Scramble pars like a Tour pro with England Golf coach Chris Jenkins' p32

II

November 2023, ₹ 250 Registration No. UP/GBD-68/2021-2023 RNI No. UPENG/2008/25541

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# NEW CHAPTER CHARLIE WOODS IN TIGER'S LEGACY

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Aline Krauter, HWIO23 Champion with Niranjan Gupta, CEO, Hero MotoCorp

# **OF GERMANS AND MAN KI BAAT!**

Germany's Aline Krauter overcame an early challenge from fellow rookie Sara Kjellker of Sweden to win her maiden Ladies European Tour title at the DLF Golf and Country Club.

Her win meant the Hero Women's Indian Open had a German winner for the second straight year as another German Olivia Cowan won the event last year.

Incidentally Marcel Siem another German, won the men's Hero Indian Open at the same course earlier this year. Diksha Dagar, could not sustain an early charge and finished third. While 10 Indians made the cut, three of them in the Top-10.

In the 100th episode of the Man ki baat Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi lauded the efforts put in by the participants in the Special Olympics



wherein India came home with 111 medals. In Golf Ranveer Saini and his partner Rahul Agarwal coming home with 2 Gold medals in the Unified level 2 Golf competition. Paraolympian Golfer Ranveer Saini got a special mention in the PM's speech wherein he praised the efforts put in by Ranveer and his family to overcome Autism and become a world-class athlete. Ranveer has won 11 gold medals in Golf at the national and international level championships. Incidentally he is also a six times Limca book of world records holder and has been accorded the prestigious Bhim Award in 2017.

The Asian Tour has welcomed the launch of the LIV Golf Promotions event, an incredible, lifechanging opportunity, yet another breakthrough moment for golf in the region as per Cho Minn Thant, its Commissioner & CEO. The innovative and inclusive new event will provide a pathway onto the world's most exciting new franchise, the LIV Golf League to be staged at the celebrated Abu Dhabi Golf Club from December 8-10.The topthree finishers will secure passage through to next season's multi-million-dollar circuit with a strong contingent from the Asian Tour set to compete in Abu Dhabi via the Tour's International Series.

Happy Golfing

Editor-in-Chief editor@golfplusmonthly.com

#### GP NOVEMBER 2023 Vol.-XVI, Issue - 11

Editor-in-Chief: Anil Dev Editorial Board:

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News Desk: newsdesk@golfplusmonthly.com

Subscription: subscription@golfplusmonthly.com

Printed at: HT Media Limited Plot No. 8, Udhyog Vihar, Greater Noida - 201306, U.P. on 1st November, 2023

Owner, Printer & Publisher: Anil Dev

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# CHIANG MAI THAILAND

# Sontents November 2023

#### This month don't miss...



#### Feature

#### **18 GET READY FOR A NEW CHAPTER IN** TIGER'S LEGACY

Whether the gift to score and win golf tournaments passes from one generation to the next remains to be seen. And that is what hits at the most important thing about Charlie Woods - because of his love of golf, we are able to see Tiger Woods more often.

#### **25 FITZPATRICK DOES THE DOUBLE AT** ALFRED DUNHILL LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP

Matt Fitzpatrick enjoyed double delight at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship as a closing 66 at St Andrews clinched the individual title and helped him take team honours alongside mum Susan. The Englishman had sat on the lead for two days after torrential rain saw the weekend washed out and the event pushed to Monday and reduced to 54 holes.

#### **27 MERONK SOARS TO VICTORY IN** SOTOGRANDE

Adrian Meronk carded a pair of eagles as he fought his way to a fourth DP World Tour victory at the Estrella Damm N.A. Andalucía Masters. The Pole reached 16 under par after posting a sublime six under par round of 66 at Real Club de Golf Sotogrande to secure his third victory on the 2023 Race to Dubai, finishing one stroke clear of overnight coleader Matti Schmid, whose title charge fell away after bogeying the par four 16th.

#### **31 ISHIKAWA LEADS MAGNIFICENT TRIO** TO HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENT

Ryo Ishikawa spearheaded a historic moment at the Zozo Championship with three Japanese players making the top-10 for the first time, as American Collin Morikawa sealed a six-shot victory with a commanding final round seven-under-par 63. Ishikawa, finishing tied for fourth with a four day total of seven-under 273, seven strokes behind Morikawa.

#### Ladies on the Link

#### **41 KRAUTER SEALS EMPHATIC VICTORY** AT HERO WOMEN'S INDIAN OPEN

Aline Krauter sealed her first Ladies European Tour (LET) title in style at the Hero Women's Indian Open winning by an emphatic five shots in Delhi on 15-under par. Leading fellow rookie Sara Kjellker by two shots before the start of play, the German fired a third consecutive round of 68 (-4) at DLF Golf & Country Club to complete victory and become the latest member of the LET winner's circle.

#### 42 MOOSMANN SECURES SECOND TOUR **VICTORY IN SPAIN**

Miracles happened for Switzerland's Elena Moosmann as she finally secured a win this season at the Santander Golf Tour-Zaragoza. The Swiss star went into the final day one stroke behind England's Hannah Screen and emerged two strokes in front on nine-underpar to clinch her second victory on the LET Access Series.

#### 43 MEET THE 2023 LET ACCESS SERIES GRADUATES

The LET Access Series (LETAS) annually awards LET Tour membership to the top six players on the LETAS Order of Merit and the conclusion of the final event ushers in the 2023 graduating class. Sofie Kibsgaard Nielsen from Denmark, Elena Moosmann and Chiara Tamburlini from Switzerland and England's Emily Price, Hannah Screen and Gemma Clews will all play on the Ladies European Tour in 2024.

#### **Masterclass Instruction**

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

#### **32 CHIP IT CLOSE FROM ANY LIE**

Scramble pars like a Tour pro with England Golf coach Chris Jenkins' eight-page guide to saving your score around the greens. Like any

part of the game, improving your chipping, pitching and bunker play requires more than just an upgrade in technique. You'll need to develop solid basics, club selection, good strategy and decision-making skills, and practice habits. Read to know his techniques to play them!

#### **21 TODD ANDERSON INSTRUCTIONAL BREAKING DOWN CHARLIE WOODS' GOLF** SWING

As per Todd, Charlie Woods has one of the most fundamentally sound golf swings you will see. And it is due to the foundation he has built in his pre-swing fundamentals. There are four key aspects to the pre-swing that he would encourage every parent to implement with their junior golfer, which is to develop a good grip, good posture, correct ball position and alignment. If you focus on these elements, you have the foundation to build a sound golf swing. Read to learn the tips!

#### PGTI

#### **57 OM PRAKASH CHOUHAN'S ROCK-**SOLID FINAL DAY EARNS HIM THE TITLE

Chouhan (71-70-67-69), who picked up his second title of the season and a prize money cheque worth Rs. 7,50,000, further extended his lead in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking. Chandigarh's Akshay Sharma (68-71-72-69) also posted a 69 on day four to finish runnerup at eight-under 280.



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# PLAYER BLOG

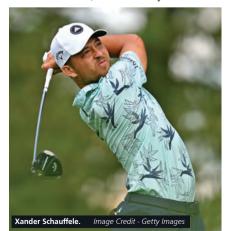
By Xander Schauffele

Xander Schauffele, the World No. 6, will make his fifth straight appearance at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP in Japan this week with every intention of completing a famous 'double' where he also won the gold medal at the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021. With a strong family presence in Japan, the 29-year-old is looking forward to challenging for his eighth career PGA TOUR victory at Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club.

I love Japan and I love being here. I've been coming over here a lot over the years and my grandparents live in Tokyo and I have uncles, aunts and cousins from my mum's side of the family living here as well. I've made a lot of visits and I've always enjoyed the culture, the people and the food. The people are so proud here, they have a lot of pride, and I respect that a lot. It's a very special place which I hold very dear to myself and my whole family. I pretty much love everything about Japan and I'm always happy to come back.

You know when you open a suitcase, you can always kind of smell sort of where you come from. I can always tell whenever my grandparents used to travel to San Diego a long time ago to visit us when I was a kid, it always smelled like Japan. I really don't know how to describe it but every time I come over here, I really appreciate the culture and how kind and respectful everyone is and I think I speak for everyone competing in this week's ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP.

As many of you know, I'm the only naturalborn American in my family, having been born in the United States. My dad, Stefan, is half French, half German, born in Stuttgart while my brother Nico was born in Stuttgart. My mom Ping Yi, was born in Chinese Taipei and grew up in Japan from the age of two. Hence, we have family in both Chinese Taipei and Japan. And then my wife Maya's mom is also Japanese. I'm just a mix of all kinds of things. I grew up kind of raised on the Japanese side and being out here and communicating with Japanese folks kind of reminds me of my mom's tendencies, which is funny.



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#### I'M EXCITED TO BE PLAYING IN FRONT OF JAPANESE FANS AGAIN THIS WEEK AT ACCORDIA GOLF NARASHINO COUNTRY CLUB.

I'm excited to be playing in front of Japanese fans again this week at Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club. Golf in Japan typically is much tighter, much narrower and conditions are pristine across the board each and every week. That's just a standard here in Japan. If you've never played golf here, they like things to be perfect and they are, which is very nice for us to compete on.

The course is very hard. There are probably five par-4s out here that are very difficult and if you can kind of go through those holes maybe close to level par for the week and you play the rest of the golf course as you're supposed to play it, you're going to have a pretty good chance. The greens are slopier than I first anticipated and during one of my first few practice rounds, I putted it off like three or four greens, which was a little shocking.

I remember my first time playing in the ZOZO the year Tiger Woods won in 2019, I was paired with Justin Thomas and Rory McIlroy in the first two rounds and we had such a warm welcome on the first hole with five to 10 rows deep of people just going nuts that we were out there. When our name got announced, it was like, holy smokes, are we at a major championship? People in Japan love golf and it's really amazing they're very supportive, respectful, and polite. I can't wait to see them coming out to support the players and tournament again as we've got another great field this week.

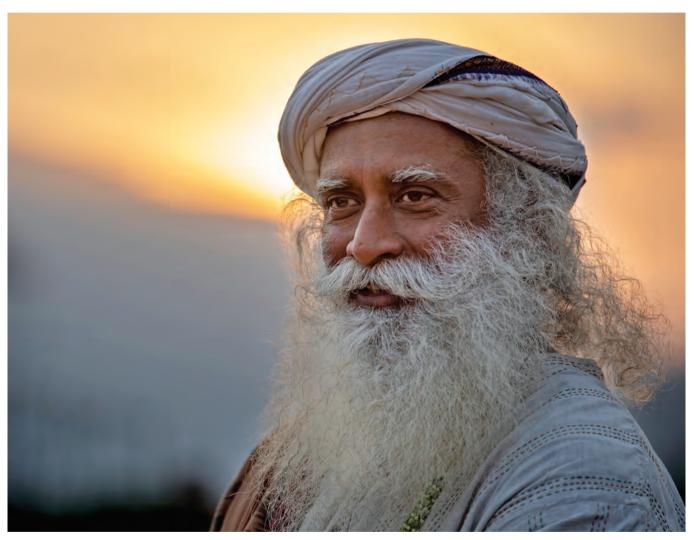
It feels good to be back. It really is a big deal trying to win another PGA TOUR tournament in a country which is like my second home. I've already had the honour of winning the gold medal at the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021 which is a major highlight in my career and I will be doing everything I can to win the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP which will be really special especially with my family in attendance.

It's going to be another week with big dinners planned with a lot of family members and it'll be nice to see my grandparents. You know, I always pencil down this tournament on my schedule every year and it'll be a huge honour for my family if I was able to secure a "W" this week. I personally like playing abroad, away from home as I think it's great to grow the game in other places around the world besides the States. I'm going to try and put the best show that I can on for my grandparents, family and fans.

# FROM FOREST TO FARM

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: Two years ago, when I was at a program of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), they asked me, "Sadhguru, tell us three things that are most vital to save this planet." I replied, "Soil, soil and soil."

On average, the uppermost thirty-nine inches of soil is what we call topsoil. Eighty-seven percent of life on land thrives on this thirtynine inches of soil. If we keep this soil rich, its ability to retain water is phenomenal. The soil on our planet can store 800% more water than what flows in all the rivers on Earth. Soil is the greatest dam we have! How rivers flow and how the groundwater is, depends on the quality of the soil. If it is kept organically rich, crops and vegetation will thrive and our farmers will not have to struggle on a daily basis.

If we want to improve the quality of the soil, a constant recycling of organic material has to happen. There are only two ways for organic material to go into soil: through the falling leaves of trees and through animal waste. For example, if you grow one ton of any crop out of the land, what you have taken out is one ton of topsoil. Everything that you eat - if you eat one kilogram of food - it is one kilogram of topsoil that you ate. This topsoil has to go back through organic material.

Unfortunately, we have removed too many of our trees through ignorance, greed, apathy and above all, as a young nation we had so many other urgent issues to handle that we did not pay

#### Feature

enough attention to these aspects of life. We are about to pay a price for that unless we make corrections. And corrections are beginning to happen, which is very encouraging.

One aspect we must understand is the importance of preserving, protecting and if possible enhancing forest cover. There is no question about this. But how far will we be able to enhance forest cover? Eighty-four percent of India's usable land is under farming. We cannot remove the people and make forests out of this. Enhancing forest cover will mostly be limited to arid or similar lands that are available.

For a nation like ours, the best way to go forward is tree-based agriculture, which is today called agroforestry. This has always been our way of farming in this country. Unfortunately, in the last few decades we have taken off most of the trees from our farms. I know this because I was living on farms at that time. When chemical fertilizers came up in a big way, I have actually seen sales managers of fertilizer companies coming and giving lectures to the farmer about how if you have a tree, it will eat up all your chemical fertilizer. So the first thing is to remove the tree. Only then the chemical fertilizer will go to your crops and give you the yield. So trees were removed from the farmlands. But it is time to put them back. Tree-based agriculture must become a full-scale agricultural process.

For this to happen, first and foremost, this idea that there is something called "forest produce" must go. For the level of population we have and the pressure on our forests, the only way we can manage is if farmers grow whatever timber or forest produce we need on farmlands. It is definitely possible to do this because eighty-four percent of available land is already under farm, and above all, nearly sixty percent of our population is engaged in farming.

Making timber and what is now called forest produce into agricultural products will happen only if tree-based agriculture or agroforestry moves under the Agriculture Ministry. I am not against the Forest Department. They have done such a fantastic job. I congratulate them for the success of Cauvery Calling. Their cooperation and enthusiasm beyond their call of duty has been a significant aspect in making this a successful process. But tree-based agriculture will be treated as produce only when it comes under the Agriculture Ministry. Otherwise, people still have confusions, "How could you cut a tree?" Well, the farmer has grown it for his own economic survival, so he is cutting it.

When all forest produce happens on farmland, going into the forest and exploiting the forest will cease. Exploitation of forests will not stop if we have fanciful beliefs that we need not grow the timber and forest produce we use. It will not stop if we have fanciful ideas that the Forest Department can put armed men all over the forest and protect it. It will not be possible even if the Indian Army came in, because it is such a vast land and people will anyway do what they have to do when there is economic need. The value of forest produce will rise, which will make it more lucrative to exploit the forest.

