



PGF Newsletter

DECEMBER 2021



Message of President PGF

The past four years as President of Pakistan Golf Federation has been of immense satisfaction and fulfilment. I, along with my team of office bearers and members of the Executive Committee, have been able to give a shot in the arm to the golf scene in the country by instituting a number of new initiatives and improving upon the existing things.

Although Covid-19 has played a spoiler, still we were able to start a new tour for the second tier of Pros named as Jinnah Development Tour, started Inter-Club Competition to enable Clubs to lay emphasis on junior and ladies golf, Match Play Championship to break the monotony of stroke play events, to create interest in all level of players by starting Longest Drive Competition etc.

The Prize Money for pros has nearly been doubled. The number of teams going abroad has been increased. New policies for Pros including holding of annual Qualifying School and separating the Amateur Categories has been a feather in the cap of my team. A major happening in the amateur section was the capture of National Amateur title by a 16-year-old kid of Karachi Golf Club this year.

This history was created due to fruition of our policy where we have segregated the Amateur Categories. Few new professionals have also entered from the amateur ranks and started challenging and winning from the old horses in the pro circuit. Golf is a game of Rules & Regulations; unfortunately, we did not have qualified referees – today we have more than half a dozen Level 2 and a Level 3 referee qualified from R&A.

At the Pakistan Golf Federation, a number of important corporate steps have made it possible to override past shortcomings through proper and appropriate actions. We are now formally registered as Pakistan Golf Federation, accredited with Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy and also registered with FBR



as a non-profit organisation. This has saved us a considerable amount of money which otherwise was been deducted as taxes by the banks and others in our transactions.

This being our last Newsletter I want to thank my team of office bearers, members of the Executive Committee, all Associations and Golf Clubs for guiding and supporting me in our endeavors to develop Golf activities and its quality. I would admit that we were not able to start desired level of Coaching facilities in the country and also not getting a proper office for PGF. I am sure that the next Team of PGF that will be installed by end Nov 2021 will be able to take Golf in Pakistan to still higher levels.

Lt. Gen. Mian Hilal Hussain

We are back with the latest issue of PGF newsletter. These are exciting times for Pakistan golf with rapid progress on various fronts including juniors, ladies, amateurs and professionals. New golf courses of international standard are coming up in the country.

We have brought to you all the major happenings in the national golf scene along with an interview with President PGF Lt Gen Mian Hilal Hussain in which he talks about all the recent developments that have taken place in national golf.

Happy reading!

Sumeha Khalid
Editor, PGF Newsletter



Designed & Produced by
IDEAS Events PR

President Alvi Hopes Pakistan will Rise in World Golf

President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi, was the chief guest at the prize distribution ceremony of 47th Pakistan Open Golf Championship, held at Rawalpindi in 2020.

In his address to the guests and participants of the match he extolled the virtues of golf and appreciated PGF for development of the game and involving thousands of enthusiasts in various capacities with the game. He said that he himself was very fond of golf and found it a very fascinating game.

Congratulating the prize winners of the championship he said that, it required dedication and craze to achieve excellence in this game.

He said due to the immense passion, Pakistan produced world class hockey and squash players in the past despite lack of facilities and resources.



The president said the better facilities and good quality golf courses could also attract tourists as people travelled to Thailand and Dubai to enjoy the game.

Meanwhile, First Lady of the country graced the prize distribution ceremony of 4th PGF Amateur Ladies Golf Championship held at Lahore in 2020.

Ladies' teams from Thailand, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Qatar, Iran, Afghanistan and Malaysia, besides the hosts Pakistan participated.

The players from the guest countries were absolutely spell bound by the playing conditions at the admirable Defence Raya Golf Course.



