTER CLAIM R&A SENIOR AMATEUR TITLES AT WOODHALL SPA

New Zealander Brent Paterson and England's Jackie Foster claimed success in the R&A Senior Amateur and Women's Senior Amateur championships at Woodhall Spa.

Paterson said securing the title was "surreal" while Foster said it was "beyond my wildest dreams."

Paterson won by five shots over Englishman John Kemp after the Kiwi finished on a total of eight-under-par 283 thanks to rounds of 73, 69, 68 and a closing 73.

Foster bettered Australian Nadene Gole and fellow Englishwoman Emma Brown by two shots with a six-over-par tally of 297 (76, 73, 72 and 76).

With both championships played concurrently for the first time at Royal Dornoch 12 months ago, the English venue was the setting for both this year as Paterson entered the golf history books.

The 62-year-old Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Club member is the first New Zealander to win the prestigious trophy since the inaugural 1969 championship. Foster added the women's trophy to consecutive wins in the 2016 and 2017 English Senior Amateur

Championship.

Paterson was also making his championship debut. "It's crazy," he said. "I played with some good golfers this week but I like being in that white hot competition. It's just really exciting. You don't get many of these chances in your life to win big events like this."

Paterson joins the great Sir Bob Charles as an R&A winner. The left-hander won The Open in 1963, the only New Zealander to win the Claret Jug.

Foster didn't have as far to travel as Paterson. A member of Bishop Stortford Golf Club in Hertfordshire, she never dreamt when traveling the 113 miles to Woodhall Spa she would be standing with the trophy at the end of the week.

"It's amazing," the 59-year-old said. "My aim really for the week was to make the first cut, and then to do well enough to make the



second cut. I'm thrilled. I can't believe it. It's beyond my wildest dreams."

Foster went head-to-head in the final round with Gole, the number one senior player on the World Amateur Golf Ranking® (WAGR®) at 244th. She led Gole by two at the start of the day. That lead evaporated on the opening hole. Lying 150 yards from the flag, the Australian's 6-iron approach found the bottom of the cup for an eagle. **GP**

IRISH DUO WIN THE R&A 9 HOLE CHALLENGE FINAL AT ROYAL LIVERPOOL

The Irish pairing of Olivia Byrne and John Murphy secured a thrilling win in The R&A 9 Hole Challenge Final at Royal Liverpool.

Over 100,000 golfers from all over the world entered nine-hole qualifying events in the hope of securing the opportunity to play the Championship course just days before the world's best men's golfer compete in The 151st Open.

First staged in 2016, The R&A 9 Hole Challenge encourages people to compete in a shorter format of the sport, with players from Great Britain and Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and, for the first time, Argentina, France and South Africa participating to be one of the 38 finalists in action at Hoylake.

From the 19 team pairings, it was the Irish duo from Glenlo Abbey Golf Club – a nine-hole course in Galway, Ireland – who won the Stableford competition with a nett aggregate score of 36 points to take the 2023 title.

Following a card countback for second place, their compatriots Susan McKnight and Alan McKnight (Cork) finished as runners-up on 30 points ahead of the Australian pair of Erin Del Pizzo and David Baker who claimed third place.

While three teams took home trophies, it was agreed by all finalists that the real prize was the dream opportunity to play the venue in championship conditions, including the two new closing holes at Hoylake.

Murphy said, "It's unbelievable to have won. We come from a small little



club in the west of Ireland and this is beyond our wildest dreams. We thought the prize was getting to play Royal Liverpool, but to have won is incredible."

In challenging conditions over Hoylake, which saw nature throw wind and rain at the players, golfers with a handicap index ranging from eight to 45 enjoyed the unforgettable opportunity.

Byrne said, "It's a tough course, especially for an amateur. I only took up golf three years ago so it was challenging, but we managed." **GP**

MCILROY WINS MAIDEN GENESIS SCOTTISH OPEN TITLE



➔ Rory McIlroy produced a brilliant birdie-birdie finish to seal his second consecutive Rolex Series title at the Genesis Scottish Open.

The now World Number Two entered the final round with a one-shot lead but on a dramatic

day in high winds at The Renaissance Club, it was home hero Robert MacIntyre who threatened to seal a fairytale win.

The Scot played a stunning approach to the last to card a 64 and lead by one at 14 under but four-time Major winner McIlroy put his



Nicolai Højgaard



MacIntyre congratulations McIlroy on his victory

tee-shot to five feet on the 17th to share the lead.

The 34-year-old then produced some closing magic of his own, putting his approach to 11 feet and nervelessly holing his putt to sign for a 68 and seal a remarkable one-stroke victory.

McIlroy's first victory on Scottish soil now goes alongside the Hero Dubai Desert Classic title he claimed in January in his Rolex Series collection and takes his tally of DP World Tour victories to 16.

He also becomes the first player to win the Scottish Open, Irish Open and Open Championship the week before he goes in search of a fifth Major at Royal Liverpool, where he lifted the Claret Jug for the first time in 2014.

World Number One Scottie Scheffler, South Korean Byeong-hun An and Swede David Lingmerth finished in a tie for third at ten under, with An, Lingmerth and Dane Nicolai Højgaard - who finished a shot further back - all earning spots in the field at next week's Open Championship.

Lingmerth closed with a 66 and Scheffler and An both carded 70s to finish a shot ahead of Tyrrell Hatton, Højgaard, Tommy Fleetwood, Tom Kim and JT Poston.

There was some consolation for MacIntyre who was awarded the Jock MacVicar AGW Memorial Award as the leading Scot. **GP**



It's amazing. For the Race to Dubai, for the FedEx Cup, for my confidence in general, but for all those things that I talked about at the start of the week and trying to win the title on both sides of the Atlantic again this year, this will go a long way.

"This is right up there with the best of (my performances), especially after missing the short birdie putt on 16. I thought if I can birdie one of the last two and get into a play-off, that would be a bonus.

"To finish two-three in these conditions, the two iron shots that I hit, the five iron into 17 and the two iron into the last are probably two of the best shots I've hit all year, and then to finish them off with the putts as well.

"It feels absolutely amazing. I've had a few close calls recently so to get over the line and get this bit of confidence going into next week and the rest of the season is huge.

"It's nice to have the validation. The validation; it's great racking up top fives, top tens, but it's much nicer heading away with a trophy on Sunday afternoon. It's a great shot of confidence. Again, going back to that little nugget about the Australian Open in 2013, having something fresh in my memory if I hopefully find myself in a similar position next week where I've got a chance to win with nine holes to go, I can certainly draw on what I did here today; that I can get myself in the mix again.

"If he (MacIntyre) can shoot 64 on a day like today, he can do anything. I mean, that was an unbelievable round of golf. And it's great to see him back in form, as well. Obviously he had the win in Rome last year, and then he sort of went off a little bit but it's nice to see him hitting some form again, especially at an important point of the year when he's looking to try to make that Ryder Cup.

RORY MCILROY





David Lingmerth

BYEONG HUN AN, DAVID LINGMERTH AND NICOLAI HØJGAARD QUALIFY FOR THE 151ST OPEN THROUGH THE GENESIS SCOTTISH OPEN

Byeong Hun An, David Lingmerth and Nicolai Højgaard have qualified for The 151st Open at Royal Liverpool through the Genesis Scottish Open.

An and Lingmerth finished tied for third place on ten-under-par with the already exempt Scottie Scheffler. The trio finished five shots behind Rory McIlroy who sealed victory with a birdie at the final hole of the championship.

An of South Korea has competed in The Open on eight occasions, the last time at The 149th Open at Royal St George's where he finished tied 26th, tying his best result in the Championship.

Sweden's Lingmerth returns to The Open for the first time since 2016 where he missed the cut at Royal Troon. His only other appearance was at the Old Course in The 144th Open in 2014 where he finished tied 74th.

Højgaard earned his place in The 151st Open by being nine-under par at the Renaissance Club and tied sixth alongside the already exempt Tommy Fleetwood, Tom Kim, JT Poston and Tyrrell Hatton.

The 22-year-old Dane, joins his twin brother Rasmus in the field. They are second set of brothers to be competing in The 151st Open with Matt and Alex Fitzpatrick also set to tee off at Hoylake.. **GP**



Robert MacIntyre

"I'm really proud of myself, me and Greg and the whole team behind me. I've put in a hell of a lot of work the last five, six weeks with all the changes going on in my team; the trust of switching back to Shanks when I really needed him. I felt great in my golf, and I felt great in myself in the last wee while. But I'm happy and smiling, and Greg has done a great job of keeping me happy and smiling, and you know what, we can play good golf from there.

"I'll never forget it. I had to take a minute coming off 18. I mean, that's why I play this sport. That's why I'm in The Scottish Open, and if not The Open, The Scottish Open will be up there with the event I want to play for the rest of my life. It's one I've dreamed of winning since I watched at home, and I thought today coming down once I birdied 18, I thought, this might be the one. But it's not to be just now, and plenty of years ahead.

"I mean, last week, I felt like I had two hands on the trophy and I let it go. This week, I was nowhere near it. I wasn't even within touching distance of the trophy and went out there and put in a performance. And yeah, just Rory McIlroy's potentially the best in the world, and he showed why today. Take my hat off to him.

"Just looking forward to next week. Just go out there and play golf the same way. There's going to be a little expectation, a lot of talk from the media and stuff, but for me, same people going down next week, not as big a house, no tennis court, but we'll have fun.

(On winning the Jock MacVicer Award) "I spent a lot of time with Jock over the years since my junior days at Scottish Golf. I remember when he passed, I went down to his funeral down at Dunaverty, and I thought so much of Jock and we go on and we'd always sit and chat before any media stuff. It's unbelievable to get an award like that. I got an award from Adam – my coach, and it's unbelievable to get one from Jock. He was one of the best men in golf.

ROBERT MACINTYRE



HOMETOWN HERO LEE WINS 3M OPEN

➔ Hodges' final-round 67 at the 3M Open put an emphatic end to a career week culminating in a seven-shot wire-to-wire triumph for his first PGA TOUR victory at TPC Twin Cities. Hodges moves from 74th to 33rd in the FedExCup and is exempt into next year's Designated events and major championships.

"Oh, he's a rockstar back home," says Jay Seawell, his college coach at Alabama who flew to Minnesota morning to surprise Hodges.

The caravan of supporters followed Hodges all 18 holes. They were there on the second hole when Hodges stuffed an iron to 5 feet for his opening birdie of the day. Hodges insisted there were no nerves. That was the first indication.

They cheered vociferously on the par-5 sixth as Hodges knocked a 3-wood to 12 feet and sank an eagle to take a seven-shot lead. He steadied with pars at 10 and 11. Then his gallery went wild as Hodges took that same 3-wood and hit it to 3 feet for his second eagle of the day on the par-5 12th.

"Those were two of the greatest shots I ever hit," Hodges said of approach shots that set up eagle.

His most memorable shot might have come



on the 18th, though. Hodges spent Saturday evening vowing to be aggressive. In his mind, passiveness cost him a chance at the 2022 American Express, where he was the 54-hole co-leader. If the two eagles weren't aggressive

enough, Hodges stuck his approach on the 18th to two feet for a concluding birdie. Not only had he won, he won by seven - the largest margin of victory on TOUR since Rory McIlroy's 2019 RBC Canadian Open win. **GP**

CROWE PREVAILS IN THRILLING PLAYOFF, WINS NV5 INVITATIONAL

➔ Trace Crowe, a conditional member the last two seasons who at times struggled to simply gain entry to Korn Ferry Tour fields, held off Patrick Fishburn and won the NV5 Invitational with a par on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff.

Crowe, who entered the week without a top-10 in 28 career starts on Tour, overcame a triple bogey at the par-4 second, amassing eight birdies en route to a final-round 5-under 66 and 25-under 259 for the week.

"I'm still in shock," Crowe said. "It's a crazy feeling. It's been a long, tough, interesting season. To be standing here... it still hasn't sunk in. I'm just blown away just how good everyone is, and I feel like I just played unreal the last couple days."

Following an opening birdie at the par-5 first, Crowe blasted his approach over the second green and into a nasty lie in the fescue. Rather than attempt a heroic shot, Crowe took an unplayable and returned to the exact same spot of his previous shot. Although he hit the green this time around, Crowe three-putted for triple bogey. Crowe bounced back almost immediately, making birdies at the par-3 fourth, par-5 fifth, and par-4 seventh and eighth. Three more birdies on the back nine (at the par-4 12th, 13th, and 15th) took Crowe to 25-under par, enough for a two-stroke lead over Fishburn, Chris Gotterup, and Ryan McCormick as he stood in fairway of the par-5 18th. **GP**





TODD ANDERSON INSTRUCTIONAL HITTING A DRILL HOOK LIKE JUSTIN THOMAS



In this tutorial, Anderson breaks down one of Justin Thomas' favourite golf shots - a drill hook drive - which he uses quite regularly on TOUR when required. Thomas is a 15-time PGA TOUR winner, and was

the 2017 FedExCup winner.

SET-UP

With the ball teed up on the right side of the tee box, you should set up square to

slight closed with your feet, knees, hips and shoulders parallel to where your club face is aligned (Photo 1). You'll notice Justin doesn't set up with a real close stance, which other players may do with their shoulders closed.



3



4

SWING ACTION

What Justin does is take a normal back swing (Photo 2), but the key on the way down, he drops the club slightly to the inside (Photo 3) so he can hit out on the ball and aggressively speed up his right arm and right shoulder on the downswing so the toe of the club can pass the heel through impact (Photo 4), creating hook spin.

Justin hit this particular drive on the 16th hole of the final round at THE PLAYERS Championship in 2021, and the ball curved almost by 30 yards and when it hit the ground, there was almost like another 30 yards of roll because there was so much topspin due to the swing motion.

Also, this is generally a very flat shot. When your right side gets on top of your left, it allows for a flatter ball flight.

LOW RISK

It is important to note that Justin was hitting

away from trouble on the 16th hole, which is to the left of the fairway. If he had ended up hitting the ball straight, he would still either be in the right side of the fairway or at worse case, in the right rough. Hence, it is important to know when you should attempt to hit this drill hook drive to maximize a perfectly executed shot.

This shot is a good one to try out when you need a lot of roll on the ball or when you are navigating a dogleg left hole. If you have any of these holes on your home course, give it a try. I think you'll find yourself

gaining a lot of distance from this shot and also enjoying the opportunity to attack the par 5s better like how Justin did it at TPC Sawgrass. **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.



Todd Headshot



FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS POISED FOR THRILLING FINALE

by Jim McCabe

Should you be one of those people who occasionally looks at the calendar and wonders where the time has gone, ask yourself this: How must hundreds of PGA TOUR players feel, given that when the first of July rolled around, it signaled that the playoffs were basically at the threshold and many of them were in danger of missing out.