The only way you can bring down the value of forest produce is with tree-based agriculture. The farmer should have the right to grow what he wants and crop it according to his judgment. It is not for somebody else to judge when he should crop what he has grown. If a farmer plants a tree in his land, he must be able to cut that tree. That is a fundamental right.

So, it is important we commit that we will leave forests alone. We don't have to do any Forest Development. Just leave it alone. If we have to leave it alone, everything that the population needs, which we are right now partially getting from the forest, must come from farmland. We must shift the economic paradigm so that what you get in the forest is available on the farmland.

This is also very directly related to our health and wellbeing. India has committed to some 200 to 300 million tons of carbon sequestering in the Paris Climate Change Agreement. Just with Cauvery Calling, if we fulfil the target of 242 crore trees in twelve to fifteen years, this one movement can fulfill eight to twelve percent of what India has promised in Paris.

Recently, the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Prakash Javadekar told me that the Central Government has drawn up Detailed Project Reports for thirteen rivers along the lines of Cauvery Calling. If we successfully pull off these thirteen projects in the next ten years, India will be a leading nation in terms of environmental recovery.

For the population that we have, and the economic strength that we have compared to Western nations, this will be the most significant thing to achieve in the next ten to twelve years' time. These goals are for 2030, so we still have nine to ten years ahead of us. And nearly sixty percent of our population is below thirty years of age. If we do not change the dynamics of a society and create what we want to create when we have such a young population, that means we are a disastrous population. We are not committed or focused towards our own wellbeing.

Whether it is environment, pandemic or health situations, we must take it into our hands. Cauvery Calling is a very dynamic representation of this: how what people think is an impossible situation can be turned around. We have supported over one lakh farmers in shifting to tree-based agriculture. There are farmers who have been doing this for the last Recently, the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Prakash Javadekar told me that the Central Government has drawn up Detailed Project Reports for thirteen rivers along the lines of Cauvery Calling.

twenty years now. I have been keeping in touch with them to whatever extent possible. I always believed if groundwater has to improve, a minimum of fifty to hundred acres of tree plantation must happen. But I went to various farms in Tamil Nadu where they planted just five acres. In five acres, the water has come up in the wells so significantly. That is how amazing nature is, and that is how rich this land is.

Just one handful of soil in the Deccan Plateau has over 10,000 species of microorganisms. In terms of biodiversity, it is some of the richest land on the planet. It is important we keep it that way and pass it on to next generation. The only way we can do that is with trees and animals. There is simply no other way. There is no magic wand.

If we want tree-based agriculture to take off in a big way, we must set up systems where various industries that use timber in their production lines must form active marketing platforms to compete with each other and buy farm-produced timber. I request the State Governments to implement laws towards this, or at least nudge timber-consuming businesses in this direction.

India right now is importing over 70,000 crores worth of timber from other countries. Part of this timber is license felled, the rest of it is stolen from forests and stamped as legal in the high seas. Another 1.2 lakh crore of timber products is also imported from other countries. All this must go to our farmers.

It is time we put trees back into our farmland. Whatever trees are in the forest are not our business anymore. We must just look at the forest from a distance and bow down to it.

We should take a commitment that if not immediately, at least in the next five years, we must remove the term "forest produce" from our vocabulary, and see that whatever we need for our life here must be grown on our own farmlands. This is the way forward: from forest to farm.



# **WORLD AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Indian men's squad of Yuvraj Singh, Rohit and Shaurya Bhattacharya are all set for the Eisenhower Trophy, World Amateur Team Championship for Men in Abu Dhabi at the beautiful Abu Dhabi Golf Club. The Womens Amatuer Team was represented by Mannat Brar, Nishna Patel & Avani Prashanth.



# NATIONAL SQUAD CAMP

he National Squad camp for the Ladies & Junior Girls and Junior boys was held at Jaypee Greens Golf Course, Greater Noida. The camp focused on holistic development of players by working on their fitness, mental health and other such key important areas.





# ADITI ASHOK MAKES THE COUNTRY PROUD !

ndia's Aditi Ashok won the women's individual golf silver medal at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China. This is the first medal for an Indian women in golf at the Asian Games.

Aditi Ashok's podium finish was India's first medal in women's golf at the Asian Games. Heading into Hangzhou 2023, India had won six medals - three gold and three silver - at the continental meet but all had come through men's golfers. In the women's individual section, Aditi Ashok, who agonisingly missed out on a podium spot at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics two years back, carded 17-under 271 (67-66-61-77) after the four rounds to secure her medal at the West Lake International Golf Course. The gold medal went to Thailand's Arpichaya Yubol, who notched up 19-under 269 (67-65-69-68). The Republic of Korea's Hyunjo Yoo won the bronze with 16-under 272 (68-73-66-65).



Aditi Ashok's podium finish was India's first medal in women's golf at the Asian Games. Heading into Hangzhou 2023, India had won six medals - three gold and three silver - at the continental meet but all had come through men's golfers.



## **IGU EASTERN INDIA AMATEUR (10-15 OCTOBER)**

Winner	Umed	Runner Up	Shat Mishra			
IGU EASTERN INDIA LADIES (17 – 19 OCT 2023)						
LADIES		A CATEGOR	Y			
Sinjini Mukherjee	215	Sinjini Mukhe	rjee	215		
Anuradha Chaudhuri	221	Anuradha Cha	udhuri	221		
Heena Kang	223					
<b>B CATEGORY</b>		C CATEGOR	Y			
Anuradha Chaudhuri	221	Guntas Kaur S	andhu	221		
Mahreen Bhatia	224	Shiksha Jain		238		
Prarthana Khanna	225	Anushka Gupt	a	238 Tied 2nd		



# IGU MAHARASHTRA AMATEUR (24 – 27 OCT)

Aarav D Shah

1st

**Adityaa Garg** 

# IGU WESTERN INDIA JUNIOR BOYS (10-13 OCT)

#### **CATEGORY A**

CATEGORY A		CATEGORY B		
Rakshit Dahiya	281	Kartik Singh		
Kartik Singh	284	Prince Bainsla		
Veer Ganapathy	285	Arjun Dahiya		

#### **CATEGORY C**

2nd

284 296 300

Danish Verma	218
Chaitanya Pandey	222
Jashan Ganapathy	223



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# CHARLE WOODS IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS!

Charlie Axel Woods, born on February 8, 2009, is a golf prodigy following in the footsteps of his famous father, Tiger Woods.

espite the shadow of his father's fame, Charlie is carving out his own identity in the sport.

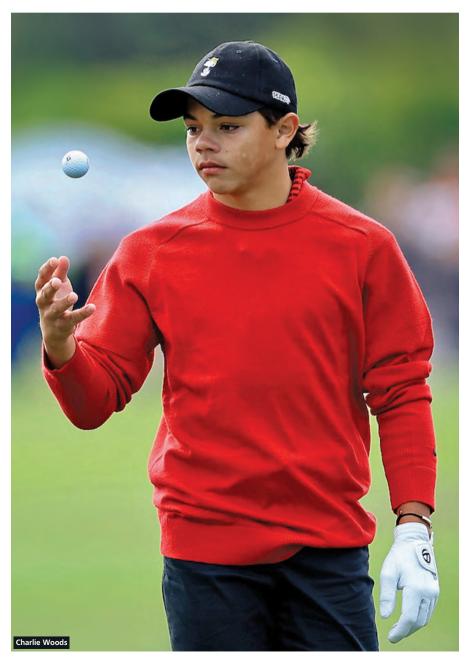
His rise to fame began when he was just four years old, impressing onlookers with his golf club skills. Over the years, his interest in the sport grew, leading to notable achievements.

Tiger Woods caddied 54 holes for son Charlie at this week's Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championship – walking and carrying the bag. As speculation heats up around Woods' potential competitive return after springtime ankle surgery, it's another potential indicator that his next start could be imminent.

In 2020, Charlie partnered with his father in the P.N.C. Championship and achieved a career milestone by hitting his first eagle from an impressive 175 yards. The same year, he secured victory at a U.S. Kids Golf event, winning by an impressive five shots, and also won his age division by three strokes at the P.G.A. South Florida Section Championship. Charlie Woods has already amassed a net

worth of \$25 million, thanks to future endorsement contracts and a trust fund set up

FANS HAVE NOTICED THE STRIKING SIMILARITIES BETWEEN CHARLIE AND HIS FATHER, TIGER WOODS, IN THEIR PLAYING STYLES AND TECHNIQUES.



by his father, Tiger Woods. His remarkable golf skills garnered media attention when he played in a father-son tournament alongside his dad in 2020.

Following in his father's footsteps, Charlie developed a keen interest in golf from an early age.

Their performances in the PNC Championship have been noteworthy, finishing in seventh place, second place, and eighth place in 2022. Charlie's prowess on the course has been evident through his clean putting strokes, clutch iron shots, and consistent drives down the middle.

Fans have noticed the striking similarities between Charlie and his father, Tiger Woods, in their playing styles and techniques. While Charlie's talent is undeniable, some may wonder how his skills compare to his father's at a similar age.

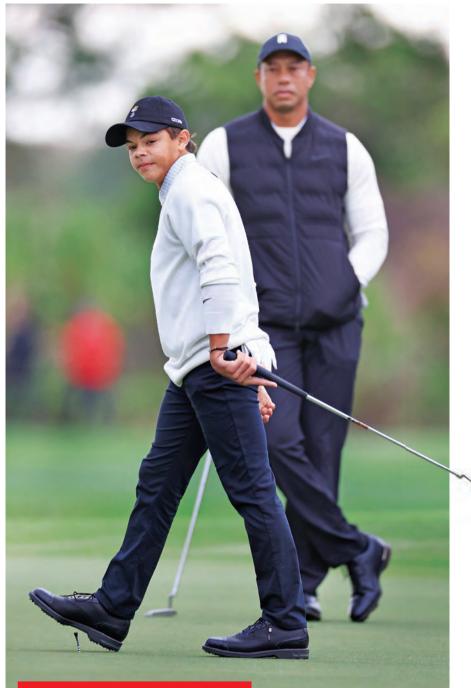
In August 2020, at the age of 11, Charlie showcased his dominance in his age group event in Florida, shooting an impressive 3-under-33 and securing victory by a significant five-stroke margin with his father as his caddie. He later joined the junior circuit and finished in fifth place with a score of 10-over-77.

In 2022, Charlie continued to make his mark in junior golf, finishing fourth in the





Charlie Woods' parents Tiger Woods and Elin Nordegren



#### Whats in Charlie's Bag

Driver	TaylorMade SIM 2
Fairway Woods	TaylorMade Stealth Plus, TaylorMade SIM
Irons	TaylorMade P7CW
Wedges	TaylorMade Milled Grind 2
Putter	Scotty Cameron GSS Prototype

qualifier for the Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championship in Florida. He also participated in a tournament in Louisiana, where he secured the 11th position out of 33 golfers in the 12-13 age group. He has already signed a substantial 5-year deal worth over \$10 million with a prestigious French luxury brand, and more endorsements from renowned companies like Rolex, Adobe, and many are in the pipeline.



# GET READY FOR A NEW CHAPTER IN THE STATE OF THE STATE OF

hen you crunch the numbers, you are left with a most somber picture. Since turning 35 in December of 2010, Tiger

Woods has played in just 108 PGA Tour tournaments. Since winning a fifth Masters and 15th major in April of 2019, he's teed it up in only 21 tournaments with one win and two other top 10s. His best finish in the last three seasons? A tie for 38th.

So when you factor in the surgery to his right foot that has kept him sidelined since April 2023 and the fact that he will turn 48 at the end of this year, it doesn't take a visionary to understand that Woods is virtually retired from full-time PGA Tour status.

But before you shed tears and embrace fears that Woods will melt into the shadows and perhaps become a recluse aboard his yacht or inside his estate, take comfort. Woods is more invested in golf than ever before, and a multitude of avenues will keep him in the public's eye.

True, it won't be as sexy as it was in his days of golf glory, but there are chapters to his saga still to be written.

Now we could unfurl his recent appointment as the sixth player director on the PGA TOUR's Policy Board and how he could be instrumental in shaping whatever deal is made with the

Saudi Arabia Public Investment Fund.

Or, we could touch upon his role with TMRW Sports – a sports media and entertainment company he started with Rory McIlroy – and the endeavor into an innovative golf league called TGL in partnership with the PGA Tour that is tech-fused and rich in data. It has secured the financial backing of megastars such as Justin Bieber, Darius Rucker, and Khaled Mohammed Khaled.

"As a big sports fan myself, I'm excited about blending golf with technology and team elements common in other sports," said Woods. "We all know what it's like to be in a football stadium or a basketball arena where you can watch every play, every minute of action unfold right in front of you."

But of course, it's the return of Woods to the golf arena that enthralls the most, so the question is, when will we see him next?

The annual Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas (Nov. 30-Dec. 3) is a possibility, of course. But it's the PNC Championship / Father-Son Challenge (Dec. 15-17) that has our curiosity ripe: Is Woods going to tee it up with son Charlie for a fourth straight year?

The answer: Who knows.

OK, so you want something more definitive, but by now it's well known that Woods never commits until he's 100 percent sure. Though given how much he has enjoyed playing in this four-ball event with Charlie (they finished seventh in 2020, T-2 in '21, and T-8 a year ago) and the fact that golf carts are allowed, it seems a good bet that we'll see them in their matching Sunday red for a fourth straight year.

That is an enticing thought and should stir the emotions of Woods' loyal fans, because the truth is, being Charlie's mentor and guiding force is going to dominate Tiger's life.

Oh, he'll likely play some PGA TOUR Champions events in 2026 (he'll turn 50 on Dec. 30, 2025) but even that won't match the

"He's a great teammate. He's my son, at the end of the day, that's what it's all about. It's about us having an opportunity to bond. We needle each other."

- Tiger Woods



joy Tiger is going to have steering Charlie's career. And make no mistake about it, there will be plenty of highlights with Charlie Woods. Heck, they've already begun.

Take his recent stretch, for instance. A 14-yearold freshman for The Benjamin School, an elite private school in Palm Beach Gardens, not far from Tiger's home in Jupiter, Fla., Charlie closed with a 68 to finish at 102 and win the weather-plagued 27-hole West Coast High School Tournament.

Just a few days earlier, Charlie had posted 71-66 to win the boys' 14-15 division in a qualifier to earn his way into the Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championship. Tiger caddied all 36 holes in that tournament and deserves massive credit for how he has helped guide his young son.

Sharing parental duties with ex-wife Elin (she lives in Palm Beach Gardens with Samantha, the oldest child, and Charlie), Tiger didn't push Charlie into golf; he waited to see if the youngster got the bug.

Turns out, the chance to play in the PNC as an 11-year-old ignited Charlie's fires. Much to the youngster's benefit, his father knows the landscape and has been very careful not to overload his son with tons of golf tournaments,



Images Credit : Getty Images

"Copy Rory's (swing)," Woods told Charlie, pointing out how McIlroy goes at it very hard, but always maintains balance.

chasing elite level AJGA competition all over the country.

Instead, Charlie has played local tournaments and while he's inherited his father's penchant for lapping the field (he shot 1-under for 36 holes to win by eight in a Hurricane Junior Golf Tour tournament), the youngster has been told by his father not to copy his swing.