Tours Abroad of Pakistan Teams/Individuals

S NO	CHAMPIONSHIP	DATE	COUNTRY	PARTICIPANTS
1	Qatar Open Amateur	24 – 27 Jan 18	Qatar	Zahid P Arbab (Manager) Ahmad Baig Zohaib Asif Taimoor Khan
2	Qatar Master	22 – 25 Feb 18	Qatar	Ahmad Baig
3	China Q School	Feb 2018	China	Hamza Taimur Amin
4	FALDO Grand Final Vietnam	1 – 3 Mar 18	Vietnam	Asad I A Khan (Manager) Ahmad Baig Muhammad Saqib Damil Ataullah Aania Farooq Humna Amjad
5	Sri Lanka Ladies Amateur	5 – 11 Mar 18	Sri Lanka	Dr Asma A Shami (Manager) Ghazala Yasmin Rimsha Ijaz
6	SINGHA Thailand Amateur	26 – 29 Apr 18	Thailand	Col Imtinan Kazmi (Manager) Ahmad Baig Ashiq Hussain
7	116th Malaysian Amateur	10 – 13 May 18	Malaysia	Brig Shahid W Rao (Manager) Taimoor Khan Ghazanfar Mahmood
8	Mission Hills Jack Nicklaus Junior	1 – 3 Jun 18	China	Cdr Ghazanfar Abbas (Manager) Junaid Irfan Hamza Shikoh Khan Omar Khalid
9	CIPUTRA World Junior Indonesia	5 – 8 Jun 18	Indonesia	Ms Zeenat Ayesha (Manager) Parkha Ijaz Humna Amjad
10	R& A Juniors, UK	16 – 18 Jul 18	UK	Damil Ataullah
11	HSBC Sri Lanka Juniors	1 – 2 Aug 18	Sri Lanka	Syed Asghar Shah (Manager) Muhammad Saqib Junaid Irfan Rimsha Ijaz Parkha Ijaz
12	18th Asian Games, Indonesia	19 – 24 Aug 18	Indonesia	Dr Ali Haider (Manager) Ahmad Baig Taimoor Khan
13	APGC (Juniors) Hong Kong	27 – 31 Aug 18	Hong Kong	Mrs Humera Khalid (Manager) Muhammad Saqib Parkha Ijaz
14	APGC (Invitations) Singapore	2 – 7 Oct 18	Singapore	Ghazanfar Mahmood Ahmad Baig
15	APGC (Seniors) Japan	16 – 19 Oct 18	Japan	Col Waqar Ahmed Col Rustam Ali Chatha Imran Ahmed Shahid Gulrez

16	FALDO - Europe Grand Final	24 – 29 Nov 18	Dubai	Brig Nayyar Afzal (Manager) Ahmad Baig
17	Bangladesh Amateur	15 – 19 Jan 2019	Bangladesh	Maj Arshad Mahmood (Manager) Ahmad Baig Syed Yashal Shah Aania Farooq Humna Amjad
18	R&A/MGA Level 2 Rule School Malaysia	4 – 25 Nov 2018	Malaysia	Maj Rao Ismail Omar Javaid Zia Minhaj Maqsood
19	Asian Tour Q School, Thailand	24 – 30 Dec 2018	Thailand	Matloob Ahmed Muhammad Ashfaq
20	Sri Lanka Amateur Open	19 – 24 Jan 2019	Sri Lanka	WC I N Khokhar (Manager) Zubair Hussain Ashiq Hussain Zaib un Nisa Sunyeha Osama
21	FALDO –Asia Grand Final	20 – 22 Mar 2019	Vietnam	Dr Asma Shami (Manager) Muhammad Arslan Muhammad Saqib Damil Attaullah Rimsha Ijaz Humna Amjad
22	Seminars – Rule of Handicapping/ Course Rating System	25 – 28 Mar 2019	Singapore	Dr Ali Haider Ahmed Jamil Siddiqi
23	Singha Thailand Ladies Amateur	14 – 16 May 2019	Thailand	Zeenat Ayesha (Manager) Aania Farooq Parkha Ijaz
24	Malaysian Amateur Open	20 – 23 Jun 2019	Malaysia	Col Asif Mehdi (Manager) Zohaib Asif
25	Saujana Amateur	25 – 27 Jun 2019	Malaysia	A Jamil Siddiqi (Manager) Ashiq Hussain Zubair Hussain
26	R&A Level 2 Rules	24 – 25 Aug 2019		Yasir Khokhar Muhammad Qasim Salman Abbasi
27	APGC (Juniors),	28 – 30 Aug 2019	Japan	Col Zahid Iqbal (Manager) Damil Attaullah Humna Amjad
28	APGC (Senior)	17 – 23 Nov 2019	Malaysia	Col Raja Asif Mehdi Col Rustam Ali Chatha Col Waqar Ahmed Col Muhammad Shafi Maj Shuaib ud Din Javed Ahmed
29	Rules Seminar Level II	21 – 23 Feb 2020	Singapore	Malik M Kamran Awan
30	R&A Level 3 Rules	4 – 7 Feb 2021	Scotland	Col Zahid Iqbal

COVID STARTED AND EVERYTHING CAME TO A HALT

Pakistan Golf has a very Bright Future: Gen Hilal

An interview with President PGF Lt Gen Mian Hilal Hussain

When Lt Gen Mian Muhammad Hilal Hussain took over as President of the Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) four years ago, he formed a team with the aim to devise a long-term plan to promote and develop the sport in the country.

Among the several objectives that were outlined following a thorough research, two of the tasks were placed at the top of the PGF priority list – juniors and ladies.