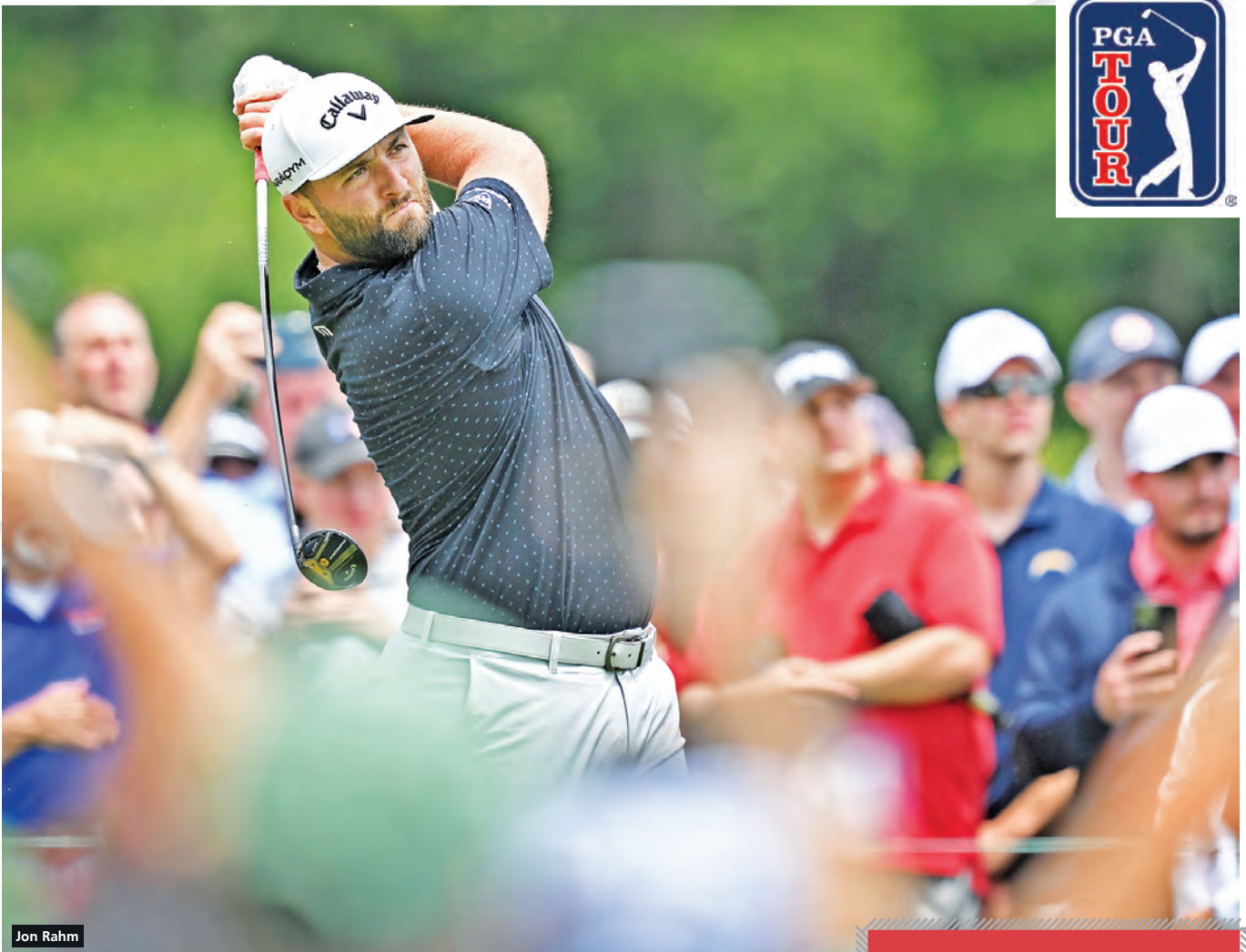
For some heralded names – most notably

Rickie Fowler and Jason Day – the approaching FedExCup Playoffs mean they can smile and feel massively satisfied. That's because at 34 and 35, respectively, they can take enormous pride in a resurgence, of sorts.

Fowler ranked outside the Top 125 in 2020-21 and 2021-22, though he did squeak into the playoffs last year thanks to a rash of moves when some players withdrew their memberships in 2022. It felt like a gift when

Fowler was able to tee it up at the Playoffs opener, but no gift is needed this year. The man who favors orange was sitting No. 8 when early July came around.

Day, meanwhile, sat 14th in the standings entering the John Deere Classic and with only six weeks to get points, the FedExCup picture is looking quite sweet to the former world No. 1 from Australia. Not that Day has missed the playoffs like Fowler, but he limped into



Jon Rahm

Images Credit : Getty Images

post-season play ranked 124th a year ago and he's been a far cry from the dominant force of 2013-18.

In fact, instead of the attitude Day had a year ago when he snuck into the playoffs and grew tired of answering reporters' questions in late June, early July – "It does nothing for me to look ahead," he is in cruise control and can count on making it to the TOUR Championship August 24 to 27.

Winning, of course, helps change your fortunes on the PGA TOUR, and Fowler (Rocket Mortgage Classic) and Day (the AT&T Byron Nelson) achieved their first wins since 2019 and 2018, respectively. But remarkable consistency has also paid off – Fowler has a second and six other Top 10s; Day has piled up seven Top 10s - for these two comeback kids.

But with golf being the challenge that it invariably is, for every resurgent story there is one of surprising struggles. So while we have Fowler and Day returning to the positive side of the FedExCup Playoffs cutoff, we have a foursome of names who are gritting their teeth at the approaching playoffs, that will be played

out in this manner:

- * Aug. 10-13, the FedEx St. Jude Championship.
- * Aug. 17-20, BMW Championship.
- * Aug 24-27, TOUR Championship.

Adam Scott has made the Playoffs every year since they began in 2007, but when July arrived, he was on the outside looking in, lodged in 78th position. The story is slightly better for Keith Mitchell (62nd) and Justin Thomas (68th), as they are just inside the cutoff.

Just don't tell either one of them that they can breathe easier.

Thomas, 30, most certainly knows he cannot. In fact, after squeezed out a T9 at the Travelers Championship, Thomas was asked if he was headed home to rest, having played five tournaments in eight weeks, he shook his head somberly.

"I've never had to add tournaments at the end to make sure I got into the Playoffs," he said. "But unfortunately, that's where I'm at this year. So I'm going to Detroit."

Alas, it was a short stay in Detroit as Thomas

Jon Rahm, the 2023 Masters champion, currently tops the points list and he's done it with four wins, a second, a third, and three other Top 10s.

missed the cut at the Rocket Mortgage Classic; it was his third MC in four tournaments, including at heavyweight tournaments, the Memorial and the U.S Open. Throw in an early departure at the Masters (thanks to a bogey at the 72nd hole, no less) and you have Thomas where he knows he belongs – fighting for his Playoff life.

For Mitchell, the slide down the standings has been steady since late spring. A rock-solid 41st after THE PLAYERS Championship in



March, Mitchell has just one Top 10 in his last nine starts and his best finish is A T-20 in that stretch.

You wouldn't be hitting the panic button, either for Jordan Spieth, but you might want to throw up the caution flag. Earlier this year, after he had piled up five Top 10s in eight starts to sit in 14th place in the FEC standings. But he's fallen to 29th.

Worried? Not Spieth. Though momentum is something you want on your side with the FedExCup Playoffs approaching. That's exactly what a parade of stalwart names are relying on as their games are quite solid, thank you, as the eve of the playoffs.

Jon Rahm, the 2023 Masters champion, currently tops the points list and he's done it with four wins, a second, a third, and three other Top 10s. Quality stuff and of those who follow him in the current top 10 – Scottie Scheffler, Max Homa, Wyndham Clark, Keegan Bradley, Victor Hovland, Rory McIlroy, Fowler, Tony Finau, and Nick Taylor – have had consistently superior seasons.

All of which is pretty much how the executives would draw it up – pretty much the entire list of top-ranked players in the Official World Golf ranking are somewhere in the top 15 in the FedExCup standings with the season winding down.

Does that translate into a thrilling Playoff? Not necessarily, but you'd have to like the odds that it will. Just having McIlroy, currently 7th, in



Rory McIlroy



Scottie Scheffler

CURRENT TOP 10

Scottie Scheffler,
Max Homa,
Wyndham Clark,
Keegan Bradley,
Victor Hovland,
Rory McIlroy,
Fowler, Tony Finau,
and Nick Taylor.

the mix provides reason for excitement.

All he did a year ago was close with 66 to finish at 17-under to leapfrog Scheffler (73 for 10-under) and win his third FedExCup title. It was perhaps more impressive than the three-way playoff he won in 2016 and matched his inspiring rally of 2019 (starting the TOUR Championship five behind Thomas, McIlroy outscored him by 10 and overpowered East Lake for his second FEC.

Then there are those who'll still circle the 2018 TOUR Championship as the iconic one to remember. Then 43 and walking gingerly throughout, Tiger Woods finished at 11-under to win by two and was ushered onto the 72nd green by tens of thousands of fans.

That Woods won't be in the FedExCup lineup of playoff events is always disappointing. But it is couched significantly by knowing that a parade of marquee names will be. **GP**



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IT ALL BEGINS AUGUST 10

FedEx
St. Jude
CHAMPIONSHIP™
AUGUST 10-13



BMW
CHAMPIONSHIP
AUGUST 17-20

TOUR
CHAMPIONSHIP™
Southern
Company | accenture | Coca-Cola
PROUD PARTNERS
AUGUST 24-27

LIVE ON: ★EUROSPORT

The 151st Open

**BRILLIANT
BRIAN HARMAN
BECOMES
CHAMPION GOLFER**



The left-hander from Savannah, Georgia, hit the front at Royal Liverpool on Friday morning and just never let anyone else back in on the way to lifting the Claret Jug with a six-stroke victory.



65 in the second round put Harman into a five-shot lead at halfway, while equalling the Royal Liverpool record at an Open.

From there, he had to deal with early bogeys on Saturday and Sunday, major champions making their move, deteriorating weather, and above all, time.

The 36-year-old openly admitted this week that he has an active mind and struggles when he is given too much time to think about the magnitude of what is at stake.

Harman was among the most consistent players on tour, with almost no flaws to his game. But silverware just kept eluding him.

So even after a perfect Friday, when the putter worked like a dream and everything within 30 feet seemed to drop, the idea that he would see it through without a wobble seemed fanciful.

He did wobble but only a little, and most importantly, rediscovered his rhythm at the opportune moment each time.

When two-time major winner Jon Rahm lowered the Royal Liverpool record to 63 on Saturday, Harman was just stepping onto the 1st tee.

Two bogeys in four holes later and his lead was just two strokes. That was the first big test, and he came through it in style with a birdie on 5, adding three more in a 69 that pushed that advantage back to five.

On Championship Sunday, it was a similar story. A bogey on the 2nd was followed by another on 5, the easiest hole on the course this week.

Now it was not just Rahm, but Rory McIlroy, Champion Golfer on this very course in 2014, who was making a move with three straight birdies.

What's more, where Rahm had somehow found an opening in a huge cluster of gorse bushes on the 5th, Harman's luck had apparently turned when





Filepic Tom Kim
Image Credit : Getty Images

KOREA'S TOM KIM BECOMES YOUNGEST TO FINISH RUNNER-UP WHILE INDIA'S SHUBHANKAR SHARMA TIED EIGHTH AT THE OPEN

Korean star Tom Kim underlined his major pedigree with a career best joint second finish at The Open Championship on Sunday, becoming the youngest player to finish runner-up since Seve Ballesteros in 1976.

A final round 4-under 67 for the day's joint low score at Royal Liverpool under treacherous conditions propelled the 21-year-old to back-to-back top-10s in the majors following his joint eighth at the U.S. Open last month. The late Ballesteros was 19 when he finished tied second to Johnny Miller.

Kim, who is a two-time PGA TOUR winner, was amongst a group of four players including Jon Rahm (70), Jason Day (69) and Sepp Straka (69), who finished on 7-under 277 and six shots behind champion, Brian Harman. The American cruised to a stylish victory following a closing 70 as he became only the fifth left-hander to win a major title.

There were other Asian milestones with Shubhankar Sharma finishing an impressive tied eighth after a fine bogey-free 70 to deliver India's first ever top-10 at The Open while Korea's Sungjae Im and Byeong Hun An, who punched his ticket to Royal Liverpool with a top-3 finish at the Genesis Scottish Open in the previous week, enjoyed career best outings in the event by finishing T20 and T23 respectively.

Asia's best finish at The Open remains a solo second by Chinese Taipei's "Mr" Lu Liang-huan in 1971.

"I mean, Brian was five shots ahead at the start of the day. In a major championship when you have a five-shot lead and you shoot anywhere even to under par, it's really hard to catch," said Kim. **GP**



Shubhankar Sharma

WHEN HARMAN BOGEYED 13, AN UNCHARACTERISTIC, SIMPLE MISS, THERE WAS JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR THE NERVES TO KICK BACK IN. ONCE AGAIN, THE RESPONSE WAS IMMEDIATE - A BIRDIE FROM 40 FEET ON 14 PUTTING TO BED ANY FEARS OF A STING IN THE TAIL.



he put the ball in the bush on the same hole without the fortunate lie – yet another mental test.

Instead, the Claret Jug was effectively secured over the next two holes. A fine approach on 6 gave him a 15-footer for birdie. The relief was palpable when that dropped, and when he sunk another from 25 feet on the 7th, it was clear that there was no crumble in sight.

When Harman bogeyed 13, an uncharacteristic, simple miss, there was just enough time for the nerves to kick back in. Once again, the response was immediate – a birdie from 40 feet on 14 putting to bed any fears of a sting in the tail. He backed that up with another birdie to push his lead back to five.

JARVIS HOLDS NERVE TO CLAIM MAIDEN WIN



Casey Jarvis held his nerve on the final day of the Euram Bank Open at Golf Club Adamstal to secure a memorable maiden Challenge Tour victory.

The South African took a five stroke lead into the final round, and despite a late charge from Scotland's Euan Walker, Jarvis kept his composure to par the final hole and secure a one shot victory with a one under par round of 69 to add to rounds of 65-63-65 earlier in the week.

The 19-year-old, who has registered three second place finishes already on the 2023 Road to Mallorca, was delighted to get over the line.

"I haven't felt this good in a long time walking off a golf course," he said. "I didn't think winning would be this special. It's an unbelievable feeling."

Jarvis made his first gain of the day on the third hole to extend his lead to six, and despite three dropped shots on his next two holes, he would birdie the sixth and eighth to remain four clear at the turn. The South African then birdied the 12th before a two shot swing at the 13th, with Jarvis making a bogey and Walker a birdie. Despite Jarvis making a birdie at the par five 15th, Walker



"I haven't felt this good in a long time walking off a golf course, I didn't think winning would be this special. It's an unbelievable feeling."

holed out from the bunker for eagle to close the gap to one.