"Copy Rory's (swing)," Woods told Charlie, pointing out how McIlroy goes at it very hard, but always maintains balance.

Woods concedes he didn't always keep good balance in his golf swing, but he's doing admirably with young Charlie. Likely, Woods realizes that his son is coming along at an

interesting time – there are riches to be made for collegiate athletes thanks to the Name, Image, and Licensing (NIL) landscape – but he is doing his very best to let him live a normal life. School, soccer, video games... they're all in Charlie's life right now and Tiger wants it to remain that way.

Even as the golf bug has bitten Charlie, the pace has not increased. It's not a sprint, Woods will tell his son, so be patient. There is much joy to experience, so be a kid. The pursuit of individual golf glory will come, so embrace this team opportunity now.

"He's a great teammate. He's my son," Tiger said. "At the end of the day, that's what it's all about. It's about us having an opportunity to bond. We needle each other. We encourage each other. It goes back and forth."

Whether the gift to score and win golf tournaments passes from one generation to the next remains to be seen. And that is what hits at the most important thing about Charlie Woods - because of his love of golf, we are able to see Tiger Woods more often.

# TODD ANDERSON INSTRUCTIONAL BREAKING DOWN CHARLIE WOODS' GOLF SWING

#### INTRODUCTION

Charlie Woods has one of the most fundamentally sound golf swings you will see. And it is due to the foundation he has built in his pre-swing fundamentals. There are four key aspects to the pre-swing that I would encourage every parent to implement with their junior golfer, which is to develop a good grip, good posture, correct ball position and alignment. If you focus on these elements, you have the foundation to build a sound golf swing.

#### THE GRIP

The first thing a junior golfer should understand is that their hands should go on the club/grip the way they naturally hang. They should 'swing' in their left hand (right-handed golfer) from the side, putting the heel pad of the left hand on the top of the grip with the left thumb on the right center of the grip. The V formed between the left thumb and index finger should point slightly inside the right shoulder.

Then swing the right hand from the other side of the grip attaching the lifeline of the right hand on the side of the left thumb. The V formed between the right thumb and index finger should point to the right shoulder and be parallel to the V on the left hand. (Photo 1) Avoid 'twisting' the hands on the club or having the hands in opposing positions. Then hold the club with a constant grip pressure of 3 to 4 with 10 being the tightest and 1 being the lightest.

The hands are the only connection a golfer has to the club and the club face which it is the main thing that controls where the ball goes.

#### THE SETUP AND ALIGNMENT (STRAIGHT SHOT)

2

Once the grip is complete, the golfer should start from behind the ball (visualize the shot), then walk in from the side of the ball 90 degrees to the target line. Set the inside of the right foot to the back of the ball and perpendicular to the target line. This forms a 90-degree angle from the target line to the inside of the right foot while keeping the left foot slightly behind with the heel off the ground. This is what is called the tilted stork position (Photo 2).

From here, you should bow to the ball from your hips, posture the club so it's soled properly and creates about a 90-degree angle between the club shaft and your spine, then



aim the club face to the target (Photo 3) with the weight on the center of your right foot. If you are too far away from the ball, the weight goes toward your toe, If you are too close to the ball, the weight goes toward the heel.

#### THE BALL POSITION

Once the club face is aimed toward the target and the right foot is set, bring the left foot in to set the ball position, which should now be off the left heel when hitting with a driver (Photo 4 & 5). Widen the right foot for balance with the feet, knees, hips and shoulders parallel to where you're trying to hit the ball.

Follow these procedures to create the proper

pre-swing positions so you can turn and swing the club freely around your body on both sides of the ball, and make a fundamentally sound golf swing.

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





**SEE** 

# AND NAMES THAT WILL BEBGG

#### IT ALL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14TH



SANDERSON FARMS CHAMPIONSHIP













LIVE ON: EUROSPORT

## On the PGA Tour MORIKAWA MASTERFUL IN JAPAN

Collin Morikawa entered the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP having not won on the PGA TOUR since The Open Championship in 2021, the drought including close calls at The Sentry and the Rocket Mortgage Classic this year. In his final event of 2023, Morikawa snapped the skid at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP, carding a final-round 63 at Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club to flip a two-stroke deficit into a six-stroke victory. It was Sunday's low round by two shots on a day where 54-hole leader Justin Suh struggled to a 74. Morikawa's roller-coaster week included rounds of 64-73-66-63; in the end, 14 under was good for a runaway in Japan.

Californian Beau Hossler, who led after Round 2, couldn't find the spark to ignite his round and ultimately finished tied for second, solidifying his position in The Next 10 -- and the opportunity to tee it up at two Signature Events in his native California in 2024. Despite the disappointing Sunday, Suh finished T10 and moved from No. 85 to No. 77 on the FedExCup Fall standings.

With his win, Morikawa earned \$1.54 million. Because he finished within the top 50 on the FedExCup Points List at the conclusion of the Playoffs, he did not earn FedExCup points. Morikawa, whose

#### **FINAL LEADERBOARD**

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1st	Collin Morikawa	64	73	66	63	266 (-14)
T2	Eric Cole	65	71	66	70	272 (-8)
T2	Beau Hossler	68	65	69	70	272 (-8)
T4	<b>Robby Shelton</b>	65	72	71	65	273 (-7)
T4	Ryo Ishikawa	68	69	69	67	273 (-7)



great-grandparents immigrated from Japan to Hawaii, now joins the likes of Tiger Woods and home-country hero Hideki Matsuyama as winners of the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP.

# TOM KIM DEFENDS IN THE DESERT

Tom Kim fought off a pack of PGA TOUR staples to defend his title at the Shriners Children's Open, capturing

his third TOUR title at just 21-years-old. Kim's win last year at TPC Summerlin marked the first time since Tiger Woods that a player won twice on TOUR before turning 21, and now he leaves Las Vegas with a third title to his name. Back-to-back rounds of 68 to open the tournament gave him hope. Saturday's round of 62 solidified the opportunity. Kim shot a final-round 66 to win this year's tournament by one shot over Adam Hadwin. Kim birdied three of his first four holes to set the pace amongst a packed leaderboard that featured 17 players at or within three shots of the lead entering the round.

Kim led Hadwin by one shot until the par-5 16th where Hadwin went for the green in two but didn't carry the water short of the green. He made a bogey to Kim's par, who made two more on 17 and 18 to close it out, becoming the fourth-youngest golfer to reach three TOUR wins. Only Gene Sarazen, Horton Smith and Woods accomplished the feat at a younger age. "This one makes it a lot better



of a year for sure," said Kim. Kim joins Rory McIlroy, Scottie Scheffler and Max Homa as

the only players to successfully defend a title this season.  $\blacksquare$ 

## FITZPATRICK DOES THE DOUBLE AT ALFRED DUNHILL LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP



Matt Fitzpatrick enjoyed double delight at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship as a closing 66 at

St Andrews clinched the individual title and helped him take team honours alongside mum Susan. The Englishman had sat on the lead for two days after torrential rain saw the weekend washed out and the event pushed to Monday and reduced to 54 holes.

Better conditions greeted the field for the final round across St Andrews, Kingsbarns and Carnoustie but nobody could get past Fitzpatrick, who reached 19 under to win by three shots from countrymen Marcus Armitage and Matthew Southgate and defending champion Ryan Fox. In the team event, Susan contributed three birdies and an eagle in a 59 that got the pair to 35 under and sealed a fiveshot triumph.

Fitzpatrick becomes just the second player to do the individual and team double after Pádraig Harrington in 2002 and 2006, while Susan becomes the second female winner at this event, following Maeve Danaher who won alongside Michael Hoey two years ago. The victory caps a remarkable fortnight for Fitzpatrick, who was part of Luke Donald's winning Ryder Cup team, earning his first point in his third appearance as Europe triumphed



#### $16\frac{1}{2}-11\frac{1}{2}$ .

After being caught by Southgate earlier in the day, Fitzpatrick holed a long putt on the 13th and hit an excellent approach into the 15th to lead by three at the Old Course. While Southgate and Fox both made the most of the short par-four 18th to get to 16 under after rounds of 66 and 65 respectively, so did Fitzpatrick to set the target at 19 under.

Over at Carnoustie, however, Armitage was still in with a chance of catching him after starting almost 90 minutes later on the 11th in a shotgun start. He sunk two birdies and an eagle over his first four holes to begin his charge. A bogey at the 18th stalled his progress but he made gains at the fourth, sixth and seventh to sit two back with three to play before threeputting the ninth.

# **VACARISAS** CLAIMS MAIDEN CHALLENGE TOUR VICTORY



Lucas Vacarisas produced a spectacular start to set up a maiden European Challenge Tour victory in the Hopps Open de Provence at Golf International de Pont Royal.

The Spaniard separated himself from a congested leaderboard by carding seven birdies in a row from the fourth hole to the 10th, and despite playing the remaining holes

two over par, would ease to a memorable two stroke victory in France. The 25-year-old carded rounds of 68-69-64-67 to reach 20 under par for the week, two clear of home favourite Félix Mory and Welshman Oli Farr, who shared second on 18 under par.

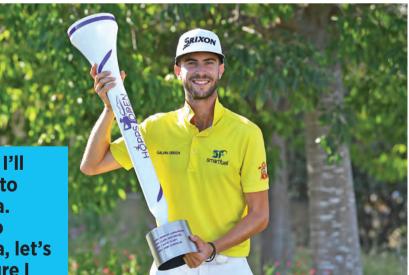
Vacarisas climbs 89 places to 39th in the Road to Mallorca Rankings and now has a realistic chance of taking his place in the field at the Rolex Challenge Tour Grand Final supported by the R&A next month. With the top 45 players after next week's Hainan Open teeing it up at Club de Golf Alcanada, he's now looking ahead to an exciting end to the season.

"I was playing well and I just tried to do my best and play every hole that way," he said.

"Maybe I'll now go to Mallorca. If I go to Mallorca, let's make sure I have a good one there."

"I'm so happy with my game and with all the work we've done this year. Every part of my game was great

today. I was hitting the ball so good, so it was just about staving patient and being focussed all the time and I knew the birdies would come.



there."

"Maybe I'll now go to Mallorca. If I go to Mallorca, let's make sure I have a good one

Vacarisas' win comes at a course designed by countryman and three-time Open winner, Severiano Ballesteros, and he admits to the result in France being even more special because of that connection.

shots in the Spanish capital.

# **PAVON STORMS TO WIRE-TO-WIRE WIN IN MADRID**

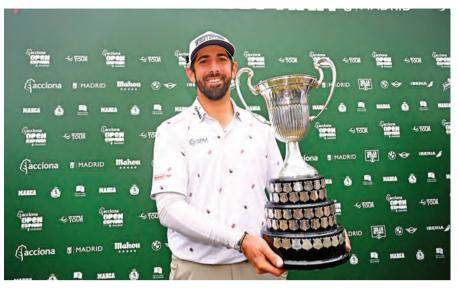


Matthieu Pavon powered to a maiden DP World Tour title in wireto-wire style as he won the acciona Open de España presented by Madrid by four

The Frenchman arrived at Club de Campo Villa de Madrid with three runner-up finishes on both the European Challenge and DP World Tours but had never won a European Tour group event despite being an incredibly consistent performer over eight seasons.

One of those runner-up finishes was here 12 months ago but he always looked like going one better after an opening 63 and followed up with rounds of 68-66-64 to get to 23 under and claim an ultimately convincing victory.

Pavon claimed a maiden professional win on the Alps Tour in 2014 and followed up with another in 2015, the same year he earned a Challenge Tour card by reaching the final stage of the DP World Tour Oualifying School. His single season on the Challenge Tour saw him finish sixth on the Road to Mallorca with the help of those second-places and since then, he has finished in the top 100 on the Race to Dubai Rankings in Partnership with Rolex in every year barring one.



The 30-year-old already had four top-tens in 2023 when he changed his driver and putter during Ryder Cup week as he finished second at the Open d'Arcachon on home soil.

South African Zander Lombard carded a bogey-free 64 to finish as the nearest challenger, one clear of England's Nathan Kimsey and two ahead of German Marcel Siem and Paraguay's Fabrizio Zanotti.

Defending champion Jon Rahm ended his week with a 64 to finish at 14 under alongside fellow Spaniard Alfredo Garcia-Heredia, French duo Romain Langasque and Mike Lorenzo-Vera, Scot Ewen Ferguson, Dane Marcus Helligkilde, Kiwi Daniel Hillier and Finn Kalle Samooja.

# **MCILROY** SET FOR HISTORIC HERO DUBAI DESERT CLASSIC TITLE DEFENCE



Rory McIlroy will aim to create history and become the first fourtime winner of the Hero Dubai Desert Classic when he returns to

defend his title at the iconic Emirates Golf Club from January 18-21, 2024.

Ryder Cup star Mcllroy is set to headline a world-class field at the first Rolex Series event of the 2024 Race to Dubai, as the World Number Two aims to add to his victories in 2009, 2015 and 2023. The reigning Race to Dubai Champion memorably matched Ernie Els' record when he lifted the famous Dallah trophy for a third time earlier this season, edging out American Patrick Reed on a dramatic final day over the Majlis Course.

The four-time Major winner went on to add a second Rolex Series title at the Genesis Scottish Open in July, and once again leads the Race to Dubai Rankings in Partnership with Rolex as he aims to top the season-long rankings for a fifth time. The 34-year-old also returns to Dubai on a wave of Ryder Cup glory, after Team Europe's stunning 16 1/2 -11 1/2 victory over the United States earlier this month.

McIlroy said: "It meant a lot to lift the Dallah trophy for a third time. I've enjoyed a lot of success at the Hero Dubai Desert Classic



over the years, so adding another title was the perfect way to start the year.I love coming to Dubai and the support we get from fans is always special. I look forward to getting back to Emirates Golf Club in January, and hopefully creating a bit of history."

Simon Corkill, Executive Tournament Director of Hero Dubai Desert Classic, said: "We are delighted to confirm Rory will return to defend his title and will be striving for a historic fourth win. Our Roll of Honour features illustrious an of golf's cast notable most names, and I

am sure we will have a worthy champion to join this star-studded list and lift the Dallah Trophy in January."

the Hero Dubai

over the years."

**Desert Classic** 

## MERONK SOARS TO VICTORY IN SOTOGRANDE



Adrian Meronk carded a pair of eagles as he fought his way to a fourth DP World Tour victory at the Estrella Damm N.A. Andalucía Masters.

The Pole reached 16 under par after posting a sublime six under par round of 66 at Real Club de Golf Sotogrande to secure his third victory on the 2023 Race to Dubai, finishing one stroke clear of overnight co-leader Matti Schmid, whose title charge fell away after bogeying the par four 16th.

The 30-year-old showed the resilience of a man who has four victories in the last 15 months as he was forced to fight back from an underwhelming start which saw him sit two over through his first three holes.He kickstarted his round with an eagle at the par five sixth hole following a stunning approach into eight feet, before the moment of the round arrived at the par four ninth. The 2019 Challenge Tour graduate found the fairway for the first time this week and took full advantage by holing out from 121 yards to surge fully into contention.



he retains his playing privileges for the 2024 season, climbing 84 places to 70th on the Race to Dubai, while England's Richard Mansell followed his tie for sixth in Madrid last week with a third place in Sotogrande thanks to a four under 68 to finish on 14 under par.