Less than four years later, anyone associated with Pakistan golf would agree that the country has achieved substantial progress on both fronts. Today more and more ladies are taking the sport seriously. Dozens of lady golfers feature in major tournaments as well as national-level contests that are arranged exclusively for female players. In recent years, young lady golfers like Lahore's Rimsha and Parkha Ijaz, Humna Amjad and Aania Farooq have established themselves as top class players.

On the junior front, too, PGF has achieved progress despite the fact that for the best part of the last two years, the Covid-19 pandemic has been playing spoilsport. One of the biggest success stories as far as junior players are concerned is that of Omar Khalid, who at 16 became the youngest ever National Champion of the country, when he won the 60th National Amateur Golf Championship of Pakistan in Karachi early this year.

"It is really heartening for me to see that our golf has been progressing at a rapid pace, especially among ladies and juniors," says Gen Hilal in an interview with the PGF Newsletter.

"Back in 2017, when we began our stint at PGF, it was decided to form a think-tank which should single out the factors which were weighing down our golf. The idea was to have a long hard look at the situation rather than taking any impulsive decisions.

"Part of the first six months after taking over as President was spent on understanding the challenges of our golf. It became quite clear to me that we are not producing good players because of a lack of proper structure. Players like Ahmed Baig, who has been doing so well in recent times, are self-made. He was not made by PGF. It became quite clear to me that we need to have a comprehensive strategy. That's why I sat down with my team to devise a proper strategy.

"Let's start with the professionals. We noticed that though our professional circuit, which as of today offers more than 50 million rupees in prize money annually, the money wasn't flowing down. The top players were earning the lion's share while the bottom ones weren't getting anything. Because of this many golfers were quitting golf as a profession.

"In the West they have tackled this by having separate tours for second tier players. We have done the same by launching the Jinnah Development Tour (JDT).



"Our decision to allow only true amateurs to play in the National Championship clicked," said Gen Hilal. "I mean we saw the 16-year-old Omar Khalid winning the national title. I'm sure that we will see more Omar Khalids succeeding in the future."

The top 40 players of the country cannot take part in it. We have asked all associations to stage one event each. The first event was held in Karachi. A player, M Imran, from Lahore won it. He was beaming and happy for his future when I met him soon after his win. Then we had the Punjab leg at the PAF Skyview Club in Lahore which was won by another player. More and more previously unsuccessful players are winning in JDT matches.

“Our JDT initiative has been a tremendous success and has been hailed by all.”

Along with the JDT, one of the biggest steps taken by PGF in recent times was its decision to segregate amateurs and semi-professionals.

Any golfer who earns his bread and butter through golf comes under the category of a professional. However, in Pakistan the golfing authorities in the past allowed players who were actually professionals to compete in amateur tournaments.

This finally changed last year when PGF decided to only allow pure amateurs to compete in amateur tournaments. The PGF asked the professional players, who were refusing to formally turn pro to move to the newly-introduced Jinnah Development Tour that was aimed at giving an opportunity to second-tier professionals to earn a living.

“We had been noticing that the Pakistan golf was suffering because professional players were competing and winning in amateur tournaments,” said Gen Hilal.

“There were professionals playing on the amateur circuit disguised as amateurs. Naturally an amateur seldom stands a chance of beating professionals so the pros were winning all the tournaments. It was discouraging both for existing players and newcomers. “We took a long, hard look at the situation and decided that something needed to be done to tackle this issue,” he said.

The PGF finally came to the conclusion that it needed to take a couple of important steps. The first one was to properly segregate amateurs and professionals on the basis of guidelines clearly provided by the Royal and Ancient (R&A) – the body that governs international golf rules.

Among the initial tournaments where this policy was implemented was the



country’s premier tournament – the 60th National Amateur Championship of Pakistan. Held at the Karachi Golf Club from December 31 to January 3, 2021, the National Amateurs was open to only true amateurs. History was made at the event when Omar Khalid became the youngest ever player to lift the coveted trophy.

“Our decision to allow only true amateurs to play in the National Championship clicked,” said Gen Hilal. “I mean we saw the 16-year-old Omar Khalid winning the national title. I’m sure that we will see more Omar Khalids succeeding in the future.”

Gen Hilal is confident that players like Omar, Pakistan No. 1 Umer Khokhar, Ralfay Raja, Qasim Khan, Salman Jahangir, Yashal Shah, Saim Shazli and Hamza Ghani have the potential to become world class players.

Among the various projects initiated by the PGF in recent years was the PGF Inter-Club Championship. So far two editions of the PGF Inter-Club championship have taken place in Lahore and Karachi.