The Scot looked to be out of the running when he bogeyed the 16th, but he birdied 17

to get back within one going down the last, however it was Jarvis who prevailed, with both parring the last.

Walker ended the day one shot behind in second place on 17 under par. **GP**

LAPORTA SHOWS FIGHT TO TRIUMPH IN GERMANY



Francesco Laporta returned to the winner's circle for a third time on the European Challenge Tour with a hard-fought victory at the Big Green Egg German Challenge powered by VcG.

The Italian, who won the Hainan Open and the Challenge Tour Grand Final in 2019, battled through testing conditions at Wittelsbacher Golfclub to secure a one stroke victory.

His level par final round of 72 saw him sign for a seven under par total, one clear of English duo Gary Boyd and Ashley Chesters, German Dominic Foos and Jiří Zuska from the Czech Republic.

The 32-year-old becomes the fifth Italian winner on the Road to Mallorca this season, climbing to 19th in the Rankings and taking a step closer to achieving the goal he set himself at the beginning of the year.

"I didn't expect to win this week after the last couple of events but we did it," he said. "It's been four years without a win, and I was struggling the last couple of years. Even at the beginning of this year I wasn't playing my best golf, but the last few weeks I've changed a couple of things with my swing and it's worked out." **GP**




DP WORLD BECOMES A WORLDWIDE PARTNER OF THE RYDER CUP



Ryder Cup Europe and the PGA of America today announced a new agreement with DP World that will see the global supply chain leader become a Worldwide Partner of the Ryder Cup.

There are just over two months to go until the U.S. Team get their defence underway in Italy, and DP World is busy working with Ryder Cup Europe and PGA of America to create the smartest, most efficient, and innovative supply chain solutions to ensure the smooth running of the 2023 Ryder Cup.

This new partnership agreement with golf's greatest team contest further strengthens DP World's strong ties with the game of golf, and the wider sports sector, where it is on a mission to support the growth of sports worldwide through its smart logistics solutions. It has been Title Partner of the European Tour group's main Tour, the DP World Tour, since the start of the 2022 season and the tournament Title Partner of the season ending DP World Tour Championship in Dubai since 2009. As part of the partnership agreement, DP World will use the Ryder Cup as a global platform to engage with customers, prospects, and stakeholders, forming an essential part of its business growth in key sectors. 



This new partnership agreement with golf's greatest team contest further strengthens DP World's strong ties with the game of golf, and the wider sports sector, where it is on a mission to support the growth of sports worldwide through its smart logistics solutions.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION WALES APPOINTED OFFICIAL CHARITY OF THE SENIOR OPEN



British Heart Foundation (BHF) Wales has been appointed the Official Charity of The 2023 Senior Open Presented by Rolex. The BHF is the largest independent funder of research into heart and circulatory diseases in the UK and over the past 60 years has been instrumental in countless lifesaving discoveries. BHF-funded research has contributed to improving survival from heart transplants, the development of pacemakers, improving the way that heart attacks are treated, and the rollout of genetic testing for inherited heart conditions. The BHF's research is funded entirely by donations from the public.

Edward Kitson, Championship Director of The Senior Open Presented by Rolex, said: "We are delighted to welcome BHF Wales to this year's Senior Open Presented by Rolex. They are a charity who have touched millions of peoples' lives over the last six decades and their pioneering research into heart and circulatory diseases is incredibly important. We hope to be able to raise a meaningful amount of money this year at Royal Porthcawl, adding to the work we achieved together with BHF Scotland at Gleneagles in 2022." 



MANASSERO STEALS THE SHOW IN VITERBO

➔ Matteo Manassero, the youngest winner in DP World Tour history, posted a brilliant seven under par round of 65 to claim pole position at the halfway stage of the Italian Challenge Open.

The four-time DP World Tour champion mixed eight birdies with just one bogey to move to 13 under par at Golf Nazionale, two ahead of Englishman Alex Fitzpatrick who posted a six under 66 to move into second place just days after securing a maiden place in The Open through Final Qualifying.

The Italian was pleased to climb to the top of the leaderboard in front of his home crowd and believes his experience of playing under the Italian sun could give him the edge this weekend.

“It’s been two really good days and I’ve played some great golf,” he said. “Obviously, you don’t know what is to come at the weekend, but my game has been very consistent over the opening two rounds. I hit a lot of good shots to give myself birdie

“It’s been two really good days and I’ve played some great golf, obviously, you don’t know what is to come at the weekend, but my game has been very consistent over the opening two rounds.”



chances and it was nice to hole a few putts. It’s important to keep drinking water due to the heat. This is our summer

and I’ve experienced it many times so maybe that is giving me an advantage this week. I’m trying to stay focus and keep hydrated.” **GP**

HOME HERO HØJGAARD WINS IN HIMMERLAND

➔ Rasmus Højgaard made history by becoming the first Danish winner at Made in HimmerLand after prevailing in a thrilling six-hole play-off against Nacho Elvira.

The 21-year-old started the day six shots back but a six under par 64 saw him set the target at 13 under with six groups left to play, and his mark could only be matched by third round leader Elvira, who bogeyed the 72nd hole to post a level par round of 70.

The Spaniard joined the home favourite back on the 18th tee at HimmerLand and they could not be separated during five separate trips down the final hole, both recording par on each occasion.

However, Højgaard holed a clutch ten-foot par putt on the fifth extra hole to keep the play-off alive, which proved to be a huge swing of momentum.

The Billund native split the fairway with his tee shot on the sixth extra trip down the 18th, while Spain’s Elvira found the thick rough before subsequently hitting his second shot out of bounds. Højgaard safely found the middle of the green and calmly two-putted for par to claim an emotional fourth DP World Tour title in front of rapturous home support, which included twin brother Nicolai and a group of family and friends. **GP**



HISTORIC JAPAN PGA CHAMPIONSHIP BACK TO THRILL

Following a brief three-week hiatus, the JGTO stars are set to return to the greens for the prestigious Japan PGA Championship- a tournament that will mark an impressive 90th milestone when it kicks off on Thursday.

With its roots extending back to 1926, this ¥150,000,000 event is considered one of Japan's oldest professional tournaments.

An explosive affair is on the cards as an impressive lineup of 144 players compete for the coveted title at Eniwa Country Club in Hokkaido.

The Japan PGA Championship, unlike many regular JGTO tournaments, is played on different courses across the country each year. This year will mark only the second time that the Eniwa Country Club has had the honour of hosting the tournament, following the 2009 edition won by Yuta Ikeda.

JGTO legend Masahi 'Jumbo' Ozaki stands as the most successful player in the event, with six titles to his name (1971, 1974, 1989, 1991, 1993, and 1996).

Despite the change in venue, last year's champion, Mikumu Horikawa, is set to defend his title and hopes to reverse his recent streak of underperformance.

At the Grand Fields Country Club in Shizuoka last year, Horikawa shot a superb seven-under-par 64



in the third round, and then closed with a modest 70, securing a three-shot victory over Naoyuki Kataoka.

After failing to make the cut in four of his last five starts, Horikawa aims to rekindle the inspiration from his last victory to get his season back on track.

However, he will need a special performance to stand a chance in a tournament that boasts one of the strongest fields this season, with 13 of the top 15 current money leaders also in contention this week.

This list includes the top five - Keita Nakajima, Takumi Kanaya, Hiroshi Iwata, Ryutaro Nagano, and Taiga Semikawa.

Also in the mix is reigning JGTO number one, Kazuki Higa, who now competes abroad regularly.

South Africa's Jbe Kruger, fresh off his first JGTO victory in four years at the Shigeo Nagashima Invitational Segi Sammy Cup three weeks ago, will be aiming to extend his winning streak. The 37-year-old Kruger is gunning for his career's first back-to-back victories. **GP**

SOUTH AFRICA'S KRUGER ENDS FOUR-YEAR TITLE WAIT

South Africa's Jbe Kruger won the Shigeo Nagashima INVITATIONAL Segi Sammy Cup by three shots, ending his four-year wait for a second JGTO title.

The 37-year-old, who last claimed a trophy at the 2019 Shinhan Donghae Open, carded a bogey-free five-under-par 67 to secure the victory.

Kruger began the final round with a three-shot lead over playing partners Naoyuki Kataoka and Shintaro Kobayashi, but his advantage diminished after he could only manage a birdie in the opening six holes.

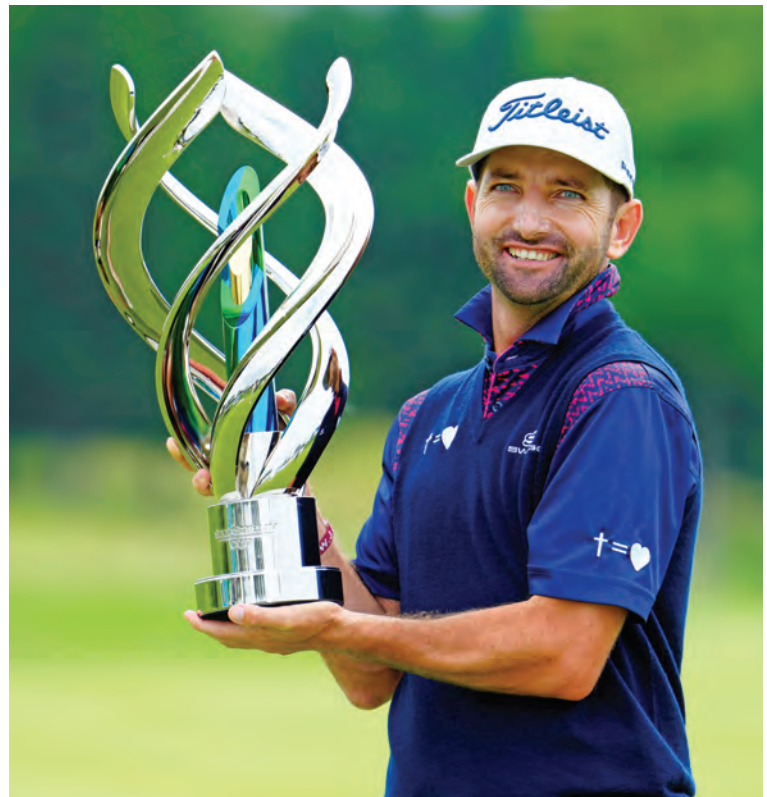
Kataoka briefly tied for the lead by gaining four strokes over the same number of holes, but he was unable to make further progress on the back nine, settling for a matching 67 and a joint second-place finish.

However, Kruger maintained his composure, adding four more birdies on holes nine, 13, 15, and 17 to pull ahead of the chasing pack and seal the victory with a total score of 23-under-par 265.

Australia's Anthony Quayle made a strong push on the final day, concluding the week with an impressive 64, but ultimately fell three shots short.

It was a memorable day for Kruger, who had his wife and caddie, Denise, to share in the joy.

"It feels like many years ago since I've been here standing here speaking to every one of you (addressing the press). It's an absolute privilege," said Kruger. **GP**



HIRATA FIGHTS BACK TO BECOME YOUNGEST-EVER WINNER

7 Kensei Hirata weathered a mid-round meltdown to shoot a final round one-under-par 71, clinching a two-shot wire-to-wire victory at the Japan PGA Championship in Hokkaido on Sunday.

Osaka-born Hirata started the day a stroke clear of Kunihiro Kamii, swiftly extending his lead to two by birdieing his very first hole at the Eniwa Country Club.

However, by the end of the first nine holes, Hirata found himself two shots behind his playing partner, Kamii. This came after the Gateway to the Open Mizuno Open champion unexpectedly squandered three bogeys in a mere four holes starting from number six.

But having the experience of a tournament winner undeniably assisted Hirata. He recovered superbly with birdies on holes number 12, 14, 15, and 17 to restore a three-shot lead.

He could afford a bogey on the final hole and finished two shots ahead of heavyweights Taiga Semikawa and Takumi Kanaya, with a

“I REALISED I WAS BACK LEADING AT THE START OF THE 15TH HOLE, BUT THERE WERE STILL TOUGH HOLES TO COME, SO I WAS THINKING OF EXTENDING MY LEAD TO WIN. I’M SO GLAD THAT EVERYTHING TURNED OUT WELL.”

four-day total of 11-under-par 277.

With this achievement, Hirata has become the youngest-ever winner of the Japan PGA Championship since the JGTO was founded in 1973 - at 22 years, eight months, and four days. He surpassed South Korea’s S.H. Kim’s record, who won the 2021 edition at 22 years, nine months, and 17 days.

“I’ve been playing well since the first day, and achieving my second win of the year has brought immense joy. This victory is extra special as it’s in a major tournament,” said Hirata, whose victory today also earned him the distinction of being the first multiple-winner of the season

“I had a good start on the first hole, but the continuous pars and not having a good touch, such as having six consecutive three-putts, were tough. However, I was able to recover in the second half, so I kept playing without giving up today.”



Asked what inspired the fightback, he said: “Nothing changed, but I did feel a shift in my mindset to get back to double digits after the birdie on the 12th hole.

“I realised I was back leading at the start of the 15th hole, but there were still tough holes to come, so I was thinking of extending my lead to win. I’m so glad that everything turned out well.”

The win propels Hirata to third in the JGTO money list, with a season tally of ¥54,001,423, behind first-ranked Kanaya (¥70,777,333) and second-ranked Keita Nakajima (¥68,060,019).

Despite missing out on his second straight major title this season, BMW Japan Golf Tour Championship Mori Building Cup winner in June, Kanaya has no complaints about his joint runner-up finish.

After a disastrous opening 75, Kanaya fought back fiercely with a pair of 68s and a 66 to put himself back in contention. However, he could

only manage to close with a 70, trading four birdies against two bogeys.

Kanaya commended Hirata’s effort, stating he was a deserving winner.

“Today, I wasn’t able to push myself in the second half as much as I’d like to, but Hirata’s play was wonderful. I witnessed his spirited play until the end; he deserved to win,” said Kanaya.

“I didn’t have a good first day this week, but I gradually improved and eventually finished well. I want to carry this momentum into the next tournament.

“In every major tournament, the conditions are always challenging, and the attention is higher compared to regular tournaments. My sights are now set on the Japan Open.”

South Korea’s Ryu Hyun-woo, who shot a 70, emerged as the best international placer this week, finishing solo fourth on eight-under-par 280. **GP**

AT QUALIFYING SCHOOL TO FEATURE AUSTRALIA AND USA SITES

7 The highly anticipated 2024 Asian Tour Qualifying School is set to be held across six different venues in three countries over a span of five months starting this September.

Apart from its regular destination in Thailand, the Asian Tour Qualifying School will also be staged in the United States for the second straight year and is set to make a welcome return to Australia following a 17-year lapse.

The First Stage of the Qualifying School will consist of six events, with the first to be played 'Down Under' at the Mt Derrimut Golf & Community Club in Victoria from September 26-29, while the Soboba Springs Golf Club in California will host the next stop from November 7-10.