Schmid's second place was enough to ensure

# **VÄLIMÄKI** CLAIMS PLAY-OFF WIN IN DOHA



Sami Välimäki defeated Jorge Campillo in a play-off to win his second DP World Tour title at the Commercial Bank Oatar Masters.

The Finn carded a birdie on the first sudden death hole, ending a more than three and a half year wait for a follow-up victory to his maiden 2020 Oman Open success.

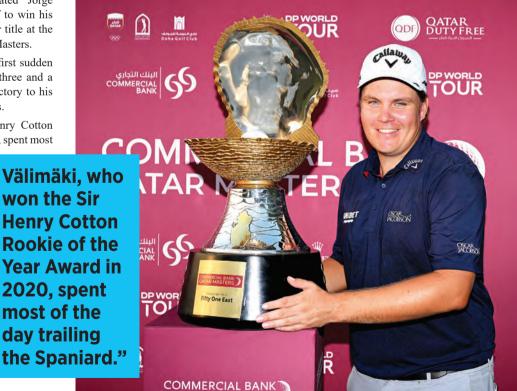
Välimäki, who won the Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year Award in 2020, spent most

of the day trailing the Spaniard, who held a two-stroke lead after the third round and increased his lead to three after Välimäki bogeyed the fifth. He recovered immediately with birdies on the seventh and eighth, and gains on the 12th and 13th saw him draw level on 18 under par.

The pair traded bogeys on the 15th and 16th holes, with Välimäki taking the lead for the first time after an excellent tee shot on the par three 17th set up a ten-foot birdie putt. Campillo then birdied the 18th

to force extra holes as they both finished on 18 under.

In the play-off, both competitors found the



rough with their tee shots, forcing them to lay-up on the par five 18th. Välimäki put the pressure on as he hit his approach to four feet,

as Campillo left himself ten foot for birdie. The Spaniard pushed his putt, while Välimäki holed out for his second victory on Tour.

# **PUIG LANDS FIRST WIN AS A PROFESSIONAL**

David Puig strolled to a majestic five-shot win in the US\$2 million International Series Singapore today – to register his maiden victory in the professional game.

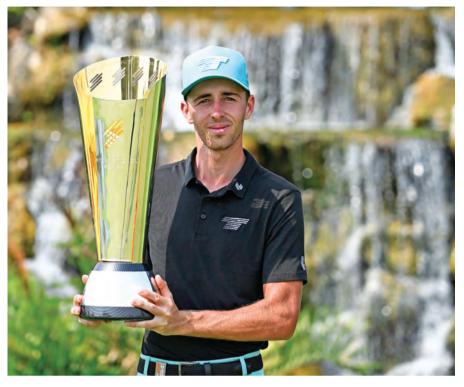
He completed a stunning wire-to-wire triumph after firing a final round one-over-par 73 to finish the Asian Tour event on 19-under, with Jaewoong Eom from Korea finishing in second place, after carding a 69.

American Andy Ogletree took another step closer to securing both the Asian Tour and International Series Order of Merits by closing with a 69, which featured a hole-in-one on the par-three fourth, to finish in a tie for third with Thailand's Poom Saksansin, in with a 68.

Puig had a nine-shot lead at the start of the day thanks to rounds of 64, 66 and 66 and was never challenged. Playing conservatively, he made the turn in one under with a birdie on eight, before a minor wobble with bogeys on 11 and 14. The 21-year-old had a six-shot lead playing 18, which playing partner Eom birdied.

"It's awesome," said Puig, who won US\$360,000.

"You know, this is my first year as a professional, but I think I deserved a win probably two or three months before this day. But, yeah, it's awesome, it's the best feeling in the world. That's why I practice so hard and



yeah, very happy."

His success comes as no surprise, as since turning professional in September last year he has been close to winning on numerous occasions, including in his first event the International Series Morocco, where he was third, and the International Series England in August, when he tied for fourth.

This was only his ninth start on the Asian Tour and moved him into second position on the International Series Order of Merit and fourth place on the Asian Tour merit list.

# KOZUMA DRIVES OFF WITH BYD SEAL EV AFTER FINAL-DAY ACE

Japan's Jinichiro Kozuma was handed the keys to a brand new BYD SEAL EV thanks to a superb hole-inone on day four of the International Series Singapore, one of two aces on the final day of the elevated Asian Tour event at Tanah Merah Country Club.

Starting on the 10th, Kozuma, 29, fired in a perfect nine iron to ace the 164-yard 16th and claim the keys to the electric vehicle. And less than an hour later, International Series Order of Merit leader Andy Ogletree produced the second of the day, a stunning 230-yard four iron on the fourth that flew straight into the cup with no bounce

Kozuma's first ever tournament ace was part of an eventful two-under round of 70 that also included three birdies and three bogeys, including back-to-back dropped shots on seven and eight, helping him to a five under total for the four days.

Kozuma said: "This is my second time holein-one in my lifetime. This is the first time



I've achieved the ace in a tournament I'm very happy. I couldn't see, but I could tell

by the reactions of those around me. It looks like it bounced and rolled in."

# **BRILLIANT MIN WOO LEE SWEEPS TO VICTORY**

Australia's Min Woo Lee recorded an exceptional two-shot wire-to-wire victory in the US\$1 million SJM Macao Open, for his first title in two years. The tournament's marquee player, ranked 46 in the world, hit crushing drives and holed putt after putt to card an eight-under-par 63 for an astonishing four-round aggregate of 30-under – a new tournament record and two short of the Asian Tour record, although preferred lies were played on the first two days.

Thailand's Poom Saksansin also fired a 63, like Lee bogey-free, and finished second after a fascinating final day dual between the bighitting Australian and the tenacious little Thai golfer, hoping to replicate one of his giantkilling acts of the past.

Lee started the day with a two-shot lead over Poom and the margin was the same at the turn after both players pulled away from the field playing brilliant golf with four birdies apiece. The turning point proved to be the parfive 13th, where Lee opened up a four-stroke cushion after he made an eagle, for the second day in row, against Poom's par.A wild drive a long way left on the short par-four 15th by Lee gave Poom a glimmer of hope, but his ball stayed away from trouble. He had a clear shot to the green and was able to avert disaster



and make a comfortable par.Predictably Poom refused to submit and made birdies on the next two holes to close the gap the to two before they both made four on the par-five 18th.

"I love it," said 25-year-old Lee, who opened with rounds of 62, 64 and 65. "As soon as the week started I had a couple of days rest because of the typhoon, and the course was looking amazing from the beginning. Obviously, it was pretty bad for a couple of days there, so it was props to the green keepers for keeping the course in such good condition. And yeah, I played wonderful, really flawless golf for a lot of the holes, there was only a few holes that I could really look back on. But yeah, I'm really proud of the way I handled myself."

# AT MEMBERS OFFERED "LIFECHANGING OPPORTUNITY"

The Asian Tour has welcomed the launch of the LIV Golf Promotions event as another breakthrough moment for golf in the region, with Cho Minn Thant, its Commissioner & CEO, describing it a "an incredible, lifechanging opportunity". The innovative and inclusive new event, which will provide a pathway onto the world's most exciting new franchise, the LIV Golf League, was unveiled yesterday, and will be staged at the celebrated Abu Dhabi Golf Club from December 8-10.

The top-three finishers will secure passage through to next season's multi-million-dollar circuit with a decidedly strong contingent from the Asian Tour set to compete in Abu Dhabi via the Tour's International Series.The leading 25 available players from the top-40 on this year's final International Series Order of Merit (OOM), will be eligible to enter round one, as well as tournament winners from this season's Asian Tour. In addition, players ranked two to eight on the final International Series OOM earn a pass into round two.

"It's a pathway to golf's most lucrative series, and an incredible chance for Asian Tour members, offering a lifechanging opportunity," said Cho. "With so much at stake, I'm sure this event will capture the attention of all eligible players as well



as golf fans around the region and beyond."The International Series -10 elite-level tournaments integrated into the Asian Tour schedule with its own OOM – starts its homeward stretch of three successive events next week, with the Volvo China Open followed by the Hong Kong Open and the BNI Indonesian Masters presented by TNE.

American Andy Ogletree is poised to win

The International Series OOM, helped by two International Series victories in England and Qatar this year, and secure the automatic berth onto the 2024 LIV Golf League but there will be fierce competition for places in the LIV Golf Promotions event, which will tee-off just over two weeks after Indonesia.

The LIV Golf Promotions event tournament will see four rounds of golf played over three days, with 36-holes on the final day, and offer an overall prizemoney of US\$1.5 million.

Starting Friday, December 8, those who finish in the top-20 and ties from round one will advance to Saturday's round two, where scores will reset, and the field will be joined by a category of players who automatically qualified for day two of competition. The top 20 players and ties following round two will advance to the final day of competition, where scores will reset once more for an intense full-day, 36-hole shootout. At Sunday's conclusion, the top three finishers will receive highly coveted and lucrative spots on the LIV Golf League for 2024. The top three finishers will also earn prize money of US\$200,000, US\$150,000 and US\$100,000 respectively. Players finishing fourth to 10th will receive full exemption for all 2024 events on The International Series.

# **INAMORI** PREVAILS OVER SONG TO CLINCH SEASON'S FIRST WIN

Yuki Inamori emerged as the inaugural winner of the ACN Championship Golf Tournament, defeating South Korea's Song Young-han on the first playoff hole at the Sanko Golf Club.

A par on the par-four 18th hole secured Inamori his first JGTO victory of the season and his fifth overall. Both he and the in-form Song completed the final round on 17-under-par 271.

Starting the day two shots adrift of overnight leader Shugo Imahira, Inamori surged to the top of the leaderboard, posting a six-under 66 that included seven birdies.

His sole bogey came on the 18th, preventing an outright tournament victory and leading to a playoff, which was played on the same hole. Song, delivering a stellar bogey-free 66, matched him to force the tiebreaker.

During the playoff, although Song's opening shot landed in a bunker, Inamori couldn't capitalise on it as his second shot also found a bunker to the right of the green.

However, Inamori displayed resilience, placing his following shot within approximately one meter and then sinking a crucial putt.

ensured I got things right this time," remarked Inamori, who hadn't clinched a title since his victory at the Japan Players Championship by Sato Syokuhin the previous May.

This triumph was well-earned for Inamori, who had consistently secured eight top-10 placements this year.

He previously neared victory at the Yokohama

Minato Championship, leading for the first three rounds but faltering on the final day to finish tied for fifth.

An emotional Inamori said: "I've grappled with my swing since summer. But in spite of the challenges, I held on until the very end today. Winning this inaugural event, especially under the new sponsorship, is truly an honour."

"I took lessons from that earlier bogey and He pr

# **IWASAKI** BREAKS INTO WINNER'S CIRCLE WITH JAPAN OPEN WIN

7 Third-year professional, Aguri Iwasaki, secured his maiden JGTO title, a major one, with a two-shot victory over Ryo

Ishikawa at the Japan Open Golf Championship. The 25-year-old Iwasaki, who began the final round three shots off the lead, carded a fiveunder-par 65 after mixing six birdies with a bogey to finish with an aggregate of eightunder 272.

This victory provided a much-needed boost after he struggled throughout the entire season, both abroad and domestically.

The penultimate round leader, Sejung Hiramoto, could only manage a 73, settling for a five-way tie for third on 277 including Australian veteran Brad Kennedy (69) and joint first-round leader Mikumu Horikawa (68).

Perseverance indeed paid off for Iwasaki, as this win is sure to rejuvenate his lacklustre season.

Iwasaki ventured to Europe to participate in the DP World Tour, a position he achieved through a conditional status earned by his third-place finish in the JGTO money rankings the previous year.

However, his performance there was disappointing, making the cut in only three out of 15 appearances.Back home, Iwasaki's struggles continued.

In the last nine starts before victory, he qualified



for the weekend in just four events, with a tied-18th at the season-opening Token Homemate Cup being his best finish.

"Initially, the victory felt surreal. I've been overwhelmed by the outpouring of congratulatory messages. It's truly the most joyous occasion of my life," said Iwasaki, after pocketing ¥42,000,000 jackpot for his effort.

Starting the day three shots back, I knew I had to bring my A-game. Throughout the back nine, my

focus wasn't on the win but on each upcoming shot. I navigated the challenging conditions without letting the pressure weigh me down."

Iwasaki said he won't be returning to Europe and will be switching his full attention to JGTO now instead.

He picked up a seizable runner-up cheque of ¥23,100,000 to charge up to No. 7 on the money list, securing him a start in next week's PGA Tour's ZOZO Championship.

## **ISHIKAWA** LEADS MAGNIFICENT TRIO TO HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENT AT ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP



Ryo Ishikawa spearheaded a historic moment at the Zozo Championship with three Japanese players making the

top-10 for the first time, as American Collin Morikawa sealed a six-shot victory with a commanding final round seven-under-par 63.

Ishikawa, finishing tied for fourth with a fourday total of seven-under 273, seven strokes behind Morikawa.

Compatriots Kensei Hirata and Ryo Hisatsune heightened the day's excitement for local fans, both carding matching 66s to end in a four-way tie for sixth, totalling 274.

In addition to securing sizable prize money from the US\$8.5 million event, Ishikawa, Hirata, and Hisatsune were handsomely rewarded for their performances, earning themselves spots in the World Wide Technology Championship in Mexico from November 2-5.

Ishikawa expressed immense pride in being accompanied by Hirata and Hisatsune, aged 22 and 21 respectively, in the top 10.

He added that their achievement serves as a testament to the strength and quality of the



JGTO, which has been producing young world-class talents in recent years.

"I've been playing back on the Japan Tour for about the past five years, and recently I've really noticed the momentum that the players who are in their early 20s have had, which is great," said the 18-time JGTO winner.

"Our Tour is very competitive at the moment,

especially amongst the youngsters. So instead of feeling like it's more like an achievement or something, I feel like it's more a reality. It's becoming real as the days go on."

The impressive top-10 finish also rekindled Ishikawa's ambition to pursue a return to the US, where he had previously plied his trade from 2013 to 2017.

# **KINOSHITA** SNAPS FIVE-YEAR WINLESS DROUGHT

Yuta Kinoshita secured his first JGTO win in five years after firing a flawless four-under-par 67 in the final round of the Vantelin Tokai Classic in Aichi.

Starting play tied for the lead with Takumi Kanaya at the Miyoshi Country Club, the 37-year-old journeyman delivered a steady performance to prevail in a thrilling battle against Rikuya Hoshino and Kanaya.

Having secured three birdies over 16 holes, Yuta contended in a tight race with the two younger and more illustrious stalwarts, but it was his fourth birdie on the par-four 17th that clinched his victory with a total of 15-under-par 269.

Vantelin-sponsored star Hoshino could only par the remaining two holes to close with a 67 and finish alone in second place, one shot ahead of third-placed Kanaya (69), whose bid was thwarted following a costly bogey on the penultimate hole.

Kodai Ichihara (66) and Ryosuke Kinoshita (68) shared the fourth spot 272.

Yuta's last triumph had come at the Mynavi ABC Championship in 2018, where he edged Masahiro Kawamura through a playoff.

"I'm so filled with relief and joy that it's hard to



put into words," he said, his voice choked with emotion.