“The idea behind the Inter-Club championship is to tempt the clubs to invest more in their players of all skills and ages. The thing is that golf clubs are under intense commercial pressure.

Continued on page 9

PGF Jinnah Development Tour Turns out to be Thumping Success

In 2018 PGF introduced a development tour for second tier golfers. It has since been named as Jinnah Development Tour. Every Association and PGF are supposed to conduct a match each during every golfing year. The field comprises of all the professional card holders (playing/reserve) less top 40 money winners and senior pros. It also includes all junior professional card holders (less than 21 years of age).

At the end of the year top 5 from this tour get exemption from appearing in PGF Q School and progress to main tour.

This step has helped in creating lot of interest in second tier golf professionals to work hard and try to earn as much as possible from this chance provided to them. Till now eight development tour events have taken place and given recognition as well as financial rewards to over seventy golf professionals of merit.

Some of the names previously unheard of but now well recognised for their champion like performances are Muhammed Imran (Defence Raya),



Haseeb ur Rehman (Islamabad), M Zulfiqar (DHA, Karachi), Ejaz Khan (PAF), Ahmed Baig (PAF), Rehan Haider (Islamabad) Zubair Hussain (PAF) and M Azam from Quetta.

These names belong to upcoming golf professionals who showed mastery and artistry that can be graded as spectacular during the Jinnah Development Tour Golf Competitions.

After the attainment of success these golfers are energised and practice with vehement intensity as they know that winning in the national open golf championships requires quality play.

It has to be highlighted that names appearing above are mainly of those capable ones who won titles at stake. Lurking at second and third slot positions are quite a few dexterous and competent ones who played under par rounds and failed to grab the titles at stake by a margin of one or two strokes.

For example, a proficient young one, Salman Akhter lost to M Azam in a sudden death playoff in the 3rd Punjab Development Tour Match in Lahore recently.

M. Azam of Quetta who was hardly known in professional golf circles achieved victory in this event by unveiling his golf playing skills and surprising his adversaries through a masterly effort, that fetched him victory and a cash prize of rupees 150,000.

For a golf player from Quetta this represents a breakthrough and good compensation for the hours and hours of practice put in.



Shabbir, Qasim win Match Play Titles

The Pakistan Golf Federation Match Play Golf Championship 2020 was a new addition to the golf calendar of Pakistan. This inaugural event was battled over five days by professionals and amateurs at the Royal Palm Golf Course at Lahore.

An event of national standing contested in the first two rounds on stroke play basis and thereafter the top 16 performers in professional category and top 16 in amateur category faced each other in match play bouts which led to eliminations and produced two unbeaten ones in Professional Section and two in Amateur Section. These unbeaten and elated ones were Muhammed Shabbir Iqbal (Islamabad) and M. Munir (Rawalpindi Golf Club) and in amateur race they were Qasim Ali Khan (Lahore Gymkhana) and Salman Jehangir also from Lahore Gymkhana and they faced each other in 36 holes encounter to decide the Match Play Champions of the year in their respective categories.

The final head-to-head match play contest between Shabbir Iqbal and M. Munir produced considerable interest and though expectations were that it will be hotly contested, somehow the dominant tilt remained in favour of Shabbir throughout the contest.

Virtually flawless in his approach Shabbir remained a likely winner as the battle of champions progressed. Through excellent hitting, crisp and accurate fairway shots and smooth and effective putting he kept the pressure on and ended victorious.

Best amateur in this match play battle turned out to be Qasim Ali Khan of Lahore Gymkhana. His final match against Salman Jehangir did not go the full stretch of 36 holes as Salman got hurt and conceded the final to Qasim Ali Khan after 18 holes. At the conclusion of the Championship, Lt Gen Muzammil Hussain HI (M), (Retd), Chairman WAPDA awarded prizes to the winners.



Pakistan Golf has a very Bright Future: Gen Hilal

Continued from page 7

They are primarily there to cater to the members and are not keen to receive players like ladies kids and seniors who demand concessions in green fees. But after the launch of the Inter-Club match, the clubs will go the extra mile to make sure that they have comprehensive teams with good players in all categories.”

The PGF has also launched Long Drive Contest hoping that this exciting event will attract more youngsters towards golf.

“This I must say is my own brainchild. A longest drive competition can help bring more people to golf. Golf is a tough game. It can reject you. There are no serious prizes for high-handicappers. You need to have a longest-drive competition to encourage young players including beginners. Such events are very popular in the West. They are

crowd-pulling events. We had long-drive events in Karachi, Lahore and in Peshawar during the National Amateurs in November.”

The PGF has also revived the PGF Match-Play championship and so far two editions of the event have taken place in Lahore.