Thailand, which has such a strong association with the Qualifying School will then stage the ensuing events, at Grand Prix Golf Club, Kanchanaburi from December 12-15, and Pattana Sports Resort, Chonburi from December 19-22.

The final two First Stage qualifiers will be played simultaneously from January 9-12 at the Phoenix Gold Golf Bangkok and Grand Prix Golf Club.



Each event will be played over four rounds, with the top-placed finishers earning places in the Final Qualifying Stage to be played in Thailand from January 16-20. The top-35 will earn their cards for the 2024 Asian Tour season with the venue for the final qualifying stage to be announced in due course.

"The Asian Tour added a new Qualifying

School site in the United States for the first time last year and we received immediate interest with the site filling up in a matter of days. It made complete sense to look at other regions from which we typically see a large number of entrants. Australia was the natural candidate," said Cho Minn Thant, Commissioner & CEO, Asian Tour. **GP**

SMITH WINS INDIVIDUAL TITLE, 4ACES RALLY FOR TEAM WIN IN LONDON

7 Cameron Smith stood on the 18th green, put his hands behind his head and closed his eyes, trying to process the conflicting range of emotions following dramatic finish at LIV Golf London.

He was elated to win the individual title, his second victory in 13 regular season starts since joining LIV Golf. It was a perfect way to build momentum entering his title defense in two weeks at the Open Championship.

Yet he was disappointed to have missed a six-foot putt for par that would've forced the first team playoff in LIV Golf history. Instead, his bogey on the final hole at Centurion Club dropped his all-Australian Ripper GC into second, one shot behind 4Aces GC, this season's points leaders that won their second team title of the season while having to sweat out Smith's putt.

"Obviously thrilled about the individual win, but it would've been nice to get up there with the boys," said Smith, who shot a final-round three-under 68 for a winning score of 15 under. "It's a bit of mixed emotions at the moment."

Smith and teammate Marc Leishman, playing in the final group, were the last hope for the Rippers to catch the 4Aces, who rallied from four strokes down to start the day to take the lead at 34 under. The Rippers were at 33 under



going into the final hole, the par-five 18th. Individually, Smith had a two-shot lead over the 4Aces' Patrick Reed.

Then the unexpected happened. After a brilliant week of putting – especially on Sunday as he holed more than 105 feet of

putts in his first 10 holes – Smith's par attempt slid past the hole. His individual win was sealed, but the opportunity for the Rippers' first team victory was lost.

The 4Aces certainly seem to have the formula for success in the team competition. **GP**

EJKA COMPLETES PLAY-OFF VICTORY AT SENIOR OPEN

Alex Čejka battled through treacherous conditions to beat Pádraig Harrington on the second extra hole and win The Senior Open Presented by Rolex.

Royal Porthcawl Golf Club was subjected to high winds and rain as no player was able to break par for the second day in a row, with the German posting a five over 76 to finish on five over par through 72 holes and join Harrington, who posted a four over 75, in a play-off.

Both players birdied the first trip back down the 18th, as Harrington's eagle putt slipped marginally by, before 52-year-old Čejka prevailed on the next extra hole. The Irishman went long with his second shot into the par five before leaving his chip short of the green, meaning Čejka was able to two-putt for birdie and become the second German winner of the Senior Claret Jug, after Bernhard Langer.

Čejka's victory in Wales was his fourth triumph since turning 50, with three of those incredibly coming at Senior Majors, following his wins at The Tradition and the Senior PGA Championship in 2021.

Losing the play-off means Harrington finished second in Europe's only Senior Major Championship for the second year in succession, with fellow three-time Major winner Vijay Singh finishing third on seven over par.

Sweden's Michael Jonzon finished fourth on eight over par, while England's Phillip Archer and low Welshman Phillip Price shared fifth on nine over par.

Four-time Senior Open winner Bernhard Langer – who won at Royal Porthcawl in both 2014 and 2017 - shared seventh place with Australia's Richard Green, Scotsman Euan McIntosh and Jerry Kelly, of the United States.

Alex Čejka: "I still can't believe it. It's been a really tough week. It's been a really tough two days. I can't believe I'm standing with the trophy here. Seeing all those great names on the trophy, coming in here with all the pictures and everything, all the guys who won it before me, now holding it myself, it's surreal.

"There's a couple guys two or three shots after us, but you know, I tried to make good shots but it's almost impossible to make golf shots in conditions like this. In the end, I lost it a little bit. I didn't really make good shots coming in, but I made some beautiful par saves. You know, I didn't want a playoff, especially against Pádraig, but I'm glad it's over and I'm just super happy.


"It's brutal. You can't hold a balance, even when you're putting, and you're trying to punch drivers. You have wet hands, wet grips. You have a 40-mile-an-hour crosswind, so it wasn't



easy as you can see on the scores. They were brutal the last two days. I'm just so glad it's over and I'm glad I have the trophy.

"You know, the first one is special. When you turn 50, the first one is special. Then obviously the Senior PGA, beating a lot, a lot of great guys in a big field on a beautiful golf course. But then coming to Europe, I was born in Europe. I grew up here in Europe. I'm not familiar with those conditions like links course but I played

on The European Tour for many, many, many years over here, and I forgot how difficult and how different the golf game is, being 20 years in the States and playing in sunshine and on easy courses when it's perfect weather. Then you come here, everybody's struggling.

"I think we all are glad that it's over. It was a brutal week. Even the caddies, everybody is sore. But I'm glad it's over and I'm here." 

TOP SCORES AFTER ROUND FOUR :

289	P HARRINGTON (IRL) 75 68 71 75, A CEJKA (GER) 68 71 74 76
291	V SINGH (FIJ) 69 72 73 77
292	M JONZON (SWE) 74 72 71 75
293	P PRICE (WAL) 72 72 73 76, P ARCHER (ENG) 73 70 71 79,
294	B LANGER (GER) 73 69 75 77, E MCINTOSH (SCO) 74 71 72 77 R GREEN (AUS) 72 73 71 78, J KELLY (USA) 73 71 71 79
295	Y YANG (KOR) 71 72 81 71, A HANSEN (DEN) 72 69 77 77, S ALKER (NZL) 70 68 76 81
296	J KEMP (AM) (ENG) 74 71 77 74, K DUKE (USA) 71 73 74 78, K CHOI (KOR) 75 72 71 78, T GILLIS (USA) 70 74 73 79, J SINGH (IND) 69 77 71 79, M TIZIANI (USA) 68 75 73 80



MAKE MORE OF YOUR TIME

Don't waste time bashing balls into a field.

p40

PLAY BETTER IN 2023

AND HAVE MORE FUN!

Behold! Our blueprint for making 2023 the year of your golfing life

THE NEW RULES OF THE RANGE

Forget blasting away aimlessly - our three-stage approach will revolutionise your practice time!

p36



CURVATURE p36

Improve your face-to-path relationship and bring that curvature under control.

LAUNCH p37

Finding the optimal launch angle will help you strike the ball closer to your distance.

BALL SPEED p38

How ball speed is strongly influenced by club speed.

TOTAL DISTANCE p39

Getting closer to your potential involves optimising elements such as launch & spin.

THE NEW RULES OF THE RANGE

Instead of hitting a basket of balls into nothing, try this three-stage approach next time you practise

PICTURES ANGUS MURRAY



For most of us, a trip to the range means the opportunity to work on our swings. But while technical work remains an integral part of any practice session, your range experience can be so much more than that. The latest research into performance training for golf suggests a blend of...

- **Technical work:** Your swing or set-up.
- **Random shots:** Mimicking the real game.
- **Accountability:** Hitting shots that matter.

Not only is this a more effective use of your range time in terms of performance, it also adds interest, fun and variety to your practice sessions – and all the more so if you find yourself at a range equipped with Toptracer, a ball-tracking system designed to enhance all three elements of the perfect range session.

Let's take a look at each one in turn, learn why it's important, and see how to work it into your practice.

YOUR COACH



DEANA RUSHWORTH
Former England International
and Advanced PGA
Professional, Witney Lakes
Resort, Oxfordshire.
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MAKE IT... TECHNICAL

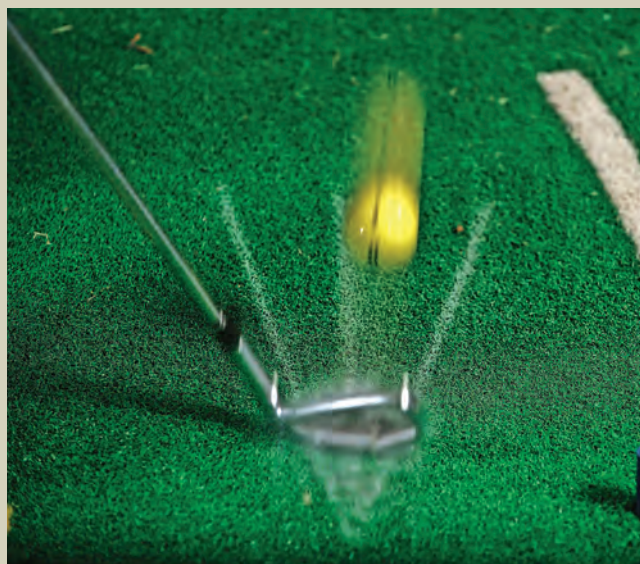
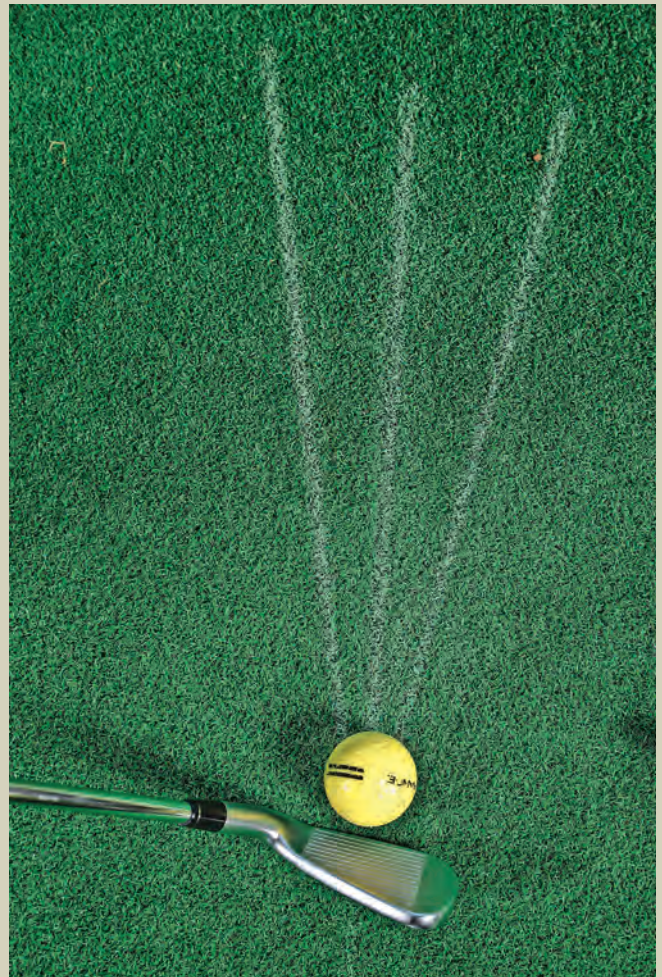
If you're making a swing change – or are in the three weeks following a lesson – technical work should represent around 60 percent of your range time, if not, bring it down to around 20 percent. Every golfer has their own technical gremlins to work out, but let's look at four elements, tracked and measured by Toptracer, which will boost the performance of any golfer...

#1 CURVATURE

Shot curvature is the result of the relationship between the clubface and swing path at impact. A range mat gives you a unique opportunity to work on this, because you can physically mark it. Obviously don't use anything that cannot be removed – I recommend chalk – but with just three lines, you can start to monitor and improve your face-to-path relationship and bring that curvature under control.

Three lines

Draw a centre line (along your ball-to-target path) flanked by slight leftward and rightward paths. Chalk is perfect because not only does it draw a clear, removable line; it also offers great feedback through the puff of dust you create when you hit the line.



Shape at will

Given a clean, centred strike, a face open to the path will fade the ball; when it's closed to the path the ball will draw. Experiment with this...

- Swing the club down the leftward line while leaving the face aiming between the leftward and centre lines. This is the ideal relationship for a fade (right-handers).
- Now swing down the rightward line with the clubface facing between the rightward and centre lines. This is the perfect combination for a draw.

#2 LAUNCH

Launch is, of course, the angle the ball rises from horizontal off the club. Finding this optimal range will help you to strike the ball closer to your distance potential. For the typical club golfer, the

ideal launch angle ranges are...

Driver 12-16° (typical club loft 9°)

6-iron 15-19° (typical club loft 31°)

PW 24-28° (typical club loft 45°)

As you can see, these ideals are above the

average driver loft but well below the typical iron lofts. This means developing separate techniques, sweeping the ball up for driver, but squeezing it out lower with irons.



Irons Towel tip

Lie your towel across the mat, a few inches behind the ball.



Feel the squeeze

The mere presence of the towel will encourage you to deliver the downward, compressing attack angle that leads to optimal iron strike and launch.

- Get too shallow or scoopy and the towel catches the clubhead, delivering instant feedback.
- Mats can be forgiving on heavy contact, leaving you unsure if you actually hit behind the ball or not. The towel removes that forgiveness, giving you a more accurate result for the strike.



Driver Below the bar

Place your range basket beside the mat, 12 inches or so behind the ball. Lie an alignment stick on top of the range basket, so its end protrudes past the ball but not as far as the shaft.



Clean sweep

You need to avoid the stick as you swing down and through. To do this you must deliver the club on a shallow attack angle, the club bottoming out under the end of the stick and behind the ball. This encourages the level-to-up impact strike angle that delivers an ideal launch angle – around 14°. Remember to shift your weight into your lead side as you work on this.



RIGHT HEIGHT

One further thing on driver launch. If you are practising drivers, only do so when you have access to a tee that sits at least half of the ball above the crown on the club. Anything lower will encourage you to squeeze down on the ball and promote a lower-than-optimal launch.

#3 BALL SPEED

Ball speed is, of course, the initial speed of the ball as it leaves the clubface. Ball speed is therefore strongly influenced by club speed, but it is also affected

by swing path, attack angle and the quality of strike; a squarer path and sweeter strike from a more level attack will yield a much higher ball speed than a steep, glancing blow off the

heel, even with similar clubhead speeds. For Toptracer reference, a decent average driver ball speed is 140-145mph, a 6-iron 110-115mph and a wedge 85-90mph.

CENTRED STRIKE DRILL

ON THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT

This drill will help you maintain your body angles, a key element of an on-plane swing that promotes a neutral path and centred strike.



Take a chair

Most ranges have a chair you can bring into your bay, but if not you can use your golf bag. Set the chair or bag behind you and set up so your backside is just making contact with it. Make sure your ankles are under your hip bones.