"Even though both of them (Hoshino and Kanay) are much younger and likely more skilled than me, I did my best to keep up.Deep down, I never doubted that I could upstage them."

After securing his third runner-up position in

just four starts on the JGTO this season, Hoshino has shown he remains in top form, even as he primarily competes on the DP World Tour now.

Hoshino, who finished second on the JGTO money rankings last year, also finished runnerup at the Token Homemate Cup and The Crowns earlier in April before venturing into European competitions.

# masterclass

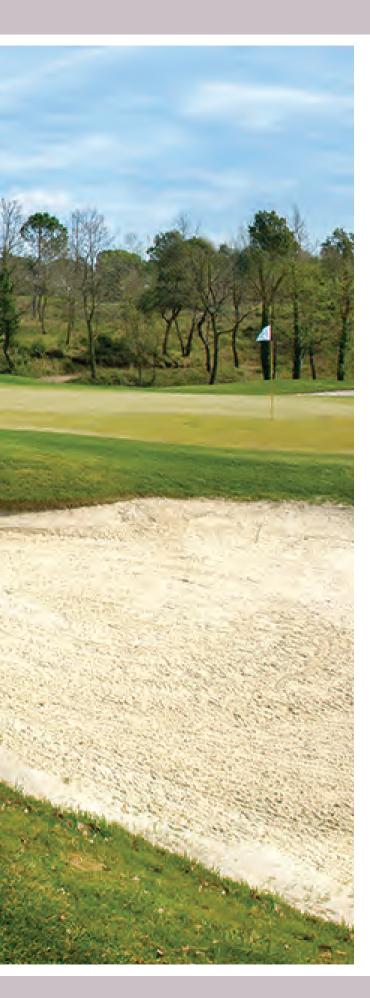
# THE SHORT GAME CHIP IT CLOSE FROM ANY LIE

Scramble pars like a Tour pro with England Golf coach Chris Jenkins' eight-page guide to saving your score around the greens.

Forget hitting the ball miles down the middle of the fairway. There's nothing more satisfying in golf than pulling off an amazing recovery shot from around the green. As any Tour pro will tell you, the quickest way to lower your scores week in, week out is to develop a razor sharp short game. Missing greens is an inevitable part of golf - even for the world's best - so if you can nullify the effects of errant approach shots, you'll see your handicap tumble. Over the next few pages, leading coach Chris Jenkins demonstrates the techniques and strategies you'll need to sharpen up around the greens.

If you can introduce the techniques demonstrated

into your game over the next few months and dedicate some time for regular practice, you're going to notice a huge improvement in your scrambling and a marked difference in your scoring this summer.





#### Your five steps to a sharp short game

Like any part of the game, improving your chipping, pitching and bunker play requires more than just an upgrade in technique. You'll need to develop solid basics, club selection, good strategy and decision-making skills, and practice habits.

#### MASTER THE BASICS FIRST

Having an arsenal of fancy recovery shots is all well and good, but you need a stock shot to rely on. A simple chip-and-run will get you out of trouble far more often than a risky flop over a bunker, so master the simple option before working on the adventurous shots.

#### PLAY THE PERCENTAGES Just as the best

Just as the best strikers in football never take on the complicated finish when an easy one will do, the same rule applies to the short game. The more difficult the shot, the higher propensity for disaster! As a rule, this means playing the ball along the ground where possible.

#### DON'T NEGLECT YOUR PUTTING

Realistically, you won't hit every chip stone dead. More often than not, you're going to have to rely on your short-range putting to finish the job. In addition to improving your short game, focus on improving holing out inside six feet. Make more than you miss from this range, and you'll see your scores tumble.

#### COMMIT TO REGULAR PRACTICE

Ask any Tour pro how they structure their practice and they'll likely tell you that they spend at least twice as much time working on their chipping and putting as they do their long game. The reason for this is simple – a sharp short game will compensate for bad shots and approach shots keep your scorecard tidy.

#### UNDERSTAND YOUR WEDGES

Equipment is important for every shot, but for the short game you need to know how the ball will react using different clubs in your bag. For example, if you don't know how far vou can carry the ball and how far it will run out with each iron using different length swings, you'll never get the ball close. You'll also need wedges that suit your swing characteristics.

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# THE BASIC CHIP SHOT Perfect your set-up to hit pure chips

Setting your hands way ahead of the ball and playing it way back in your stance may feel like it's going to create that slightly steep attack we've always been told is desirable for chipping, but it actually causes more problems than it cures. To play chip shots well, you want to use the true loft on the club at impact. You also want to use your spine angle to pre-set that downward attack, not the ball position and shaft lean.



#### SET-UP SHOULDER TILT MATCHES SHAFT ANGLE

With the ball in the middle of your stance, feel like your left shoulder tilts slightly downwards to match the very slight forward lean of the shaft.



#### BACKSWING CONTROL THE SHOT WITH YOUR SHOULDERS

Control the shot as you would a long-range putt, allowing your shoulders and arms to move the club back and through.



#### IMPACT KEEP YOUR HANDS QUIET ALL THE WAY THROUGH

Maintaining your spine tilt, focus on keeping your shirt buttons left of the ball to create a downward strike and use the full loft of the club.





#### HOW TO FIX THE TWO BIGGEST CHIPPING FAULTS

Many chipping faults can be traced back to address – in particular, standing too far from the ball with your hands set too low. Another factor is playing the ball too far back in your stance with the shaft leaning towards the target.

Since chipping requires a fairly slow swing, gravity can cause the shaft to drop to a more vertical position. This means the clubhead is lower at impact than at address. The solution is to set up with the shaft at a steeper angle. It also helps to set the grip more in your palm. While the heel of the club will be slightly off the ground, it means the clubhead cannot get any lower throughout the shot, thereby guaranteeing a good strike.

# CLUB SELECTION Think 'minimum effort, maximum roll'

Many players opt to chip with just a few lofted wedges, but that's usually not the smartest play. As with any other shot, good chipping is all about reducing your margin for error and giving yourself the best chance of executing the shot well. In most instances, from just off the green, chipping with one of your straighter-faced clubs like a 6-iron or 7-iron is a higher percentage play than, say, a 54-degree wedge. You can keep your backswing shorter and therefore more controlled, as well as get the ball rolling forwards rather than upwards.

CLUB	CARRY	ROLL
5-iron	20%	80%
6-iron	30%	70%
7-iron	40%	60%
8-iron	50%	50%
9-iron	60%	40%
Pitching wedge	70%	30%
Sand wedge	80%	20%
Lob wedge	90%	10%



To get a feel for how each club performs around the green, create a ladder to the hole laying some shafts or sticks on the green a few feet apart just to the side of your line to the hole. Using different clubs, aim to land the ball in each segment of the ladder and see how it rolls out. This will quickly train your brain into knowing which club is appropriate for the situation

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# THE FLOP SHOT Widen everything to add maximum loft

You pull or push an approach and, when you get to your ball, you find that not only is there a bunker between you and the hole, the pin is cut just a few feet onto the green. The smart strategy is to chip to the widest part of the green and accept you'll probably drop a shot, but there are times when you want to take this shot on. The good news is that it's not nearly as difficult to play as it looks.

#### GET WIDE AND LOW AT ADDRESS

One of the secrets to adding loft at impact is to get the club approaching the ball at a shallow angle. Widening your stance and standing a little further away from the ball than you normally would will help you lower your body and your hands at address. These adjustments will give you more confidence to open the face of your sand wedge or gap wedge.



#### FLARE YOUR LEAD TOE TOWARDS THE TARGET

Rotating your lead toe helps with two things. First, it presets a little extra hip clearance. This will enable you to turn your body through to the target with more freedom. Second, it helps anchor a little bit of extra weight on to your front foot. This will discourage you from allowing your weight to fall onto your back foot and trying to 'scoop' the ball into the air - which is absolutely the last thing you want to do when playing this shot.

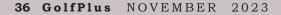
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## SET CLUBSHAFT IN A VERTICAL POSITION

Think about the relationship between the clubshaft and the clubface. If the shaft leans towards the target, the clubface loses loft. To maximise the loft on your wedge, set up with your hands directly above the ball. You can even play this shot with the shaft leaning slightly away from the target, but that requires a little extra practice to master.

#### CHOKE DOWN A LITTLE ON THE GRIP

This shot is all about keeping loft on the clubface at impact and being able to swing with speed without worrying that the ball will fly too far. Once you've widened your stance as I suggested in the first step, you'll most likely find it more comfortable to move down an inch or so on your grip. This small adjustment will improve your control and add a little extra wrist action to the shot – not to mention some additional height.





### THE FLOP SHOT TECHNIQUE Eliminate the wrists and focus on rotation

The longer the swing and the more wrist action you use, the more difficult it becomes to control your impact point and the exact loft on the clubface. Keep your hands passive and directly over the ball at impact. Too far ahead will de-loft the clubface and take height off the shot. The best way to maintain the full loft and, at the same time, create the speed you need to get the ball in the air and carry it to the green is by rotating your upper body to deliver the club to the ball, keeping your hands out of the release.



### STILL NOT CONFIDENT? TRY A SIMPLER METHOD

The shot I've just demonstrated is easier to play than the long, lazy lob, but it requires a few adjustments to play it well. Here's a simpler version. It won't fly as high and the ball will run more on landing, but if you just want to clear a hazard and get back in play, this is a good option.



#### SHOULDER ANGLE MATCHES SPINE ANGLE

It's not true you need to have the ball back and weight forward. With the ball in the middle, tilt your left shoulder down to match the shaft's slight forward lean.

#### CONTROL THE SHOT WITH YOUR SHOULDERS

Control the shot with your arms and shoulders – as you would with a long putt. Resist the temptation to break your wrists to add more height to the shot.

#### ROTATE YOUR BODY THROUGH THE BALL

Maintaining your spine tilt, keep your shirt buttons left of the ball to create a downward strike and use the full loft. Keep your chest rotating through to the target.

#### WEIGHT FINISHES ON YOUR FRONT FOOT

The finish is simply a slightly curtailed version of the flop shot opposite – again a sign I have delivered the club with my upper body and not my hands.

#### masterclass

# CHIPPING STRATEGY How to read your chips like putts

Great chipping is as much about strategy and preparation as it is technique. Many amateurs make the mistake of simply looking at the distance they need to hit the ball rather than looking at the shot, figuring out where they need to land the ball on the green and deciding what club is best-suited to the situation. Here's a routine you can quickly integrate into your game to chip it closer more often. It doesn't have to slow up play – in fact, it'll speed things along if you're chipping it dead every time!

Once you've chosen the club you believe will enable you to hit your landing spot and roll out to the pin, set up next to the ball and make a couple of practice swings while looking at your landing spot to groove your feel.

If you're a little unsure as to the break of the green, walk to a central point between your ball and the hole and take a look. Again, this doesn't have to slow up play if you do this while others are preparing to play.

Before you even think about club selection, walk to your ball, assess the lie and the shot you think you'll need to play. Start to visualise the flight and roll of the ball in your mind.



Finally, set up to the ball and focus on your landing spot. You no longer need to look at the hole now if you've done your prep work. Play your shot and watch the ball roll to the hole. If you've selected the right club and landed the ball where you wanted to, this shot cannot fail!



Pick a landing spot a few feet onto the green, taking into account any slope the ball might encounter on the way to the hole. Now you can pull the club from the bag. Also remember that once the ball starts rolling it will take the slope on the green just like a putt, so always factor in break.



#### QUICK DRILL

It's easy to fall into the trap of practising your chipping from perfect lies. While that's great for helping you groove your technique, it doesn't help you develop a deep and versatile short game. On the course, you'll have to adapt to a wide range of greenside scenarios. Every practice session should include time spent chipping from unorthodox lies, like longer grass, rough or slopes.

### **Practising your short game**

How to make the quickest improvements in the shortest time.



#### GROOVE YOUR TECHNIQUE AND YOUR PROCESS

To really sharpen up your chipping skills, divide your practice time between refining your technique and grooving your decision-making and pre-shot routine. With so many variables in lie and distance around the green, it's important to have a wide repertoire of shots at your disposal as well as a robust decision-making process to help you select your club and the shot.

n Practise how you play - replicate real on-course

situations. **n** Avoid hitting too many shots from one location.

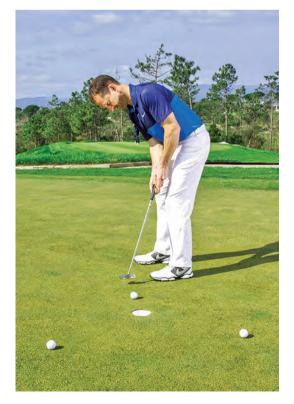
 n Refine your process for shot assessment and club selection.
 n Set measurable goals to keep you focused.

#### CLOSING THE DEAL – HOW TO HOLE OUT WITH CONFIDENCE

Holing out from inside five-feet is all about process, discipline and repetition. Any practice for short putts should recreate the pressure of holing them on the course. There are plenty of drills out there, but whichever ones you choose, start with easy two-footers and build up to about five-feet with ramifications for missing. You could make it a goal, say, to hole 50 short putts with the penalty of starting again if you miss. They're important on the course, so make them important in practice. n Go through your pre-putt routine on every practice putt to

routine on every practice putt to develop the focus you need on the course.

n Keep track of your stats so that you always have a measurable goal to aim for.



### **KIBSGAARD NIELSEN** CLAIMS THIRD VICTORY IN ITALY AND 2024 LET CARD

Denmark's Sofie Kibsgaard Nielsen stormed to a four-stroke victory at the Lombardia Ladies Open LETAS at Golf Club Varese.

On a highly anticipated final day, the current Order of Merit and Rookie of the Year leader went on a birdie spree during the front nine rolling them in on holes three, six, seven and nine.

At the turn, Kibsgaard Nielsen kept her cool to par all the back nine holes and secure a place in the history books as the first winner of the tournament.

Speaking about her third win, Kibsgaard Nielsen said: "I feel calmer now, it was very overwhelming when I was on the putting green. I tried to enjoy the moment.

"I maybe took a bit longer than I usually do but I knew I had been there before, and I know the feeling is something that I must enjoy and take in because it's not going to happen often.

"I feel very happy and proud that I finished well today and came up the leaderboard.

"It was fun out there today importantly; I've known them for years now and I think it's cool to go out and be nice to each other. It was fun and competitive."

With this win, Kibsgaard Nielsen not only secures 500.00 more points to the Order of Merit which she has led since the third tournament but has earnt triumphantly her



#### 2024 LET card.

"My goal this year was to get the card and to have it secure now feels amazing. I've worked hard, and I feel that as it was the end of the season, it was important for me to step up and not let go.

"Coming into this tournament, I was going to give it my all because I want to win the Order of Merit and Rookie of the Year. Having that in my mind makes me go out and compete like I've done the whole year.

"I'm very excited and look forward to next year, it will be fun and I'm ready for the challenge."



Spain's Maria Herraez Galvez and Norway's Dorthea Forbrigd finished second on four under par.

### **TEAM NAPOLEAOVA** VICTORIOUS

Team Napoleaova triumphed at the Aramco Team Series presented by PIF – Hong Kong as they recorded a final round of 21-under-par to clinch a one-stroke victory.

After starting the day six shots behind leaders Team Van Dam, Kristyna Napoleaova, Laura Fuenfstueck, Magdalena Simmermacher and amateur John Hyun had an excellent day on the golf course.

The quartet got off to a hot start and were -3 after one hole thanks to Simmermacher's birdie and Hyun's birdie-net-eagle.

Team Napoleaova gained momentum making the turn in 11-under and they continued their form on the back nine to be -10 in their final nine holes and post a team total of 31-under-par which was enough to win by one stroke.

Captain Napoleaova said: "It was a super vibe for the day. On the first tee, Maggie did her thing. I don't know what she did, but it immediately stopped raining, whatever mojo from Argentina, it worked.

"For the rest of the round, we really enjoyed and all of us played really good. We just pulled it off, it was such a lovely golf course and all things just worked the way they were supposed to."

It was a first LET title for Fuenfstueck, who has been on a journey back from injury and has seen a recent upturn in form.

The German player explained: "I'm super pleased, when I saw the team at the Draft I thought all of us could make quite a lot of birdies and then we got John added to the team and he made a lot of birdies as well.



"I thought it was going to be a fun time and really relaxed out there and that's exactly how it was. We were able to capitalise on it and it was a lot of fun today."

While, it was also the first trophy for Simmermacher as a professional and she was delighted to win a Team event.

Team Cheenglab finished in second place on 30-under-par at Hong Kong Golf Club after the quartet of Trichat Cheenglab, Christine Wolf, Jana Melichova and amateur Arianna Lau also produced a second round of -21.

### **KRAUTER** SEALS EMPHATIC VICTORY AT HERO WOMEN'S INDIAN OPEN



Aline Krauter sealed her first Ladies European Tour (LET) title in style at the Hero Women's Indian Open winning by an emphatic five shots in Delhi on 15-under par.

Leading fellow rookie Sara Kjellker by two shots before the start of play, the German fired a third consecutive round of 68 (-4) at DLF Golf & Country Club to complete victory and become the latest member of the LET winner's circle.

"I feel amazing," Krauter said, who is the second German to win the event after Olivia Cowan's last year. "It feels hard to put into words and I don't think I can quite grasp what just happened. But looking down the 18th it's such a special place. Hopefully I'll be back next year to defend my title. It's been such a great week."

Playing alongside Kjellker in the final group, we looked to have a shootout on our hands early on as the two rookies birdied the opening hole before Krauter dropped a shot on the 2nd to see her lead slip to one.

With England's Hannah Burke making a charge elsewhere, Krauter bounced back with a birdie on the par-3 3rd before giving another shot back on the 4th.

But just as she had done all week, the 23-year-old

soon stepped into a different gear, firing three birdies in a row on the 7th, 8th, and 9th to storm into a five-shot lead with Kjellker dropping two shots before the turn.

"It was definitely difficult," Krauter said. "I made a few more putts today and my ball striking all week has been really solid. That really helped me around this golf course."

Krauter would add birdies to her card on the 13th and 15th either side of a bogey, before the rookie extended her cushion to six shots coming down the last with a fabulous birdie on the signature 17th.

Despite three-putting the final hole, a bogey sealed Krauter's five-shot victory as she was met with a water shower from fellow Germans Leonie Harm, Polly Mack, Helen Tamy Kreuzer, and close friend Celine Herbin.

"I just started working with a mental this week and I think it's paid off, so thank you to her."

With the maiden win, Krauter, who has predominately played on the LPGA this season, secures her LET status for 2024 and 2025 and jumps to 38th in the Race to Costa del Sol.

"It means the world to me," the 23-year-old said, who also had to deal with having her driver shaft cracked on the flight over to India. "If



someone would have told me that I was going to win this week and have my LET card for sure next year, and wouldn't have had to go back to O-School, I wouldn't have believed them.

"I'm so excited to play on the LET next year!"

Home favourite Diksha Dagar ended the week in third on eight-under par after carding a round of 70 (-2).

## ALISON LEE CRUISES TO HISTORIC VICTORY AT ARAMCO TEAM SERIES - RIYADH

Alison Lee made more history at the Aramco Team Series presented by PIF - Riyadh as she fired a final round 65 (-7) to cruise to an eight-shot victory and break the 54-hole scoring record on the Ladies European Tour (LET).

Having etched her name into the record books with back-toback rounds of 61 (-11) on Friday and Saturday at Riyadh Golf Club, the American continued her relentless form carding seven birdies and dropping no shots to ease to a second LET title.

With a winning score of 29-under par, Lee crushes the previous record set by Scotland's Kylie Henry (-24, 2014 Ladies German Open) and equals the best overall tally set by France's Gwladys Nocera - a 72-hole score from the 2008 Goteborg Masters.

On top of that, Lee becomes the second player in history to win an LET tournament without dropping a single shot - Italy's Diana Luna recorded the other at the 2011 UniCredit Ladies German Open.

"It's surreal to think I played that well," Lee said. "Shooting 11-under, 11-under over the first two days, I've obviously never done that in my career. I'm really happy to be here!I feel like for three days I played really confident golf."

Starting the day six shots ahead of Spain's Carlota Ciganda, winning captain of the Team competition, the pair both got off to solid starts birdying the 3rd and 4th holes.

Things then got interesting when the Solheim Cup star eagled the 5th and birdied the 6th to reduce Lee's lead to three.

But a clutch birdie from Lee on the 7th followed by a bogey from Ciganda on the 8th quickly ended any sign of a dramatic



comeback, with the American able to cruise to victory on the back nine after making another birdie on the 9th.

Chasing the LET tournament record of 29-under par, Lee picked up birdies on the 11th, 13th, and 15th to stand on the brink of more history with three holes remaining.

Two pars on the 16th and 17th meant it all came down to the 18th - just at it had yesterday with Lee chasing down the 18-hole scoring record - but the 28-year-old's six-foot effort had too much pace as she settled for a par.

### MOOSMANN SECURES SECOND TOUR VICTORY IN SPAIN



Miracles happened for Switzerland's Elena Moosmann as she finally secured a win this season at the Santander Golf Tour-Zaragoza.

The Swiss star went into the final day one stroke behind England's Hannah Screen and emerged two strokes in front on nine-under-par to clinch her second victory on the LET Access Series.

It was a slow start for Moosmann who was two over par in the first three holes, but she came back fighting to card five birdies and one bogey and clinch victory, her first since winning the VP Bank Ladies Open 2019 as an amateur.

"It feels amazing, I still can't believe it happened. Today was amazing. I started slowly again like yesterday, but then I got in the game.

"Hannah played very well today too so it was nice to have a little fight. At times I didn't know where we were standing."

Moosmann has had a marvellous season, playing in 16 tournaments, she earned seven top ten finishes before this win and finished second on the Order of Merit with 1,954.62 points to win her LET card for the 2024 season.

"I've played well all season long so to finally



get it done means a lot."Getting the card was the goal for the season and to make that happen it's just the best. I couldn't be happier."

Moosmann's mum has been on the bag at a lot of tournaments but not this week and the Swisswoman was quick to thank her and others for supporting her this season.

"I think I will call my mum first. I also want to thank everyone who was on my side and LET Access for helping us players and always being there for us."

England's Hannah Screen was runner up with home favourite Spain's Marta Martin finishing solo third on five-under-par.

### **TEAM CIGANDA** VICTORIOUS IN RIYADH

Team Ciganda triumphed on a historic day at the Aramco Team Series presented by PIF - Riyadh as they recorded a final round of 22-under par to win by three shots.

Starting the day tied at the top with Team Law, Spain's Carlota Ciganda, Italy's Alessandra Fanali, Czechia's Sara Kouskova, and amateur Lujain Khalil all read the low scoring script firing 23 birdies and one eagle collectively to secure gold in Saudi Arabia.

"I think it's been a great two days", Ciganda said, who won the Aramco Team Series - Florida Individual competition in May. "The girls played amazing and we had a great amateur. She made the winning putt to help us go 41-under. I think we had fun and we were a real team the last two days. I'm more happy for the girls than for me, I just love team events."

Failing to gain a shot on the opening hole at Riyadh Golf Club, the quartet soon got things rolling going two-under on the 2nd hole thanks to birdies from Ciganda, Kouskova, and Khalil - the team's 17-year-old playing off a handicap of seven.

From then on Team Ciganda did not look back, making the turn in 11-under par to gain ground on Team Cheenglab and Team Alison Lee who made the biggest early moves on day two.

After gaining five shots in the next five holes, the turning point came on the 15th as Ciganda holed out from the bunker for a remarkable eagle to move her side one shot off the lead.

With momentum high, the team picked up four shots in their final three holes to secure victory on 43-under par, a record 36-hole score in the Aramco Team Series.

Fanali, who shares a college alumni with Ciganda (Arizona State University) said: "It was so much fun. Credit to Carlota, she fought for the team and was so good. We had so much fun, especially at the end.



On the last five holes there was a lot of good golf."

While Kouskova, who did not hit a golf ball until Friday due to back pain, added: "It's incredible. I'm having a hard time trying to soak it all in. Playing with a team like this, especially with Carlota leading, is essentially a dream come true. We had a blast and I think we were lost in the moment sinking birdies."

Team Alison Lee and Team Cheenglab ended the competition in a tie for second on 40-under par. Team Law finished one shot back in fourth position.

# **MEET THE 2023 LET ACCESS SERIES GRADUATES**

#### Six players have earnt their 2024 LET cards through the LET Access Series

The LET Access Series (LETAS) annually awards LET Tour membership to the top six players on the LETAS Order of Merit and the conclusion of the final event ushers in the 2023 graduating class. Sofie Kibsgaard Nielsen from Denmark, Elena Moosmann and Chiara Tamburlini from Switzerland and England's Emily Price, Hannah Screen and Gemma Clews will all play on the Ladies European Tour in 2024.

#### Meet the 2023 LET Access Series graduates :



Kibsgaard Nielsen has had a phenomenal

Kibsgaard Nielsen has had a phenomenal year on LETAS. It's been Danish domination since the start of the year as the 24-year-old has led the Order of Merit and Rookie of the Year rankings since the third tournament, the Flumserberg Ladies Open where she placed second.

The 2023 Rookie of the Year and Order of Merit winner was able to clinch her card after her third victory and is excited to be a member of the LET in 2024.

• LET Access Series wins: 2023 Montauban Ladies Open, 2023 Capio Ogon Trophy and the 2023 Lombardia Ladies Open.

• Kibsgaard Nielsen recorded three additional top-10 finishes in 2023, two of which were runner up positions and the other a top-five.

• This year, Kibsgaard Nielsen made two LET starts and finished top-50 and made the cut at the Lacoste Ladies Open de France.

• This season the Dane has had the lowest 54hole score to win at the Montauban Ladies Open with rounds of 68, 67 and 68 (-13)

Kibsgaard Nielsen on her fantastic year:

"My goal for the year was to get the card and now it is secure it feels amazing. At the end of the season, it was important for me to step up and not let go because I was safe. I'm very excited and look forward to next year, I think it's going to be fun and I'm ready for the challenge. To walk away as the leader of both rankings is just above what I expected. It's amazing."

#### ELENA MOOSMANN, SWITZERLAND



Moosmann has been a name to watch on the LET Access Series since 2019 when she won her home tournament, the VP Bank Ladies Open at just 17-years-old as an amateur. 2022 was Moosmann's first full season on the tour where she finished 18th on the Order of Merit after nine events and three top-10 finishes. This season, the 21-year-old returned to the tour with a fire in her belly and finished the season in style with a win at the final event, Santander Golf Tour-Zaragoza.

• LET Access Series wins: 2019 VP Bank Ladies Open, 2023 Santander Golf Tour-Zaragoza.

- Eight top 10 finishes this season, the highest number this season with five being top five positions.
- Moosmann played the most tournaments out of the top six- 17 events only missing one to play her home LET event.
- The youngest 2023 player to earn their card.
- LET Rookie for 2024.

Moosmann on winning her LET card: "It was my goal for the season and to make it happen is just the best. I couldn't be happier. I just want to thank everybody that was always on my side and LET Access for always helping us players out and being there for us."

## CHIARA TAMBURLINI, SWITZERLAND

Straight from finishing college in the US, Ole Miss Women's Golf alumni Tamburlini arrived at the tour back in June at the Amundi Czech Ladies Challenge as an amateur



and immediately made an impression by making six cuts in a row. Tamburlini then made the difficult but exciting decision to turn professional the night before the PGA Championship Gothenburg which the 24-year-old then incredibly went on to win.

#### Ladies on the Link

Since then, the Swiss woman has vaulted up the Order of Merit rankings and secured her card with another win at the 2023 Rose Ladies Open where on final day she went head-tohead with friend and fellow LETAS graduate Elena Moosmann.

 LET Access Series Wins: 2023 PGA Championship Gothenburg, 2023 Rose Ladies Open

• Six additional top 10 finishes, including two top five finishes.

• Highest winning margin at the PGA Championship Gothenburg (5 strokes).

• LET rookie for 2024.

On winning her card, Tamburlini said: "I've had my card secured for a couple of weeks but when I finally made the last putt, I knew it was real. I wanted to start crying because I was so happy. Words cannot describe how happy I am. It's been an emotional year; I was going to stay amateur for the rest of the year and not play the last two events in Spain because I didn't have invites. Now I'm a LETAS graduate it's hard to process."





Screen's year on LETAS has been a true Cinderella tale. The 23-year-old started the year with no status, category 18-LET Q School non-attendees. Screen arrived on tour at the third event, the Flumserberg Ladies Open as an invite and made an impression. The two events at Ramside Hall were a turning point for Screen as she put herself in contention for the win twice and finished eighth and third respectively. The Englishwoman was the final entry into the top six after finishing the season with a flourish. A win at the penultimate event and runner up position at the final, Santander Golf Tour- Zaragoza secured Screen her 2024 LET card.

• LET Access Series wins: 2023 Calatayud

#### Ladies Open

• An additional four top-10 finishes.

• LET rookie for 2024.

On receiving her card, Screen said: "If I look back it's incredible, I started the year begging the tour and promoters for invites. Now I have my LET card. It's been an amazing year and to finish the way I did is great. I want to say thanks to all my team. I'm so proud."



No one has had a longer battle to secure their LET card than Clews. In 2022, Clews had a strong season on LET Access Series recording eight top 10 finishes and was in contention for a card but missed the last cut and finished ninth. Disappointed but determined, the 29-year-old returned this season stronger and secured her first victory on tour at the Smorum Ladies Open in Denmark. It was a fight till the end to secure her card for Clews, who finished with two top five positions in the last two tournaments.

• LET Access Series wins: 2023 Smorum Ladies Open.

• Another four top 10 finishes including runner

#### EMILY PRICE, ENGLAND

Price has had an excellent rookie season on tour. The 24-year-old has been one to watch since the very first tournament, the Santander Golf Tour Girona where she lost out on the win in the memorable four-person play-off and finished runner up. Whilst Price was the most consistent player throughout the year and seemed to effortlessly make cut after cut, behind the scenes the Englishwoman was battling a back injury and bravely performed week after week. A win finally came at the Big Green Egg Swedish Open, a tournament which was cut to 18 holes after severe



up at the Amundi Czech Ladies Challenge.

• 16 top 10 finishes in total on tour.