Close contact

Your goal is to maintain that chair contact throughout the swing. Doing so helps you maintain your body angles, a key element of an on-plane swing that promotes a neutral path and centred strike. This is relatively easy on the way back but far more challenging through impact. Practise rolling your backside along the chair as you rotate through, slowly at first before building up to full speed.



#4 TOTAL DISTANCE

Naturally we are all looking to hit the ball as far as our speed potential allows; a ball speed of 140mph can deliver a total distance of around 255 yards, though the amateur average is more like 225. Getting closer to your potential involves optimising elements

such as launch and spin, and here a clubfitting is essential. But in terms of pure technique, your power and distance will increase when you sequence your swing correctly – and that means making sure your downswing works from the ground up.

SEQUENCE DRILL

BASKET DROP

This exercise delivers instant feedback on whether your lower half is active enough as you start the downswing.



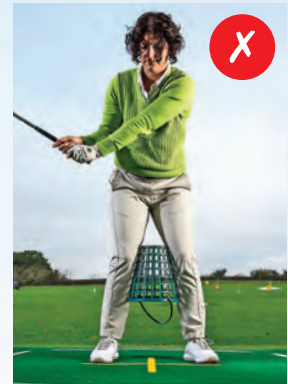
BACKSWING Basket in place

Place the basket between your knees and apply some gentle inward pressure to hold it in position. Take your regular address position before swinging to the top. As the lead knee moves across, the basket remains in place.



YES Basket falls

An aggressive, lower body-led downswing sees the lead knee drive forwards. While the trail knee follows, the gap between the knees increases and the basket drops. This is your goal for the drill.



NO Basket remains held

A weak change of direction is characterised either by the lower body being too passive or the upper half being too active. Either way, that knee gap never increases and the basket never falls.

IF YOU ARE WORKING WITH TOPTRACER...

If you are practising technique and have Toptracer, the best mode to use is My Practice. Here, every shot you hit is tracked to give a range of data including distance (carry and total), ball speed, launch and curvature, including how far offline your shot was. The data gives you that vital instant feedback between the swing you made and how well it worked. It also assists long-term, allowing you to monitor progress and create an historical record for future sessions. You can also try Closest to the Pin, which offers you a fun chance to hone launch, flight and carry while striking to a consistent target. **GP**

MAKE MORE OF YOUR TIME ON THE RANGE

Don't waste time bashing balls into a field...
a Toptracer Range will transform your practice

HOW IT WORKS

Toptracer is revolutionising the world's driving ranges. Cameras above the hitting bays track every shot and feed data back to a screen and app. You can play games on it, play a virtual course with friends or just practise with it.



What does your average visit to the driving range look like? If it's anything like ours, you'll head there with all the right intentions, but end up hitting your favourite club your favourite yardage 30 times... and a load of drives into a field.

It's monotonous, boring and it doesn't help your game.

But imagine how much fun – and useful – a range session would be if you could play a virtual course like St Andrews. Or access numbers like spin rates and carry distance. Or even benchmark your stats with each club in the bag, to really understand your game and track improvements.

If you find a Toptracer Range, you can access all those features – and more. Over the page, TG coach Deana Rushworth shows you exactly how you can get more from a range visit next year, plus where to find the nearest Toptracer Range to you.

GP

AS SEEN ON TV

Toptracer's ball tracking tech started life as 'Protracer', invented by Swede Daniel Forsgren in 2006 to improve televised golf coverage. Topgolf bought the camera-based system in 2016 and started rolling out its range-friendly version in 2017.

TOPTRACER'S NINE PLAY MODES

Warm-up

Analyse multiple data points, including ball speed, launch angle, distance and more.

Driving Challenge

A nine-hole game scoring both distance and accuracy. If you don't hit the fairway or a pin is obstructed for the next shot, there is a penalty.

Approach Challenge

Take aim at the flag as consistently close approach shots are the name of this game.



SHOT TRACKING

The software tracks multiple balls at once and assigns them to the right bay. It breaks the range down into triangles (like a grid) so your ball can be traced back to your bay by calculating the angle at which it enters and exits each triangle.

Your numbers – including distance, speed, launch angle, shape and more – are recorded and displayed on a 21-inch touchscreen monitor and the app.



FULLY CONNECTED

Download the Toptracer Range app, register, scan the screen when you arrive and choose from six play modes. Then create a profile to become part of a community. The app stores data from practice sessions, so players can monitor changes and fine-tune their swing over time. For users at Toptracer Range Mobile-enabled facilities, the app is also where they can access skill-based games.



My Practice

Tells you all the key stats – total distance, carry, ball speed, height, hang time... It's all relayed to an app on your phone for future reference.

Closest to the Pin

Just want to work on your iron play or wedge game? Choose a real target, tell the screen which one it is and fire away. It'll tell you how close you got.

Virtual Golf

Play on real world courses, using the targets on the range, including Pebble Beach and the Old Course. A great option for groups.

Long Drive

Who can hit the furthest? This game lets you settle the argument by turning the range into a proper long drive grid for up to eight players.

Points Game

This mode turns range targets into points; plus you can win bonus points for hitting a certain trajectory through an 'In Air' ring.

Go Fish

Child-friendly range game that can be played individually or as a team where players bid to capture 24 sea creatures in a virtual aquarium.

NELLY KORDA WINS INDIVIDUAL TITLE AT ARAMCO TEAM SERIES - LONDON



Nelly Korda
Image Credit : Tristan Jones/LET



Team Hall (L-R: Kylie Henry, Georgia Hall, Lea Anne Bramwell)
Image Credit : Tristan Jones/LET

➤ Nelly Korda produced a dominant display to win the Individual title at the Aramco Team Series presented by PIF - London. The world number two had led from the first day and had a five-shot lead coming into the final round at Centurion Club.

And the Olympic champion began the day with a birdie on the first but soon dropped a shot on the sixth and was back to even par for the round. However, she soon moved into the red once again with a birdie on the 12th before she rolled in a birdie at the last to seal a round of 71 (-2) and win with a total of 11-under-par.

“It was so much fun this week,” said Korda, who also won the Individual title at the 2022 Aramco Team Series – Sotogrande. “I got to

play in some very interesting weather and got to hit shots that I don’t necessarily get to hit all the time. It was an amazing walk with my partners this week, my team and lastly Jason [McDede] as well.”

England’s Charley Hull finished in second place on seven-under-par after firing a round of 68 (-5) on the final day.

The three-time LET winner rolled in three birdies in four holes on the front nine but dropped a shot on the ninth to make the turn in 35 (-2).

Team Hall were declared team champions once the second round was completed, after the quartet of Hall, Kylie Henry, Lea Anne Bramwell and amateur Michael Austick

finished with a total of 24-under-par.

In the 2023 Race to Costa del Sol, the standings in the top 10 have not changed with Spain’s Ana Peláez Triviño still leading the way ahead of India’s Aditi Ashok, Czechia’s Klara Davidson Spilkova and Sweden’s Linn Grant.

India’s Diksha Dagar is fifth with Sweden’s Johanna Gustavsson in sixth, England’s Lily May Humphreys in seventh, Germany’s Chiara Noja sits eighth, Spain’s Carmen Alonso is still ninth and France’s Celine Herbin round out the top 10.

The biggest movers are Hull, who jumped from 104th to 33rd place and now has 401 points from two events, while South Africa’s Garcia was 33rd and is now 17th with 591.93 points. **GP**

TVESA CLINCHES FIRST TITLE IN 2 YEARS

➤ Tvesa Malik found the touch she was missing for so long on the last 10 holes of the final round of the 11th Leg of the Hero Women’s Pro Golf Tour at the Bangalore Golf Club. She started bogey-bogey and was 2-over after four holes, but rallied superbly on the back nine, carding 5-under 29 on the return. She totalled 1-over 202.

Tvesa, whose last win on the Hero WPG Tour came in March 2021, birdied six times between the ninth and 17th holes. Twice she had birdie hat-tricks. Her final round of 3-under 64, which was the best of the week at the Par-67 Bangalore Golf Club, resulted in her first win of the season.

Tvesa’s 64 gave her a three-round score of 1-over 202 with rounds of 70-68-64 in three days. She finished three shots clear of Durga Nittur, another emerging professional from Bengaluru. Durga shot 1-under 66 to total 4-over 205 and was second.

Sneha Singh, two-time winner in 2023, shot 66 to finish third at 6-over 207, while Gaurika Bishnoi shot the day’s equal best of 64 and



Tvesa Malik starting her final round



Tvesa Malik receiving winner’s cheque & trophy from Mr. D N Vasanth Kumar, Captain-BGC

jumped to tied fourth place alongside Khushi Khanijau (65). Both recorded totals of 210.

“That was a big relief. I had been searching for this for a long time. I knew the game was good, but I needed the scores and today I did not put

myself under pressure and it helped,” said Tvesa, who is now hoping for a few starts in Europe.

The top amateur of the week was Mannat Brar (71), who finished tied sixth with Kriti Chowhan (68) at 211. **GP**

BAILEY BRINGS HOME THE WIN AT RAMSIDE

England's Lianna Bailey held her nerves and battled through the heavy rain to emerge victor of the Link Series at Ramside Hall by one shot ahead of Ireland's Lauren Walsh.

Playing in the final group, the 26-year-old from Leicester got off to a shaky start carding two bogeys on the front nine on holes three and six.

At the turn, Bailey carded two birdies and another two bogeys which was enough to clinch the win.

Speaking about the win, Bailey said: "It all feels surreal, I was very nervous coming down the last stretch but I'm glad to get it done.

"Today we had more rain, it was coming down heavy. It made it more difficult as there was a lot of moisture on the greens.

"I had a lot of nerves during the last hole, I can't really remember what was going through my head, it was a bit of a blur."

This win marks Bailey's second professional win and first win on the LET Access, it will also put her in fourth position in the LETAS Order of Merit list. Ireland's Lauren Walsh had a fantastic final round of three-under-par to finish in outright second place at her first LETAS tournament on five-under-par.

Australia's Stephanie Bunque, also at her first LETAS event shot four-under-par to finish in tied third place alongside Denmark's Cecilie Finne-Ipsen, the leader after 15 holes. **GP**



Lianna Bailey
Image Credit: LET Access Series

ITURRIOZ CLINCHES TITLE WITH PLAYOFF VICTORY IN SPAIN

Spain can celebrate another home champion tonight after Nuria Iturrioz clinched her fourth Ladies European Tour (LET) title in dramatic style with a playoff victory at the inaugural La Sella Open. Trailing by four shots prior to the third and final round, the Spaniard had the back-nine of her life as she carded one eagle and three birdies to post a 67 (-5) and take Germany's Laura Fuenfstueck to sudden death.

After the pair both birdied the par-5 18th to tie again, it was back up to the closing hole where Fuenfstueck found trouble down the left to eventually fall to a bogey.

The mishap would give Iturrioz two putts for the victory as she rolled in the second from close range to seal the deal and lift title number four on the LET – her first since 2019.

"I'm very happy, all I can say is Vamos!" the Spaniard said. "It's been an amazing week. I'm happy to win in Spain. The support has been amazing. I hope this tournament lasts for a while because I love this course. I don't know how the phone is now going to be!"

Iturrioz faced an uphill battle from the off when she bogeyed the challenging par-4 1st hole. The 27-year-old bounced back with a birdie on the 2nd before she was forced to play catch up again with a dropped shot on the 4th – one which saw her trail by five shots with 14



Nuria Iturrioz
Image Credit: Tristan Jones/LET

holes remaining.

After a clutch birdie on the 7th helped the home favourite regain composure, the par-5 12th proved the turning point as Iturrioz dialled one in to five-feet for eagle.

She explained: "The walk from 11 to 12 is a

bit long. So I was talking with my caddie to go for it more, to trust in what I was doing. So I turned to the driver and hit a 5-iron into the pin which helped me make an easy eagle. From there I was like, ok, I'm happy, let's do what I do." **GP**

MUEHLBAUER SECURES MAIDEN PROFESSIONAL VICTORY AT RAMSIDE

➤ After 12 top-10 finishes, Austria's Katharina Muehlbauer finally gets her maiden professional win on the LET Access Series (LETAS).

The 25-year-old from Vocklabruck held the overnight lead on six-under-par and extended that lead from early on.

Muehlbauer showed she meant business on the final day with three birdies on her first three holes followed by two more on six and nine.

At the turn, the Austrian slowed down but held par on all the back nine holes except one to clinch a three-shot victory.

Speaking just after her round Muehlbauer said: "It feels incredible to win. I'm out of words. I played solidly the last week and now it's a dream come true.

"It feels great to win and now that I know how it feels, I want to keep playing more and get more wins. It's just a very nice feeling."

Muehlbauer has had a consistent season after making all the cuts at nine LETAS events so far, including two top-10 finishes at the Flumserberg Ladies Open and the Link Series event at Ramside Golf Club last week.

"Today I started good and from there on I knew I had to just play safe. I made one stupid mistake, but stupid mistakes happen.

"I'm super happy with my game, with my planning."

Muehlbauer has a good track record at Ramside coming T-12 on the Cathedral course in 2022 and she can't praise the club enough.



Katharina Muehlbauer
Image Credit : LET Access Series

"It's been a good two weeks and this golf club has been incredible with giving us the course for two weeks.

"I really loved the place last year, but I love it even more this year and I'm sure I will be coming back to Ramside."

With this win, Muehlbauer receives 500 points on the LETAS Order of Merit which should see the Austrian move to second place behind

two-time winner Sofie Kibsgaard Nielsen.

This puts Muehlbauer in a strong position at the mid-point of the season to clinch an all-important top-6 spot for an LET card.

Speaking about how she will celebrate the win, Muehlbauer said: "I will celebrate with my friends who I'm sharing with this week, and I can't wait to have a nice dinner and reflect on the round." **GP**

KIBSGAARD NIELSEN SECURES SECOND LETAS VICTORY IN SWEDEN

➤ Sofie Kibsgaard Nielsen won a three-way play-off to take victory at the Capio Ogon Trophy and her second LETAS title this season.

The 24-year-old started the day on one-over-par but had a fantastic final round at Uppsala GolfKlubb.

The LETAS rookie carded three birdies and one bogey on her front nine and one birdie and a bogey on the front to finish on one under par. This gave our Order of Merit leader a chance of winning, a chance she embraced by rolling in a birdie on the first play-off hole to swiftly defeat runners-up and final day leaders, Scotland's Hannah McCook, and fellow Danish amateur Natacha Host Husted.

Speaking about her win, Kibsgaard Nielsen said: "It means a lot to me to get my second win this season.

"I've worked very hard to improve some part of my game the last couple of weeks, and it feels good to finally see it come together again. I'm just very proud and happy with this result."

Kibsgaard Nielsen is no stranger to a play-off on LETAS having lost out to France's Lucie Andre in Spain at the start of this season so admits it feels extra special to win it this time.