Clews on earning LET membership: "It feels incredible, last year was tough and I had a bad finish to the year. I did something that was difficult at the time and I stayed and sprayed champagne on the girls that got their card. I said to myself that next year that will be me. I've worked hard and it's paid off.

"My highlight of the year was winning Denmark but also how I have handled the last three events and the situation compared to last year. I'm so proud of myself."

#### Swedish weather.

On securing her 2024 LET card, Price said: "To finish this year the way I have and to secure my LET card is a dream come true. I feel on top of the world and super excited to get the chance to play next year and see what I can do. LETAS has been a brilliant foundation and has prepared me well. I do believe I am better off for having started here."

• LET Access Series wins: 2023 Big Green Egg Swedish Open

- An additional seven top- 10 finishes including six top-five positions.
- LET rookie for 2024.





# JAGLAN TIED-28TH AND AUSSIE STUBBS WINS ASIA PACIFIC TITLE

India's Shaurya Bhattacharya and Yuvraj Singh scored the best rounds of even par 71 on the final day, but it was Shubham Jaglan (74) at Tied-28th place in the Asia-Pacific Championships in Melbourne.

aglan (74) at 14-over was Tied-28th place and Bhattacharya was Tied-31 and Yuvraj Singh (71) and Raghav Chugh (76) were Tied-36th. The 13-yearold Kartik Singh (77), who created a record by becoming the youngest player to make the cut at the AAC, finished T-57.

Meanwhile, Australia's Jasper Stubbs (69), who lives close to the venue, Royal Melbourne Golf Club, stunned Chinese duo Ding Wenyi (70) and Zheng Sampson Yunhe (75). The three were tied at 1-over 285 at the Par-71 Melbourne Golf Club.

In a three-man play-off Stubbs had two brilliant putts as Sampson exited first when the other two birdied. In the second play-off Stubbs parred after a superb first putt, while Ding Wenyi's putt hit the cup but did not fall.

Stubbs who hit the first tee shot of the Championships on Thursday also made the final putt to win the thrilling battle.

His win gave him an entry into two of the biggest Majors, the Augusta Masters in April, and the Open in July.

"Those two putts were just 'nuts', " said Stubbs, who holed a 20-foot downhill putt on the first extra hole for a birdie. Then on the second play-off hole he hit a 60-foot putt to within three inches for a par and won the title.

Stubbs was six shots behind the leader, Sampson, at the start of the day. He made two bogeys in the first six holes but rallied with four birdies in the last to shoot 2-under for the day. His total was 1-over 285 and Ding Wenyi joined him.

Playing in the last group, overnight leader Sampson shot 4-over but joined the play-off with a superb bunker shot that led to a par.

When Stubbs birdied the 18th on the first play-off hole, it was the first time anyone had birdied the hole on the final day. Both Stubbs and Ding Wenyi did it, but on the next Stubbs "Those two putts were just 'nuts', who holed a 20foot downhill putt on the first extra hole for a birdie.

**Jasper Stubbs** 

#### parred and Ding failed.

Stubbs is the fourth Australian winner of the Championship and follows Antonio Murdaca, who won at Royal Melbourne in 2014, as well as Curtis Luck, who won in South Korea in 2016 and Harrison Crowe, who won last year in Thailand.

**THE RYDER CUP** 



The Ryder Cup is a prestigious golf competition that is contested between teams of professional golfers from the United States and Europe. Established in 1927 and named after Samuel Ryder, an English businessman and golf enthusiast who donated the trophy, the tournament is held biennially with teams of 12 players from each side competing in various match-play formats.

olf historians will be quick to point out that even though the tournament began as a competition between the two superpowers- the US and Great Britain; 52 years later, the Ryder Cup format has expanded to include all of Europe. That brings us to the Ryder Cup tournament of today which is anticipated by golfers in an almost palpable electric atmosphere. The cup is replete with intense rivalry, sportsmanship, and passionate fans who wait with bated breath for famous shots and dramatic comebacks.

Speaking of passionate fans, my first Ryder Cup experience goes back to 1991 with fellow golfer and friend Atul Taunk. With DishTV being rare and expensive, I distinctly remember watching it at the Natraj Hotelone of Jamshedpur's oldest cinema halls. The tournament was held on Kiawah Island and it was while watching the tournament there that we struck common ground. Mesmerised by the course and admiring the players' techniques only made us dream bigger with each passing stroke. Since then, we eat, sleep and breathe sports with golf being the pivotal peg. After the latest Ryder Cup and the anomalies therein, Atul and I agreed that we are in the midst of a seismic shift in the golfing arena especially in its etiquette. When asked to contribute an article here no other topic seemed to fit the bill other than that of the declining golfing decorum. From basic foundational rules and regulations to crowds that would toe the line into almost uncontrollable throngs- this tournament can be considered one for the history books.

Over the last few years, there has been a steady decline in the etiquette aspect. Although most other professional associations have held steady in terms of the dress code; with clubs relaxing the rules to allow shorts on their courses- LIV Golf has permitted players to come onto the course in shorts. In the last few years across the world, we have



also seen shirts that are tilted more towards round-necked shirts! That is a far cry away from the prominent collared shirts, pants and shoes; the 'uniform' perse that one associates a golfer with. LIV Golf is steering towards being more modern however the traditional conduct is very clear- no matter the weather, golfers must adhere to the dress code.

While associations across the world appreciate the support with a huge fan following of their favourite players, the recent incident with Rory McIlroy and Joe 'Bones' LaCava left much to be desired. While it is fine to cheer your team and encourage them, berating and distracting the opponent that could cost them the game is frowned upon. Shining some light on the incident, LaCava was still hanging around waving his hat, while McIlroy was lining up his putt- an important stroke that can make or break your game. Despite being prompted to move, the combination of outrageous acts and an almost out-of-control gallery holds the potential to break a player's focus, and negatively impact their motivation

and will to win.

Golf etiquette is ageless and timeless. In a gentleman's game, much like cricket, there are rules of behavioural conduct, a strict dress code and a spirit of sportsmanship that is second to none. It is known to be a game that builds character, helps develop respect for fellow players, and, most importantly, teaches how to enjoy the game while adhering to safety regulations for all players, caddies and audiences. One could argue that these benefits hold for all sports which is why we push our children to take up a sportwhether individually or as part of a team. It is, therefore, entirely on the shoulders of professionals to set stellar examples for younger players keenly watching their every move.

At the root of any sport is passion- the passion that players exude reverberates in the crowds of fans that all cheer, gasp and clap as one rallying force behind their teams. The insurmountable pressure that players feel to perform at their best, the moment that wicket

falls, the ball soars into the stands, the most unlikely hole-in-one, the gut-wrenching pain of defeat or the exhilaration of the win: all culminate into a fantastic and unforgettable sporting experience.

Sports history is replete with moments- the good, bad and the ugly that still make their way into conversion today. In football, The "Hand of God" (1986) - Diego Maradona's infamous handball goal in a FIFA World Cup match between Argentina and England has divided opinions. If it was indeed his hand that made the goal, the right thing to do, the sportsman's spirit, should have compelled him to come clean, even if it cost Argentina the World Cup. The infamous "Headbutt Incident" Zinedine Zidane's headbutt on Marco Materazzi during the 2006 World Cup final, his last professional game, remains a memorable moment that leaves a bitter taste. In 2014, Luis Suárez, the Uruguayan striker, bit Italian defender Giorgio Chiellini during a World Cup match, leading to a lengthy ban and a smear on an otherwise stellar career. Chile and Italy upped the ante with a notoriously violent and ill-tempered match during the 1962 World Cup resulting in multiple injuries and red cards. The incident is referred to quite apathetically as the "The Battle of Santiago" as both teams left the 'battleground'. Sir Alex Ferguson's antics to benefit Manchester United leading them to contentious wins is colloquially called "The Fergie Time" as he manipulated the clock by adding injury time during crucial moments in the game.

The "Malice at the Palace" in 2004 was a black day marked on the calendar of any

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avid basketball fan. The animosity between the teams resulted in a brawl during an NBA game between the Indiana Pacers and Detroit Pistons that spilled into the stands. There is a fine line between passion and compassion. Trouble starts when the lines are blurred and leaves nothing but chaos and shame in its wake.

The list of bad behaviour, fines and penalties across countries, games and tournaments are countless. For as many infamous moments there are as many if not more exemplary instances where conduct and the spirit of sportsmanship have transcended the game itself.

During a particularly precarious time in the history of mankind, the 1930's were unequivocally contentious. Death, destruction, war and racism were all that generations of people knew, cared and talked about. The best parts of humanity hid in the most unlikely place and showed itself during the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Adolf Hitler

refused to shake the hand of the four-time gold medal winner Jesse Owens on account of his African-American ethnicity. Defying the Aryan narrative, his fellow athletes showcased sportsmanship by congratulating him and honouring the skill and talent he displayed on the tracks. Aside from Owen's exceptional skill, defying direct orders of racial prejudice takes a kind of bravery that was rare for its time.

In the 400m semi-final at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, British runner Derek Redmond tore his hamstring. Despite immense pain, he continued to finish the race, and his father rushed onto the track to support him. This act of determination and familial support exemplifies not just the Olympic spirit but that of commitment to one's craft that made the whole world stand up, take notice root and cheer for him.

Sports are known for bitter rivalries-Muhammad Ali vs Joe Frazier was one such feud which made their upcoming match



Speaking of passionate fans, my first Ryder Cup experience goes back to 1991 with fellow golfer and friend Atul Taunk. With DishTV being rare and expensive, I distinctly remember watching it at the Natraj Hotel- one of Jamshedpur's oldest cinema halls.

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known as the "Fight of the Century". Outside the ring, they both trash-talked each other during interviews claiming to be the best. Despite Ali's talent and tenacity, he lost to Joe Frazier. Even though it hurt his pride and ego, Ali rose above it all, congratulated Frazier and even praised him for the skill he showed in the ring. controversies that are as old as the game itself. In 1981, during a One Day International match between Australia and New Zealand, the Australian captain Greg Chappell instructed his brother Trevor to bowl the final ball underarm to prevent the Kiwi batsman from hitting a six to tie the game. Widespread criticism and a change in the rules shortly followed this ungentleman-like strategy

that forbade the 'Underarm Incident' from reoccurring.

In 2018, Australian cricketers Cameron Bancroft, Steve Smith, and David Warner were caught tampering with the ball during a Test match against South Africa. The incident led to suspensions and severe backlash from the cricketing community. During the 1932-1933 Ashes Series, the "Bodyline Series" found Australian batsmen at the receiving end of consistent balls that were delivered short-pitched and aimed at their bodies. Tensions were high as the teams kept playing but this instant too led the cricket community to rethink what the spirit of the game should be; a position we find ourselves in once again, years later.

During a Test match between India and Australia, a dispute arose between Indian player Harbhajan Singh and Australian all-rounder Andrew Symonds, leading to allegations of racial abuse later referred to as 'Monkey Gate'. The incident had significant

Cricket too has more than its share of

repercussions and strained relations between the two teams. In 2010, the "Spot-Fixing Scandal" saw several Pakistani cricketers. including Salman Butt, Mohammad Amir, and Mohammad Asif, involved in spotfixing during a Test match against England. The scandal resulted in bans and legal consequences.

A good story of rivalry would not be complete if we didn't include a chapter on an India vs Pakistan cricket match. Millions of people from both countries tune in and take wins and losses personally. One such game that comes to mind is the 1999 Test match against Pakistan when Indian spinner Anil Kumble took all 10 wickets in an innings. After the match, he acknowledged the respect and admiration he had for Pakistani players and their captain, Wasim Akram, displaying mutual sportsmanship.

During the 2003 Cricket World Cup semiwicketkeeper-batsman final. Australian Adam Gilchrist voluntarily left the crease after he edged the ball to the wicketkeeper, even though the umpire did not give him out. This act of honesty and sportsmanship earned him respect from cricket fans worldwide. Courtney Walsh displayed great sportsmanship by not running out the non-striker in the 1987 World Cup match that would have put the West Indies in the semi-finals.

Golf is a sport that places a strong emphasis on sportsmanship and etiquette. During the 1969 Ryder Cup, Jack Nicklaus conceded a twofoot putt that Tony could have missed. But instead, Jack chose to share the points instead of a possible outright win. This incident, endearingly called "The Concession" marked the first ever tie-match in the Ryder Cup history. The pair threw their arms around each other's shoulders in an outstanding show of

Golf is a sport that places a strong emphasis on sportsmanship and etiquette. During the 1969 Ryder Cup, Jack Nicklaus conceded a two-foot putt that Tony could have missed sportsmanship and Cup, Jack Nicklaus foot putt that Tony could have missed.



a deep sense of respect for one another and more importantly for the game.

The late Arnold Palmer, known as "The King," was not only a legendary golfer but also an ambassador for the sport, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Players, Tom Watson, Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, amongst many others are stalwarts that have all displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout their careers and emphasized the importance of respecting the game, its etiquette and fellow competitors.

During the intense competition of the 2016 Ryder Cup, Rory McIlroy and Patrick Reed engaged in a thrilling match. Their mutual respect and camaraderie, despite the fierce competition, were evident and personified the spirit of the tournament. Golf is a sport that values honesty, integrity, and respect for fellow competitors, and these moments highlight the importance of these virtues in the golfing world. We are, therefore, proud to present 'Fair Play' awards that recognize and encourage these virtues in tournaments conducted and played in the Jamshedpur circuits.

The examples cited above have left a lasting impact on sports history. Whether for the level of drama, the extent of damages and injuries, fines and penalties imposed they all have a common denominator i.e. that winning is important- by any means necessary. Dignity is a high cost to pay for a win and will always be controversial in the annals of history. But ask any good sportsman or woman, winning fair and square with one's grace intact is far more gratifying and sets a better example for those who will inherit future titles.

Another common thread is that for each breach of the sportsmen's spirit, there have been repercussions ranging in severity from fines to legal consequences.

This is what sets golf apart from other games. Some rules are unspoken but widely known and inherited from previous generations.

Global golf organizations have a zerotolerance policy for disruption or rulebreaking. Professional golf is also a mentorship program for younger players to emulate their role models. They should learn the right mannerisms, rules, regulations and protocols so that the Mcllroy-LaCava incident is never repeated and the standards of golf etiquette remain as high as it was when the game first began. Those who fill the gallery do not need to resort to booing or hissing to express their disdain towards players for their game or for the decisions they make concerning their careers. An increasing number of people make their disappointment known, especially towards those players who have left the PGA and joined LIV Golf. We hope to never see a day when international golfing associations install protocols in the form of penalties for players, caddies or the audience because of misbehaviour or malpractice. There never was one and nor should there be, after all, 'It is not the wins or losses that count in the end, but how you played the game that matters'.

Therefore, going back to the original thesis of the subject- the recent Ryder Cup is a cautionary tale that we must learn from. Do as gentlemen did before us and honour the dress code, equip yourself with the right kits and above all else, honour the game, and your opponent and respect their skill.

To conclude, I'd like to borrow from Rory McIlroy himself during an interview after winning the cup, fighting back tears poignantly said- "I needed that to fuel me today and not let it take away from what has been a great week. I felt like I used it to my advantage and came out with a different level of focus and determination and in a way, it gave the whole team a bit of fire in our bellies."