Kibsgaard Nielsen has dominated the season as the current leader of the LETAS Order of Merit and LETAS Rookie of the Year list



with 1607.58 points after placing second at two tournaments, the Flumserberg Ladies Open and Santander Golf Tour-Girona and now two wins in France and Sweden. **GP**

BOUTIER SEALS MAIDEN MAJOR WITH VICTORY

7 Celine Boutier stormed to a six-stroke victory with a closing round of 68 (-3) to win the 2023 Amundi Evian Championship at Evian Resort Golf Club.

The Solheim Cup star made history as she became the first player from France to secure the Amundi Evian Championship since the event was designated a major.

It was a dream start for Boutier, who rolled in back-to-back birdies on her opening two holes before she added another birdie on the fifth to make the turn in 32 (-3) and extend her advantage at the top of the leaderboard.

Despite a dropped shot on 13, the Frenchwoman bounced back with a birdie on 15 and was able to walk up 18 and make her par to seal victory with a total of 14-under-par.

“It was definitely not easy,” said Boutier. “But the conditions were so tough I felt like it could go either way really fast, so I just tried to stay focused on each shot and hole at a time. It was pretty challenging with the wind.

“The start was pretty unexpected. I definitely felt like I handled the first few holes really well. I had a good opportunity on one and the putt on two was definitely a bonus.

“In golf you can always play better. I definitely feel like I was very steady with all four rounds, which is very positive. Especially with the tougher conditions, I’m very satisfied with my level and with my game this week.”

This is the second win on home soil for Boutier in two years after she won the 2021 Lacoste Ladies Open de France.

While she also becomes the third Frenchwoman to win a major championship



“It was definitely not easy, but the conditions were so tough I felt like it could go either way really fast, so I just tried to stay focused on each shot and hole at a time. It was pretty challenging with the wind.”

after Catherine LaCoste in 1967 and Patricia Meunier-Lebouc in 2003.

She explained: “It honestly has been my biggest dream ever since I started watching golf. This tournament has always been very special to me, even watching as a teenager. To be able to hold this trophy is pretty unbelievable. To have my family here made it even better. I feel like they definitely helped me this week to stay grounded and keep my mind off of golf off the golf course. It’s really sweet to be able to share it with them and I

wouldn’t be here without them.”

Brooke Henderson, who won the Championship in 2022, produced a final round of 70 (-1) to finish in outright second place on eight-under-par.

The Canadian star had three birdies and two bogeys on her scorecard at Evian to produce the best finish by a defending champion.

“I love coming here to France,” said Henderson. “The atmosphere, the people are amazing. This course is so beautiful and a lot of fun to play. **GP**”

INDOOR GOLF

A GATEWAY TO POPULARIZING THE SPORT IN INDIA

..... Bharath Arvind

Teeing off

Golf has long been associated with lush green fairways, beautiful landscapes, and an air of exclusivity. It is often regarded as an elite sport and has seen limited popularity in India due to various factors such as accessibility, affordability, and the perception of being a niche activity.

However, in recent years, the introduction of indoor golf facilities across the globe and in India have been revolutionizing the sport and opening new avenues for enthusiasts and the curious. This article explores the significance of indoor golf in introducing more people to the game and how it could play a significant role in growing the game and its popularity in the country.

Breaking down the barriers

India is a diverse country with a growing population, but limited land availability or high cost of land poses a significant challenge for traditional golf course development.



Indoor golf provides a solution to this problem by eliminating the need for vast expanses of land, making it accessible to a wider audience. By setting up indoor golf facilities in urban centers, enthusiasts can now experience the sport conveniently and in an affordable manner, regardless of their proximity to golf courses.

Leveraging Technology

Indoor golf facilities are equipped with cutting-edge technology, such as high-speed cameras, and simulators. These advancements offer players an immersive and realistic experience, recreating the ambiance of famous golf courses from around the world. Golfers can practice their swing, play full rounds of golf, and even receive instant feedback on their performance, enhancing their skills in a controlled environment.

Simulators also come with several practice and game modes to make learning the game exciting and provide challenges to all skill levels. Irrespective of age or whether one has even held a golf club before, everyone can give this a shot.

Year-Round Availability and Weather Independence

India's diverse climate, with scorching summers and unpredictable monsoons, often hampers outdoor sports activities, including golf. Indoor golf provides a welcome respite from weather constraints, enabling enthusiasts to play the sport year-round, regardless of rain, heat, or cold. This weather independence ensures that golf remains an engaging and consistent activity throughout the year, attracting more individuals to take up the sport. Indoor golf facilities also offer people the convenience of time by staying open late, allowing even working professionals to end their work day with a few swings of the golf club.



Promoting Inclusivity

Golf has been perceived as an elitist sport in India, limiting its reach to a select few. This is largely due to the fact that for a country this size and with the population, there are just about 300 golf courses in the country. Approximately half of those are owned by the armed forces, which further reduces the number of course offerings for the masses. With generally high membership costs or even limited accessibility owing to various restrictive rules and costs, it becomes quite a challenge for anyone who wishes to simply try and take up the game.

However, the emergence of indoor golf facilities challenges this notion and aims to break down barriers. These inclusive spaces welcome players of all ages, genders, and skill levels, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie. By introducing a more

INDOOR GOLF FACILITIES CAN BRIDGE THIS GAP BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE SPORT IN URBAN AREAS WHERE LAND SCARCITY RESTRICTS GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT.



accessible and welcoming environment, indoor golf encourages diversity within the golfing community. Eventually this could perhaps lead to more traditional clubs offering special memberships for the growing demand.


Nurturing Talent and Professional Development

Indoor golf centers serve as valuable training grounds for aspiring professional golfers. By offering state-of-the-art practice facilities, indoor golf helps young talents hone their skills without the constraints of location or weather. These facilities can also host tournaments, enabling emerging players to gain exposure and build a competitive spirit. With the rise of indoor golf, India has witnessed a surge in golf academies and coaching programs, nurturing the next generation of golfing prodigies.

The Future of Golf in India

As the popularity of indoor golf continues to grow, it has the potential to transform the golfing landscape in India. While there are currently around 300 golf courses in the country, the majority of them are concentrated in select regions. Indoor golf facilities can bridge this gap by providing access to the sport in urban areas where land scarcity restricts golf course development. **GP**

THE GOLF FOUNDATION'S 13TH INVITATIONAL FUND RAISER AN OUTSTANDING TRIUMPH!

 Bengaluru, Karnataka Golf Association

 14th & 15th July 2023

The 13th edition of The Golf Foundation's Invitational Fund Raiser was held on the 14th and 15th of July 2023 at KGA, Bengaluru, with a noble objective to create awareness and raise funds for talented young underprivileged golfers. The tournament showcased a perfect blend of serious competition and enjoyable golfing camaraderie.

Esteemed dignitaries, passionate golfers, and supportive sponsors gathered to bolster The Golf Foundation's efforts in nurturing champions from India, particularly those coming from underprivileged backgrounds, who aspire to make it big in golf on both national and international stages.

For the first time, the event spanned two days, featuring a 'Two Man Team Scramble' format that encouraged aggressive and strategic golf, requiring effective partnership between the players. The team of Manish and Rakesh excelled with an impressive score of 53 Nett, surpassing the second-placed team of Veer Ganapathy and Krishna Prasad, who scored 56 Nett, and Sanjay Gaddipati and Prasanna, achieving a score of 58 Nett.

The event further engaged golfers with various skill prizes based on activities taken up by The Golf Foundation, demonstrating their dedication to nurturing talent and supporting worthy causes.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE EVENT SPANNED TWO DAYS, FEATURING A 'TWO MAN TEAM SCRAMBLE' FORMAT THAT ENCOURAGED AGGRESSIVE AND STRATEGIC GOLF, REQUIRING EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PLAYERS.



The winning team of Rakesh Rajora (extreme left) and Manish Kumar Verma (2nd from right) along with Miss India 1st Runner-up 2023 Shreya Poonja and former Asian Games Games Medalist and founder of The Foundation Amit Luthra strike a pose at the award ceremony.



From left: Sunil Joshi, Venkatesh Prasad and Mithun Beerala along with Amit Luthra, founder of The Golf Foundation.

The presence of esteemed personalities, including the legendary Syed Kirmani, a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning team, and former international cricketers Sunil Joshi, Venkatesh Prasad, and Sujit Somasundar, added excitement and prestige to the occasion. Additionally, Femina Miss India 2023 1st Runner-Up was among the chief guests at the event, supporting the cause.

Besides raising funds, The Golf Foundation extended its support to 15 caddy boys and girls from the Karnataka Golf Association (KGA). This act exemplified the foundation's unwavering commitment to providing

opportunities for underprivileged youngsters nationwide, underscoring their dedication to fostering a more inclusive and accessible golfing community.

The Golf Foundation's Fund Raiser tournaments, held annually in Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru, continually garner support for the cause of producing golf champions from India, with a special focus on players from underprivileged and marginalized backgrounds. Additionally, the foundation has been conducting nationwide talent search events, identifying beneficiaries who will benefit from a comprehensive training program. 

THE C-TOUR SRINAGAR LEG !

After 13 cities & 1500 golfers last season, the much awaited event tees off in Paradise on Earth

More than 80 Golfers from all over India converged to the beautiful Royal Springs Golf Club in Srinagar to participate at the Kashmir leg of the C-Tour.

The C-tour is the only categorized Golf Tour for the corporate world wherein recognition is given to the working Golfers. The 2022-23 tour has 15 Cities including Srinagar and Pattaya in Thailand.

The first day was a practice round followed by the competition round the next day. The players braved sudden rain showers and completed their rounds.

The Golf Course carved into the Zabarwan Forest range overlooking the Dal lake was a treat for the players.

The event concluded at a Prize Presentation ceremony and lunch consisting of Kashmiri delicacies. **GP**



RESULTS - KASHMIR

Closest to the Pin Hole No. 5

A P Singh/ 4 Feet

Longest Drive Hole No. 18

Muneer Khan/ 257 Yards

4 Player Teams Fourball Championship - (Best 3 Scores) -Runner Up

Tanmay Dhawan, Deepak Wadhwa, Prateek Agarwal, Tushar Chandani

4 Player Teams Fourball Championship- (Best 3 Scores) -Winner

Varun Raj Khanna, Gandharav Kohli, Sanjeev Kalra, Tejas Arur

8 Player Teams Team Championship- (Best 6 Scores) -Runner Up

Prem Prakash, Rajnish Sethi, Rajesh Khanna, Sanjeev Gupta, Dr Ajay Dhir, Siddharth Sagar, Amit Dubey, Gautam Chopra

Individual Championship- Ladies (Best Individual Score Nett)

Shanta Rao

Individual Championship- Seniors (60 years and above) (Best Individual Score Nett)

Rajesh Shrivastva

Individual Championship- Male (Best Individual Score Nett)

Dharmendra Singh

Individual Championship- Male (Best Individual Score Gross)

Sidharth Sagar

Winner Best Self Employed

Dr.Sanjiv Kalra

Winner Best Business Person

A P Singh

Winner Best Govt Services

Nadeem Khan

Winner Best Corporate

Ajay Sharma



GOLF

TOURNAMENT

2023



MOHAN
FOUNDATION

DRIVE TO SAVE LIVES

**GOLF TOURNAMENT TO RAISE
AWARENESS & FUNDS FOR THE
CAUSE OF ORGAN DONATION**

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DRIVE TO SAVE LIVES

Support the Noble cause of Organ Donation

By Dr. Sunil Shroff


Erik Compton from Florida was 9 years old when he first experienced difficulty in breathing due to a heart illness called cardiomyopathy. By the age of 12, he required a heart transplant. His parents encouraged him to step outdoors and play golf and he became proficient enough to join the PGA tour. At the age of 28 he had a second heart transplant. During the Masters Tournament at Augusta, Georgia in April 2009, Compton received the Ben Hogan Award for staying active in golf despite a physical handicap or serious illness. He also gained recognition for his attempts to be allowed the use of a golf cart during qualifying rounds for PGA Tour and Nationwide Tour events. He is the only PGA player with a transplanted organ and he finished joint second in the US Open

2014 and qualified for the Masters.

India has more than 400,00 Erik's who are not as fortunate. Individuals with end-stage organ failure due to diseases of the heart, lungs, kidneys and liver. People who live their lives out of the rough, attached to dialysis machines and ventilators. Only about 15,000 are fortunate enough to receive the gift of life. Others simply perish. The reason is that we do not have a robust organ donation program in our country where-in people donate organs after brain death.

In brain death the injury occurs to the brain and the brain dies even as the heart continues to pump for a few hours or days, thus allowing for vital organs to be retrieved and transplanted. A single donor can save several lives by donating organs like heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, small intestine and pancreas. After any death, tissues like cornea, skin and bones may be donated. India has the ignominy of the highest road accident deaths in the world

but one of the lowest organ donation rates. We need to change that equation. It is not that people don't wish to donate, it is just that awareness on organ donation needs to be increased. Indians are generally altruistic by nature and it is people like us who have to bring about the change. As Mahatma Gandhi said 'be the change we want to see'. Let us lead from the front and encourage our friends and colleagues to do the same. The next time you tee off and walk towards the ball, spare a thought for the thousands who need an organ in order to survive.

July was the month for organ donation in India and 3rd Aug is our Organ Donation Day. Let us chip away at organ donation and help others to live. Let us make the 'eagle' of organ donation soar higher and higher. Let us help this 'birdie' fly. In the game of life, let us give them a 'mulligan'. 

By Dr. Sunil Shroff, Managing Trustee, MOHAN Foundation (www.mohanfoundation.org) shoff@mohanfoundation.org

Impact of MOHAN Foundation's Work

MOHAN Foundation is a 27-year-old registered NGO that is working in the field of organ donation to promote ethical organ donation. Its mission is to save & transform lives.

250

Million Public sensitized

3,500+

Grief Counsellors cum Transplant Coordinators trained

60,000+

Healthcare Professionals trained

2,300+

Volunteers trained

1,000,000

Callers on Toll Free Helpline Counselling

12,000+

Healthcare Professionals and Counsellors downloaded Mobile Apps developed for enabling Donor identification, Certification and Counselling



For more information, visit www.mohanfoundation.org
Contact: Toll Free Helpline – 1800 103 1700 info@mohanfoundation.org

POONA LIONS EMERGE WINNERS

The Oxford Golf League, Pune concluded with the AK Poona Lions emerging victorious in the league that attracted 120 players playing on eight teams. Over the course of four competition days spread over two weekends, the Poona Lions led by captains Rajiv Pusalkar and Andrew Pinto, came out winners.