That, ladies and gentlemen, is the mark of an idyllic sportsman and role model.

# **YOUR FOUL WEATHER FRIENDS UNDERSTANDING THEIR VOCABULARY** By Randy O. Williams

ith all your years of shopping for foul weather apparel for golf and other outdoor activities, it really comes down to

understanding the glossary of the apparel industry as you try on new garments to take on Mother Nature.

You've heard them before, but it bears

repeating so here's a simple list of key words to keep in mind regarding some of the features one should be looking for in the marketplace:

- > mechanical stretch for freedom of movement
- > fabric that is lightweight and
- comfortable.
- > easily packable

- > machine washable
- > providing thermal support
- > waterproof guarantee
- > wind-blocking liner
- > detailed reinforcements
- wicking technology that absorbs and transports perspiration
- > seam-sealed

Zero Restriction's multi-functional jacket from . Summit Golf Brands is easily packable and waterproof. Machine washable, it features a fully lined hood, dual direction zippers and twoway entrance, gusseted flap pockets.







This wool Cortina hat from Dale of Norway is rib knit with skin soft merino wool on the inside. A timeless classic (first introduced at the 1956 Winter Olympics for the country's athletes), the yarn offers incredibly lightness and a unique, crisp look





This Moritz wool sweater from Dale of Norway is made from 100% skin soft merino wool. A long-time best-seller, it is made with an innovative Comfort knit technology, giving it a comfortable fit with a bit of stretch, in a double layer skin soft merino wool.



The men's Distillery Boot from Baffin is another example that all boots are not created equal. This Canadian company continues to innovate when it comes to keeping your feet warm and dry in inclement weather. Stylish and slip-resistant, the Distillery features therma-plush, a soft next-to-foot wicking layer for warmth along with form-fitting BTek-Foam lining for comfort.



Seam -sealed and waterproof, the Hydrolite X Rain Jacket from FootJoy offering four-way stretch are designed for warmer playing conditions with specifically placed knit panels in arms and back for increased movement and flexibility in the golf swing.

# 6~~~

#### Seam-sealed with

a gripper stretch waistband, FootJoy's Hydrolite rain pants are constructed from advanced technology-packed materials that deliver 100% waterproof, breathable protection for golfers in cool, windy and rainy conditions.

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Galway Bay's Roscam Hybrid Vest is very versatile and combines warmth and freedom of movement. With multiple pockets as well as an elastic waist fabric on both sides, providing a better fit and ensuring maximum comfort, add in its waterresistant fabric that repels wind and rain, you'll find yourself wearing this for a lot more than golf.



The Ornamore Hybrid Jacket from Galway Bay is designed with block insulation and works well for layering under a rain jacket or wearing on its own. It features an elastic waist fabric on the right and left sides, ensuring a better fit for all body types. Whether you're teeing off or going for a leisurely stroll, this jacket moves with you, providing unrestricted motion and comfort.



The Heatrub Move – The Zero Sweat golf BaseLayer shirt from Zerofit regulates temperature and wicking. The key to its popularity is its successful blend of polypropylene and polyurethane strategically placed on the underside of this base layer which promptly removes moisture from your skin and sends it outside the garment by way of capillary-like action.



Smartwool's Intraknit Merino Insulated Jacket provides packable warmth, breathability, and insulation. Smartwool's patented Intraknit technology keeps you moving with ease and comfort, even through higher-intensity activities. And a knit-in Durable Water Repellent helps protect you from the elements, so you can take on some lower temps with no fuss.

- > adaptable insulation
- > 100% merino wool
- > warmth without adding excessive bulk
- > breathable protection for golfers in cool,

Finally, pay close attention to the offerings of companies that have been successfully making foul weather apparel for a long time.

windy and rainy conditions.

Firms like Dale of Norway, Canada's Baffin and America's Smartwool have enjoyed great success because they emphasize listening to their customers and are constantly innovating.



The Merino Wool Half Zip Cable Knit Sweater from Romeo NYC is modern upgrade to the classic Aran sweater with a convenient halfzipper, a tailored collar and cuffs. Featuring the classic cable knit design and super-soft merino wool, this cozy pullover sweater combines modern detailing with timeless style.

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From the classy collections of Romeo NYC comes this Merino Wool Cable Knit Scarf. Made from 100% merino wool and available in four colors, it is meticulously made with hand-linked seams. A year-round staple this scarf provides insulation in the winter and moisture-wicking, cooling properties when the temperatures rise.

The Stratus Jacket from Sun Mountain is a world-class garment. The fabric was developed by Sun Mountain's Japanese partner specifically for use in hot, humid climates. It has a 20K/20K waterproof/ breathable rating, mechanical stretch for freedom of movement and is lightweight and comfortable. Additionally, it has a packable hood, plus front and back venting for added breathability as well as a two-year waterproof guarantee

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# GANGESH TURNS 70 IN STYLE

# On a Monday morning, more than 80 Golfers turned up at Jaypee Greens to celebrate Gangesh Khaitans 70th Birthday!

o stranger to Golf and Golf tournaments Gangesh is a Limca Book of record holder for representing India maximum number

of times internationally in Amateur golf events.

A meticulously planned event personally curated by him resulted in a memorable

day for the participants. Great company, Curated Menus, thoughtful pairing and a more than generous host were a recipe for a 'Perfect Golf' day.







A METICULOUSLY PLANNED EVENT PERSONALLY CURATED BY GANGESH RESULTED IN A MEMORABLE DAY FOR THE PARTICIPANTS.











# J&K OPEN PRESENTED BY J&K TOURISM RETURNED TO JAMMU ON OCTOBER 4

#### Prize Purse raised to Rs. 50 lakh

he Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), the official sanctioning body of professional golf in India, along with J&K Tourism, jointly held a press conference in Jammu on October 3 to kickstart the third edition of the J&K Open presented by **J&K Tourism** which was to be staged at the pristine **Jammu Tawi Golf Course** in Jammu, from October 4 - 7, 2023. The total prize purse for the event was enhanced to Rs. 50 lakh this year.

The tournament was supported by Presenting Partner J&K Tourism as well as Host Venue Jammu Tawi Golf Course.

The field at the tournament featured top Indian professionals namely Om Prakash Chouhan, Aman Raj, Akshay Sharma, Sachin Baisoya, Harshjeet Singh Sethie, Gaurav Pratap Singh, Karan Pratap Singh and Kshitij Naveed Kaul, to name a few.

The Chief Guest for the press conference on October 3 was Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Secretary, Tourism, J&K.

#### Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Secretary,

**Tourism, said,** "Any place that is famous around the world definitely has a facet of golf tourism in its realm. In today's date, golf tourism has made India a focus destination with world class facilities and Jammu and Kashmir is a very big contributing factor in this. This tournament, the J&K open is a defining tournament to enhance and promote golf tourism. There are world class players that participate at this event and each and every player will get an opportunity to experience the Dogri culture including its art and cuisine."

On October 4, the tournament was inaugurated at Jammu Tawi Golf Course with a ceremonial tee-off by Mr. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt. Governor Jammu & Kashmir.

On October 5, the new tournament trophy was unveiled at the Jammu Tawi Golf Course by Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Secretary, Tourism, J&K. The trophy depicted the Chenab Rail Bridge, the world's highest rail bridge, located in the Reasi District of Jammu & Kashmir.

Content Editor : Nikhil Kalaan, Media Manager, PGTI

*redica* 





(L - R) TATA Steel PGTI Ranking Leader Om Prakash Chouhan, Mr. Sachin Dev Singh, Addl Secy, Tourism, J&K, Mr. U S Mundy, CEO, PGTI, Mr. Manav Gupta, Secretary, Jammu Tawi GC, Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Secretary, Tourism, J&K, Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Special Secretary to Govt, J&K Tourism Dept, Ms. Sunaina Sharma Mehta, Jt Director, Tourism, Jammu & 2-time PGTI Winner Akshay Sharma, at the Press Conference



Chief Guest Mr. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt. Governor J&K, inaugurates the tournament with the Ceremonial Tee-Off







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# OM PRAKASH CHOUHAN'S ROCK-SOLID FINAL DAY EARNS HIM The TITLE AT J&K OPEN 2023 PRESENTED BY J&K TOURISM

### CHOUHAN BAGS SECOND WIN OF THE SEASON, EXTENDS LEAD IN TATA STEEL PGTI RANKING

m Prakash Chouhan of Mhow, Madhya Pradesh, produced a rocksolid final round performance of three-under 69 to come home the victor by three shots at a total of 11-under 277 at the Rs. 50 lakh J&K Open 2023 presented by J&K Tourism played at the Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC).

Chouhan (71-70-67-69), who picked up his second title of the season and a prize money cheque worth Rs. 7,50,000, further extended his lead in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking.

Chandigarh's Akshay Sharma (68-71-72-69) also posted a 69 on day four to finish runner-up at eight-under 280. Akshay thus registered his third consecutive top-3 finish.

Om Prakash Chouhan, the overnight leader by one shot, maintained his grip on the proceedings for the first half of the day having recorded three birdies till the 10th hole as he sank eight to 10 footers with relative ease.

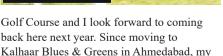
The 33-year-old Om Prakash, who has been based in Ahmedabad for the last couple of years, was in a spot of bother when he dropped a double-bogey after a three-putt on the 11th but he immediately got back in control with another 10-feet birdie conversion on the 12th. The bogey on the 16th also didn't affect Chouhan's round as he once again came roaring back with birdies on the last two holes including a 20feet conversion on the 17th.

Chouhan said, "Today I didn't try anything fancy and just focused on playing regulation golf. I thought, let the others try to catch up with me. Importantly, I didn't have any anxious moments because I made good comebacks every time I dropped shots. That helped me play with a relaxed mind.

"It was a delight to play at the Jammu Tawi









game has improved a lot." Runner-up Akshay Sharma's last round featured five birdies and two bogeys.











# HARYANA OPEN PRESENTED BY WONDER CEMENT Returns on PGTI Schedule After Long GAP

Tournament with prize purse of INR 1 crore teed-off at Panchkula Golf Club on October 25

he TATA Steel Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), the official sanctioning body for men's professional golf in India, staged the Haryana Open 2023 presented by Wonder Cement at the Panchkula Golf Club from October 25 – 28, 2023. The tournament carried a prize purse of INR 1 crore, the highest ever for an event at Panchkula.

The Haryana Open presented by Wonder Cement returned on the PGTI schedule after 12 years. The fifth edition of the event was supported by **Govt. of Haryana** and Host Venue **Panchkula Golf Club**, Presenting Partner **Wonder Cement Limited**, a cuttingedge cement manufacturing company, aiming to become a top player in the industry, as well as Associate Partner **TATA Hitachi** which provides world class construction equipment to address India's infrastructure and mining needs.

The event featured top Indian professionals such as TATA Steel PGTI Ranking leader and international winner Om Prakash Chouhan, other international winners Rashid Khan, Rahil Gangjee, Khalin Joshi, Tricity lad Yuvraj Singh Sandhu and Viraj Madappa as well as Olympian Udayan Mane and other prominent names Aman Raj and Honey Baisoya, to name a few. Defending champion Mithun Perera of Sri Lanka, who won the 2011 edition, also participated.

Mr. Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO, PGTI, said, "We thank Wonder Cement, TATA Hitachi, Govt. of Haryana and the Panchkula Golf Club (PGC) for extending their support to the event thereby facilitating the return of the Haryana Open on the PGTI schedule after 12 years. We look forward to a mutually beneficial association with our new event



partners Wonder Cement and TATA Hitachi. With an impressive field and handsome prize purse on offer we can expect to witness a pulsating week of golfing action in Panchkula."

**Mr. Vivek Patni - Director, Wonder Cement Limited**, said, "We are absolutely delighted to be associated with the PGTI as the Presenting Partner of the Haryana Open. This partnership is a wonderful opportunity for us to contribute to the promotion of Indian professional golf. We truly value our mutually beneficial collaboration with the PGTI and are eagerly looking forward to a highly successful event with India's top golfers showcasing their talent."

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**Col. A S Dhillon, GM, Panchkula Golf Club**, said, "We look forward to hosting the country's leading professionals at the highlyanticipated Haryana Open which returns to the Panchkula Golf Club (PGC) after a long gap. We have done our best to get the course in top shape for the tournament. We thank the Govt. of Haryana for their continued support."











# JAIRAJ SINGH SANDHU'S CONSISTENCY PAYS OFF AS HE CLINCHES MAIDEN TITLE AT HARYANA OPEN 2023 PRESENTED BY WONDER CEMENT

Tricity lad Jairaj prevails in playoff over Honey Baisoya

handigarh golfer Jairaj Singh Sandhu's consistency through the week paid off as he clinched his maiden title at the INR 1 crore Haryana Open 2023 presented by Wonder Cement played at the Panchkula Golf Club.

Jairaj (66-69-68-67), who was in the lead on the first two days before slipping to second place on day three, produced a flawless fiveunder 67 on day four before finally prevailing in a playoff to weather the storm called Honey Baisoya (68-70-66-66), who on his part shot the last day's best score of six-under 66.

Jairaj and seven-time winner Honey headed to the playoff after both players were tied at the top at a total of 18-under 270 at the end of the regulation 72 holes.

The tall and lanky left-hander Sandhu sank a five-footer for victory on the playoff hole to pick up a cheque worth INR 15 lakh that lifted him 31 spots from 44th to 13th position in the TATA Steel PGTI Ranking.

Jairaj thus became the fifth first-time winner on the PGTI this season, the other four being Sachin Baisoya, Karan Pratap Singh, Sunhit Bishnoi and Harshjeet Singh Sethie.

Jairaj Singh Sandhu, lying two shots off the



the Deline Li

Champion Jairaj singh Sandhu receives the Winner's cheque and trophy from Wir. Ritesh Sharma, Associate Vice President Wonder Cement Ltd. (2nd from left). The other dignitaries seen in the picture are Mr. Rajiv Sharma, Chief Engineer, HSVP (2nd from left), Col. A S Dhillon, GM, Panchkula Golf Club (extreme left) & Mr. U S Mundy, CEO, PGTI (extreme right)

lead in second place at the start of round four, made four birdies on the front-nine and came up with a quality up and down for his last birdie of the day on the 15th.

Honey Baisoya of the DLF Golf & Country Club, Gurugram, who sat in tied third, three off



the lead, at the start of the day, made a charge in round four as he was seven-under through 17 holes. Just when Baisoya was staring at victory he made a three-putt for bogey on the 18th. With Jairaj's par on the 18th, the match went into a playoff.

On the playoff hole (18th), Jairaj closed out the match with another steady par making a twoputt from 25 feet even as Honey made a second consecutive three-putt.

Twenty-six-year-old Jairaj Singh Sandhu, said, "Importantly, this week I achieved all the three goals that I had set for myself this season. I played in the leader group, shot a bogey-free round and won my first title. I hung in there through the week. I was in the top two positions from round one to round four and maintained the consistency in my game.

"While going into the playoff, I believed I could do it and backed my ability. It feels amazing to win in the presence of my family and friends here at Panchkula Golf Club which is like a second home course to me."













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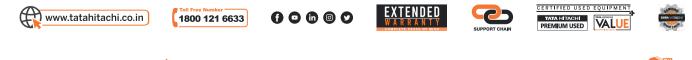
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