The matches between each team were divided so that 3 pairs played Greensomes and 3 played Fourballs. (Players were divided in Gold, Silver n Bronze category as per handicaps)

Eight teams participated in this league. Teams such as Eagle Forces, Shubban Sunrises, A.J. Sultan of Swing, Roaring Tigers Nagpur, AK Puna Lions, The Legacy Club, Wing Warriors, Green Gladiators, etc. There were 15 players per team, with 12 playing in each



match. The teams were divided into 2 Groups of 4 teams and the 2 highest teams from each

group qualified for the semi-final after which it was knockout. GP

GO GOLF EVENT 2023

Gulmohar Golfer of the Year 2023 took place on 29th & 30th July as part of the calendar. 60 golfers participated at the Gulmohar Greens-Golf & Country Club to take home the Claret Jug replica. GP



Bhavin Vadgama



Ansh Jobanputra



Vishal Desai



Rahul Rajgopal

6/11 G G O Y - JULY 2023 - SUMMARY

#	CATEGORY	PRIZES	NAME	GROSS	POINTS
1	Category - 1	Winner	VISHAL DESAI	81	38
2	H'cap 0-14	Runner up	NIRAV PRAJAPATI	84	35
3	Category - 2	Winner	BHAVIN VADGAMA	93	32
4	H'cap 15-23	Runner up	MICHAEL WEIR	90	31
5	Category - 3	Winner	RAHUL RAJGOPAL	98	34
6	H'cap 24-36	Runner up	HIREN THAKKAR	98	33
5	Category - 4	Winner	ANSH JOBANPUTRA	79	34
6	JUNIOR	Runner up	NEIL DAVE	80	33

SKILL COMPETITIONS

7	Longest Drive - Hole # 1	RUCHIR TELI	248 YARDS	OVER ALL
8	Closest to Pin - Hole # 3	JUHI MAVANI	10'8" FT	
9	2nd Shot Closest to Pin - Hole # 9	NIRAV PRAJAPATI	11'5" FT	

VEDANT TRIUMPHS IN A PLAYOFF

The 2nd Delhi Young Master Stableford Championship was held at Delhi Golf Club from the 5th to the 7th of July.

The event attracted a field of 50+ golfers which included 8 World ranked boys and 5 World ranked girls.

The first 2 days saw the local boy Dewan Kabir Nath lead the field followed closely by Vedant Sirohi and Shat Mishra. The 3rd day saw a keen battle between Vedant, Prithish,

and Kabir. Eventually, Kabir made a mistake on the 15th hole and both Prithish and Vedant took advantage and finished 1 point ahead and proceeded to play the playoff. It took 1 hole for Vedant to prevail over Prithish and win the Delhi Stableford Championship.

The Girl's division saw a battle between 4 girls Mahreen Bhatia, Ragini Navet, Preitisha Kaur, and Vanya Bansal. After 2 days Ragini led by 1 point from Mahreen and a further 7

points behind were Preitisha & Vanya. The last day saw Mahreen take the lead on the very first hole and winning followed by Ragini who settled for 2nd place. **GP**



ARJUN BHATIA WINS A 5 ROUND MARATHON

LITTLE MASTER MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP			
QUARTER-FINALS 20TH JULY		SEMI-FINALS 21ST JULY	
1	PARTEET S.SEKHON	ARADHEEA GAWADE 1UP	SHAT MISHRA 5&4
8	ARADHEEA GAWADE	10:00 AM	
3	SHAT MISHRA	09:00 AM	ARJUN SINGH BHATIA 16TH HOLE 2:08 AM
6	ANSHUL BHATI	10:08 AM	
4	JAI BAHL	NEEMRANA	
5	VEDANT SIROHI	4&3	VEDANT SIROHI 4&3
2	ARJUN SINGH BHATIA	09:08 AM	
7	BHAVESH NIRWAN	10:24 AM	3RD / 4TH PLACE PLAY-OFF 21ST JULY
			VEDANT SIROHI 5&4
			ARADHEEA GAWADE 2:00 PM
			WINNER ARJUN S. BHATIA 3&1



The Little Master Tour held a WAGR Matchplay tournament at Jaypee Greens Golf Course in Greater Noida from the 18th to the 21st of July.

This was a mixed event where girls and boys competed together. The event attracted 6 World ranked players and many to be world-ranked junior golfers who were keen to

compete with the big boys of Indian Golf. A special highlight was juniors caddied for the senior boys in the matchplay knockout stages. Neil Jolly, Anshh Dubey, Ayan Dubey, Kushagra Panwar & Bhavesh Nirwan caddied for the senior players. Before the Matchplay rounds was a 36-hole

strokeplay qualifier from which 8 players qualified for the Matchplay. The 2-day qualifier was played in hot and humid conditions but the game was even hotter with an Albatross by Tanishka, eagles by Arjun Bhatia and Parteeet Sekhon and many many birdies. **GP**

KARTIK WINS FCG CALLAWAY JUNIOR GOLF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

After consistent wins on the IGU's National Junior Golf circuit, Kartik headed to USA to participate in the FCG CALLAWAY JUNIOR GOLF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP and the 13 years old prodigy from India won the championship making his parents, coach & the entire team proud.

He will now be headed to play at the 75th US Junior Amateur which attracts the young golfers from around the world and sees 264 players under the age of 19 competing over 36 holes of stroke play over two days with the top 64 scores advance to the match play knock out rounds before the winner is announced. **GP**



MAHREEN FINISHES 2ND AS KARTIK AND LAVANYA GRAB THIRD PLACES AT WORLD TEEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mahreen Bhatia finished very strongly with three birdies in the last four holes, including two in the last two, but finished a gallant second in Girls 14 at the US Kids World Teens Championships at Pinehurst. The second place this week is in addition to the second place she claimed in the European US Kids Golf Championships in May.

A bogey on the 16th and the earlier ones on 10th and 12th at the Pinehurst No. 6 course, proved costly for the talented Indian teen. Mahreen with rounds of 69-69-72 totalled 6-under 210 and was second behind American Maria Isabella Errichetto, who shot 71 in the final round.

There were other good results, too, for the Indian contingent in Boys 13, where Kartik Singh (69-71-69) totalled 7-under 209 to finish third behind Thailand's Ajalawich Anantasethakul (65-71-69) for a total of 11-under and American Rory Asselta (67-71-69).

Lavanya Gupta competing in Girls 15-18 made a great run on the final day, including five birdies on the front nine, three of them in a row, but a closing bogey on 18th cost her a better finish. Placed fifth after the second round, Lavanya shot the day's equal best of 68, just like Olivia Hasselbach, whose last hole birdie and the Indian's last hole bogey made a swing of two shots, which was the winning margin for the American from Tampa, Florida.

Colombian Laura Sofia Espinosa Gonzalez (73-68-71) at 212 was second, one shot behind winner, Olivia, and one ahead of Lavanya.

With one second place and two third place finishes, the US Kids Indian Team once again had a successful outing at the World Championships.



Indian medallists at US Kids Golf World Teen Championships - Mahreen Bhatia, Lavanya Gupta and Kartik Singh

Among other Indians, in Boys 13 Vihaan Jain (76-74-72) improved further on the final day with a 72 that took him to T-30, up nine places from the second round. Also in Boys 13, Arshvant Srivastava, who had a rough week shot 78 and ended T-72.

In Boys 14, Ranveer Mitroo (74-73-74) was Tied-12th, while Udai Aditya Middha

(74-80-75) improved 12 places to finish T-34 and Tejas Mishra (76-76-79) slipped to T-45, down 13 places.

Among Boys 15-18, Ranveer Singh Dhupia (76-76-78) improved 11 placed and was T-44, while among Girls 13, Asara Sawhney (83-79-81) finished T-29, one place below where she was after the second round. **GP**

TSG IS NOW TAKING ON YOUNGER TALENT!

Ryan is all of 7 years old and in the last month at the academy he has grown as a player. His second place finish at the Zion Hills TSG South Zone championships is testament to that fact. This young player has also now joined the TSG academy. **GP**



THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE WINS THE VAGLIANO AND JUNIOR VAGLIANO TROPHIES

The Continent of Europe continued its dominance of the Vagliano and Junior Vagliano trophies by winning the senior and junior international matches against Great Britain and Ireland at Royal Dornoch.

GB&I is now without a win in the Vagliano Trophy since 2005 following today's 13½-10½ defeat, while the junior team fell just short of securing its first win in the Junior Vagliano Trophy after the match finished tied at 9-9.

A combination of Spanish, German, Belgian and Swedish women gave the Continent of Europe captain Ane Urchegui Garcia victory as she led the senior team for the first time.

"I'm so happy," Urchegui Garcia said after Germany's Helen Briem earned the winning point, taking her side to the required 12½ points with a 2&1 singles victory over Caley McGinty.

GB&I won the morning foursomes 2½-1½ to level the contest at eight points apiece with eight singles left to play. Strong winds and driving rain should have favoured the home side on a traditional links, but the anticipated tense finish turned into something of a damp squib thanks to the excellent play of the Continent of Europe.

Two of the first three singles sessions went GB&I's way with England's Lottie Woad



defeating Savannah de Bock of Belgium 2&1 and Aine Donegan beating world number one Ingrid Lindblad by the same score after a halve in the lead match between Ireland's Beth Coulter and Rocío Tejedo of Spain. Those were the only GB&I wins in the singles before the bottom five players in Urchegui Garcia's order reeled off victories.

Briem was one of three players on the Continent of Europe team to record three

points out of four along with Spain's Cayetana Fernández García-Poggio and Meja Ortengren of Sweden. Only Woad on the GB&I team managed that feat.

There was a modicum of consolation for GB&I in that the Junior Vagliano Trophy finished level on nine points apiece. However, it meant that the Continent of Europe secured the trophy for the eighth straight time having never lost since the inaugural 2011 match. **GP**

13TH DGC JUNIOR/SUB-JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

16-year-old Keya K. Badugu emerged as the overall winner in the girls category while 17-year-old Jujhar Singh from Chandigarh won the overall boys prize at the 13th DGC Junior/Sub-Junior golf tournament.

USHA International continues its support to

junior golf and the Delhi Golf Club the 13th DGC Junior/Sub-Junior Golf Tournament. The event saw over 100 boys and girls in different age categories competing at both Lodhi course as well as the Peacock Course over three days.

Ms Komal Mehra, Head of Sports Initiatives

and Associations on this occasion said "Usha's association with the Delhi Golf Club is an extension of our brand's ethos to promote an active and healthy lifestyle and aligns with our vision of creating inclusive sporting platforms." **GP**

RESULTS

Overall winner Girls : Keya K. Badugu

Overall winner Boys : Jujhar Singh

Category A girls (15-17 years) :
Keya K. Badugu

Category A boys (15-17 years) :
1. Jujhar Singh 2. Rakshit Dahiya

Category B girls (13-14 years) :
Aaliya Bairoliya

Category B boys (13-14 years) :
1. Trish Kalkal 2. Pritish Singh Kariyat

Category C girls (11-12 years) :
Anushka Gupta

Category C boys (11-12 years) :
1. Chaitanya Pandey; 2. Arihaan Beri

Category D girls (8-10 years) :
Bhuvi Srivastava

Category D boys (8-10 years) :
1. Krishnav Gupta 2. Shan Alvi





SHUBHANKAR SHARMA RECORDS BEST INDIAN FINISH AT THE OPEN AS HE CLAIMS TIED EIGHTH PLACE

Shubhankar Sharma recorded the best Indian finish at The Open after he claimed tied eighth place at the 151st edition of golf's oldest Major at Royal Liverpool Golf Club in England.

Shubhankar, who turned 27 years of age during round two of the event, posted scores of 68, 71, 70 and 70 to total five-under 279 for the tournament in his third appearance at The Open.

American Brian Harman won the year's final Major with a score of 13-under 271. It was his first Major triumph. Harman finished six strokes ahead of four players bunched in tied second place which included South Korea's Tom Kim, Austria's Sepp Straka, Jason Day of Australia and Spaniard Jon Rahm.

Jyoti Randhawa held the previous record for the best finish by an Indian golfer at The Open courtesy his tied 27th at Royal Troon in Scotland in 2004.

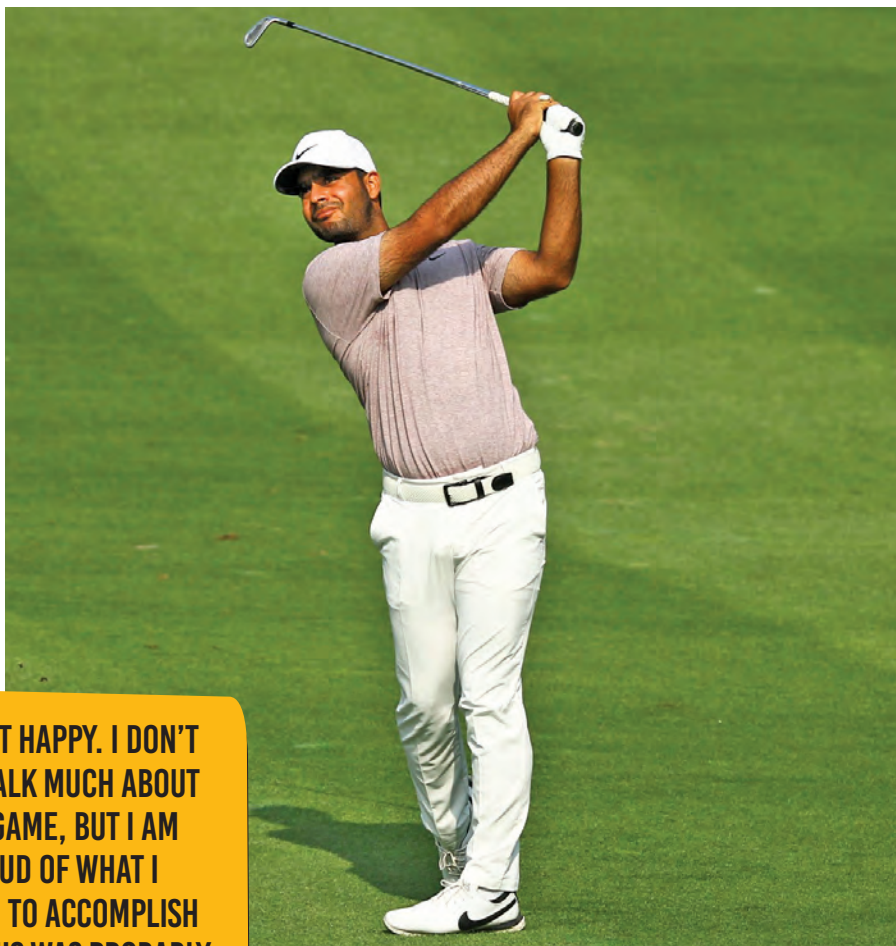
Sharma held his own in windy and wet conditions on the last day as his one-under 70 was the only bogey-free card of the final round. It pushed him up one spot from his overnight tied ninth.

The Indian star's only birdie came on the 14th where he made a 15-foot conversion. He made pars on all the other 17 holes. He thus climbed from 276 to 165 in the world ranking making a gain of 111 spots.

The Chandigarh-based professional enjoyed a consistent run through the week as he maintained himself in the top-10 from round one till round four despite the extremely tough playing conditions.

Sharma had previously finished tied 51st in both his appearances at The Open in 2018 and 2019.

Content Editor: Nikhil Kalaan, Media Manager, PGTI



“I AM JUST HAPPY. I DON'T LIKE TO TALK MUCH ABOUT MY OWN GAME, BUT I AM VERY PROUD OF WHAT I MANAGED TO ACCOMPLISH TODAY. THIS WAS PROBABLY THE BEST ROUND OF GOLF THAT I HAVE EVER PLAYED IN MY LIFE.”

The best finish by an Indian at a men's Major belongs to Anirban Lahiri. He finished tied fifth at the PGA

Championship in Wisconsin, USA in 2015. Shubhankar Sharma's tied eighth result at the 151st Open was only the third time an Indian finished in the top-10 in a golf Major. Apart from Anirban Lahiri's tied fifth in 2015, Jeev Milkha Singh had finished tied ninth at the 2008 PGA Championship in

Michigan, USA.

In other words, Shubhankar's result at the 2023 Open Championship is now also the second-best finish by an Indian at a Major.

Sharma said, "I am just happy. I don't like to talk much about my own game, but I am very proud of what I managed to accomplish today. This was probably the best round of golf that I have ever played in my life."

Shubhankar Sharma's top-10 finish at the 2023 edition of The Open has earned him an invitation to play at The Open next year at Troon. **GP**





INDIA AT THE ASIAN GAMES

With the Asian Games around the corner, here's a look at the previous men's teams that have represented India at the quadrennial event from the 1982 edition till the 2002 edition :

NEW DELHI 1982

Indian Team : Lakshman Singh, Amit Luthra, Rishi Narain, Rajiv Mohta

Team Gold

Individual Gold : Lakshman Singh

Individual Silver : Rajiv Mohta



Lakshman Singh, who won the gold medal for India in golf, being chaired by teammates Amit Luthra (top left) and Rajiv Mohta (right) at the Delhi Club course on Wednesday. —N. Thiagarajan (Details on page 4)

Lakshman star of India's lead

The Indian Times Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov. 23—India are now leading in both the team and the individual championships after the completion of the third round of the Asian Golf Championship here today.

Lakshman Singh was again the star performer for India. He shot two under par 70 and with a three-round score of 217, is leading the field.

T. Sakata of Japan, the overnight leader, was relegated to the second position, four strokes behind Lakshman Singh. Junaidi of Malaysia and T. Hassan (Pakistan) jointly occupy the third place with scores of 223. Lakshman Singh, the sheet anchor of the Indian team, was in his element today. He registered four birdies on the outer nine but dropped a stroke at the fourth to turn under the card. Coming in, he lost concentration for a while and 3 putted the 13th green which cost him a stroke. He, however, picked it up with a birdie at the next hole. The 15th proved a costly affair, where he 4 putted dropping two precious strokes.

Asian Rowing Federation is formed

JAIPUR, Nov. 23 (PTI)—The Asian Rowing Federation (ARF) was formally constituted here today with Mr K. P. Singa Deo, the

A large gallery following the match was stunned into silence. Lakshman Singh regained his poise and playing with concentration, got a birdie at the 17th and was two under the card. With a par at the 18th, he brought in a card of 3 under par 70.

Rajiv Mohta, of India went round in par 72, which helped India retain the team championship lead. India, with a score of 658, are 3 strokes ahead of Korea. The hunt for gold is on and if the Indian contingent keep up their form, gold medals for both the events are within their reach.

Tahar Hassan of Pakistan impressed with his game and played steady golf. He was one over par halfway through and remained so till the 15th and then with birdies at the last two holes finished one under par 71, which took him to the second place in the individual event, which he occupies jointly with T. Sakata and Junaidi.

Two other sub par scores were recorded by Kim Ki Sup of Korea and Shew Thein of Burma. The fourth and concluding round will be played tomorrow with the first match (teeing off at 8 a.m.).

The following are the team positions after the third round: (India) (658), 1. South Korea (667) 2. Malaysia (672) 3. Japan (679) 4. Indonesia (679) 5. Burma (681) 6. Philippines (684) 7. Pakistan (689) 8. Sri Lanka (747) and Bahrain (754).

Leading individual results after the third round: Lakshman Singh (India) 217, T. Sakata (Japan), M. Y. Junaidi (Malaysia) and T. Hassan (Pakistan) 223; Rishi Narain, Rajiv Mohta (India), Kim Ki Sup and Byung (South Korea) 225.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24 1982



India's golden day in golf

Hindustan Times Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov. 23—It was a joyous day for India and an exhilarating experience for the big crowd that followed the last round of Asian Golf, played today at Delhi Golf Club.

India bagged two golds in the team and individual championships and a silver in the individual event.

India narrowly missed the bronze by one stroke which went to T. Sakata of Japan. Lakshman Singh, with a four round score of 291, claimed the gold medal and the silver medal went to his teammate, Rajiv Mohta, with a tally of 284. Rajiv Mohta played superb golf and was level par at the turn, but dropped three strokes at the 11th with a string of three birdies on the next three holes.

He retrieved the position and at this point he staked his claim for a silver leaving T. Sakata behind. The issue was clinched with a birdie at the 18th, and Rajiv Mohta had a round one under par 71 — the best for the Indian team.

The day's best score of 3 under par 70 was brought in by M. Aziz of Pakistan. Lakshman Singh, the main Indian hope for the gold medal, played par golf for the first seven holes. The 8th claimed two additional strokes where he was bunkered that, probably, shook his confidence and he threatened the next green and was 3 over the card halfway through.

To add to his troubles and India's chances for a gold, he dropped yet another stroke at the 10th and the advantage of overnight lead was dwindling and the worry was reflected on the faces of the large crowd.

Lakshman, however, fought back and with two successive birdies stabilised his position. It was an agony

to see him drop another stroke at the crucial 10th hole once again. Lakshman rose to the occasion and retrieved the position with a birdie at the short 17th hole. He followed it up with a par at the last green to become the Asian Golf champion.

Team championship: India 678; Korea 691; Japan 697.

Individual championship: Lakshman Singh (India) 291; Rajiv Mohta (India) 284; T. Sakata (Japan) 296.

Images Courtesy: Hindustan Times



SEOUL 1986

Indian Team: Rajiv Mohta, Uttam Singh Mundy, Alan Singh, Anirudh Sharma

Images Courtesy:
Uttam Singh Mundy



BEIJING 1990

Indian Team : Jeev Milkha Singh, Gaurav Ghei, Amandeep Johl, Vivek Bhandari

Images Courtesy:
Gaurav Ghei





HIROSHIMA 1994

Indian Team: Jyoti
 Randhawa, Amit
 Luthra, Harmeet
 Kahlon, Anitya Chand

Images Courtesy:
 Anitya Chand



BANGKOK 1998

Indian Team:
 Amit Luthra, Digvijay
 Singh, Harmeet
 Kahlon, Amit Dube

Images Courtesy:
 Ajai Gupta & Amit Dube





BUSAN 2002

Indian Team: Shiv Kapur, Harendra Gupta, Keshav Misra, Manav Das

Individual Gold: Shiv Kapur

शिव कपूर ने दिलाया भारत को गोल्फ में स्वर्ण

बुसान (चार्ता, प्रेड्र): भारत के शिव कपूर ने रविवार को यहाँ 14 वें एशियाई खेलों को गोल्फ प्रतियोगिता में पुरुषों का वैयक्तिक खिताब जीत कर भारत के लिए गोल्फ में पहला स्वर्ण पदक यासीन मर्चेंट और रमन्त हबीब की जोड़ी ने स्तूकर में युगल खिताब जीतकर दिलाया था।



चौथे दौर में दो अंडर 70 स्कोर किया। कि यह फैसला सही था। दिल्ली के विभिन्न मैदानों पर खेले गए चार अभ्यास मैचों में अडकल रहे शिव कपूर ने कहा: मैं

साथ हों में आशा करता हूँ कि यह सफलता आगे भी जारी रहेगी।

शिव कपूर ने अपने निकटतम प्रतिद्वंद्वी शनिवार को संयुक्त रूप से आगे चल रहे श्रीलंका के रोहाना अनुर को तीन स्ट्रोकों से हराया। रोहाना को रजत पदक मिला, जबकि जापान के युसुका मियाजता को कांस्य पदक मिला। इसके बावजूद तीन अन्य भारतीय गोल्फरों के खराब प्रदर्शन के कारण भारत टीम स्पष्टता में चौथे स्थान पर रहा। टीम स्पष्टता में चीनी ताईपेई को स्वर्ण, दक्षिण कोरिया को रजत और जापान को कांस्य मिला।

दिल्ली के शिव कपूर ने एशियाई कंट्री क्लब में रविवार को लाजवाब गोल्फ का प्रदर्शन किया। पहले तीन दौर में उन्होंने 70, 75 और 69 अंक पाए थे। कपूर ने चौथे, 11वें और 14वें होल पर तीन बर्डीज लगाए और अन्य होल पर पार शॉट खेलें। कुल मिलाकर उन्होंने चौथे दौर में चार बर्डीज और 69 अंक बनाए। आगे बढ़ते हुए उन्होंने दो बर्डीज और दो बोगी का इस्तेमाल किया जबकि लॉटों से उसका खेल ज्यादा स्थिर रहा।

यादगार क्षण: शिव कपूर

बुसान (भाषा): भारत को 14 वें एशियाई खेलों में दूसरा स्वर्ण पदक दिलाने वाले युवा गोल्फ खिलाड़ी शिव कपूर ने खिताब जीतने के बाद कहा कि अपने देश के लिये स्वर्ण पदक जीतने से वे बहुत खुश हैं। शिव कपूर ने कहा, 'यह मेरे जीवन का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण व यादगार क्षण है।' उन्होंने कहा, 'मुझे विश्वास था कि यहाँ मैं जीत सकता हूँ। जब मुझे अपने देश का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए कहा गया तो उसी समय से मैं स्वर्ण पदक जीतने के बारे में सोचने लगा। मैं जो चाहता था वह मुझे हासिल हो गया। मैं बहुत खुश हूँ।' बीस वर्षीय कपूर ने सात वर्ष की उम्र से गोल्फ खेलना शुरू कर दिया था। वे पिछले सात वर्षों से भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व कर रहे हैं। कपूर अमेरिका के लिए खाना हो गए। वे मलेशिया ओपन में भी भाग लेंगे। भारतीय टीम के मैनेजर शताकुमार ने कहा, 'मुझे बहुत खुशी है कि शिव ने स्वर्ण पदक जीता। यह पदक ऐसे समय में आया जब भारत पदकों के लिए तरस रहा था। वे भारत के सर्वश्रेष्ठ एमेच्योर हैं और वे जीत के पक्के दावेदार हैं।

अमेरिका से यहाँ आना एक बड़ा फैसला था। मैं कुछ ही महीने पहले से यहाँ तैयार कर रहा था, लेकिन अब लगता है आशा करता हूँ कि इस जीत से भारत में एमेच्योर गोल्फ को परिष्कृत होने में मदद मिलेगी। यह मेरे लिए मोला का पत्थर है।

Shiv defies elements to wrap up golfing gold...

... but cueists settle for silver

IT Correspondent
Busan, October 6

THERE WAS a distinct contrast in the manner in which both Geet Sethi and Alok Kumar accepted defeat in the billiards doubles final at the hands of the Thai pair of Praput Chaitanasakun and Mongkhon Kanaklang.

While Sethi was all grace and calm, Kumar's voice wavered, there was a lump in his throat, he was flustered as he spoke, and he did not hide his disappointment. No stiff upper lip here. But what was clear was that the Indian pairists still had to come to terms with the changed format in billiards here, that requires 180 up in a best-of-three format to be completed in a space of two hours or minutes.

Speed billiards. Sethi likened it to a five-over one-day match, and the Indians, more at home with four-hour matches, were unable to counter the se-



Geet Sethi (centre) and Alok Kumar (right) discuss a racking with the judge during the billiards doubles final.

vere pressure that comes with the new format. The Thai pair came from behind to win 2-1 (68-100, 100-14, 100-89) and take the gold to the delight of the Thai crowd that had collected to cheer them on.

The Indians were given chances aplenty, but somehow it never seemed that they would make a comeback. With two points remaining for the Thais to secure gold, India were given their last chance to make amends. But Alok Kumar messed up the eas-

est-looking of pots, missing a red straight on. The Thais began celebrating even before their duo took to the table for the final rick. 'It is an extreme pressure situation when I am here,' said Sethi, admitting that even a seasoned master like him could feel it. 'It can happen to the best of people,' said the former champion, who teamed with Devender Joshi to win gold last time — with of course, the traditional format.

dem interest in the end. The day was short his winning against the elements, his own game, and a wonderful surge by Korean Kim Hyun Woo. The talented 17-year-old finished with one-over-73 to take bronze.

'This is the greatest thing I have won. Surely the Asian Games gold is simply the greatest thing I could have achieved,' said Kapur later.

He began with a birdie on the second, and dropped a stroke on the next. His putting was greatly hampered by the wet conditions, and with the tough nature of the greens not helping, he had a battle on his hands. After he saved pars on the rest of the holes, came the eighth. An approach shot on the wrong side of the pin had him take a longer route home, but after breaking wide, the ball seemed to gain a mind of its own.

It stopped and then took the speedy down, stopping nearly a dozen feet off the hole. It felt a bit ominous. Kapur a stroke down. On the next, he took a free drop, and found himself slightly out of bounds off his tee. He recovered superbly to gain a good birdie and be even par at the turn and in contention for the title.

Kapur had had a Day One 70, a poor second round 75 and a tournament-saving 69 before his 70 on Sunday. But as he waited in the rain for Rohana to finish, all he probably hoped was that the Sri Lankan did not set off any fireworks late in the day. He was not to be disappointed.



CLUB CLASS: Shiv Kapur waves during the men's golf finals at the Asian Games in Busan on Sunday. He won gold in the event. Report on page 17



India's Shiv Kapur watches his ball in the pouring rain during the men's final round at the Asiad Country Club on Sunday.

Images Courtesy:
Hindustan Times





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JORDAN SPIETH, THE OPEN



LORENA OCHOA, WOMEN'S BRITISH OPEN, ST ANDREWS

ABOUT GOLF...

Here are a few things that we know about this most particular game. And about its most eminent participants. We know that their aim could not be higher. That you do not come this far without an unwavering determination to overcome every challenge and conquer every distraction. We know that tradition can only last this long if it is perpetually enriched by talent. We know that every drive starts with inner strength, and every putt with unrelenting humility. These are but a few reasons that we have partnered for so long with the noblest institutions, the most legendary tournaments, and the greatest players. **After all, we are on the same course.**

#Perpetual



OYSTER PERPETUAL DAY-DATE 40 IN PLATINUM