Under Gen Hilal, PGF has also been helping various golf courses in Pakistan by providing them with much-needed equipment free of cost.

He is of the view that Pakistan golf needs corporate funding in order to start producing golfing stars in the future. He believes that over the years the support of the services has helped Pakistan golf tremendously.

“The three services are doing a lot for golf now. Pakistan Army is giving us all out support. The PAF has made a brand

new course in Lahore. That is a great addition. Pakistan Navy hosted the Asian Tour event in Karachi. All these are remarkable achievements. What is lacking is the support of corporate organisations. Wapda has been very helpful and I hope that more such bodies will come forward and support Pakistan golf.”

Gen Hilal said that during the last four years, PGF left no stone unturned in its bid to promote the game. “Pakistan golf is on the rise. It is growing. More and more youngsters are taking up the game, new courses are coming up. Two world class golf courses have been recently established in DHA Multan and Bahria Town Karachi. That’s a very positive sign, I’m confident that the game has a very bright future in Pakistan.”



LGG win PGF Inter-Club Trophy 2021

The inaugural edition of the PGF Inter Club Golf Tournament was contested at the resplendent Lahore Garrison Greens Golf Course over three days from 5th to 7th March 2021. Champion Clubs from all Associations apart from Balochistan participated. Lahore Garrison Golf Club from Punjab, Peshawar Golf Club from Khyber Phuktoonkhwa, Islamabad Golf Club from Federal Areas and DHA Golf Club, Karachi from Sindh participated.

This Inter Club Golf Championship represents an exciting initiative on the part of Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) as for the first time clubs have been involved in a battle of this category

where the participating teams comprise of two professional golfers, four amateur golfers, two junior professionals, two senior amateurs (above 55 years of age), two ladies in amateurs category, two junior boys (12 to 18 years) and two junior girls (12 to 21 years).

Team members add up to a total of sixteen and the mix truly represents all the members which generally play in any Golf Club. Primarily it is aimed at development of junior boys and girls at club level by giving incentive to clubs by winning the hefty amount of prize money.

At the conclusion of the three days Championship the laurels were won

by Lahore Garrison Golf Team.

Final team scores were 3096 for Lahore Garrison, 3411 for DHA, Karachi and 3413 for Islamabad Golf Club.

The Clubs which lagged behind did well in the established categories like Professionals and amateurs but could not get the required support from the other categories who were not as well prepared for this grand occasion.

At the conclusion of the Competition, President PGF Lt Gen Muhammed Hilal Hussain (Retd) distributed prizes to the winners and runners up in each category and handed over the Champion Club Trophy to Garrison Golf Club along with the winning cheque of one million rupees.

In his concluding remarks he said that, in the world there are 38,864 golf courses. Out of these USA has 16,752, Japan 3169, Canada 2633, UK 2270, Asia 6349 and Africa 932. Iran, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have just one. As for Pakistan, the number is 48. In spite of this small number PGF is striving to develop golf and produce players of excellence.

In this regard the holding of this Inter Club Golf Championship was an endeavour in the right direction as it impels golf clubs to build a nursery for the young ones.



Members of the PGF Executive Committee pose for a group photo with President PGF Lt Gen Mian Hilal Hussain after a meeting in Rawalpindi.

Inaugural PGF Coaching and Putting Competition

PGF holds golf coaching session for 230 U-12 girls and boys in Islamabad



The Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) in collaboration with Islamabad Police organised a Golf Clinic to introduce the game to youngsters who attended a summer camp held under the supervision of Pakistan Golf Federation.

At the conclusion of the event, Ms Zeenat Ayesha, Member Executive Committee PGF and Kamran Adil of Islamabad Police, distributed prizes to the kids who won in putting competition.

It was a memorable event for the 230 participating boys and girls and their ardent parents, who hoped that their children will continue playing golf and will go on to make a name for themselves in this wonderful sport.



Improvement in Policies

The Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) with an input from its Associations, Executive Committee and all stakeholders upgraded and improved upon various policies to conduct the matches more professionally, improve the quality of the game and keen participation by amateurs and other categories in golf competitions. Steps taken are briefly described below.

Professional Policy

- PGF Professional Policy and Centrally organized Qualifying School was introduced in 2016.
- All open matches are to have minimum of Rs 2 million as prize money. The total purse in a year is now over Rs 70 million.
- Introduction of a second tier known as Jinnah Development Tour in which top 45 ranked pros of the country cannot participate. This has kept the interest of second tier pros intact as now they can also look forward to make a living out of the game.

PRIZE MONEY TABLE

Category	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Professionals	41,693,221	58,691,440	32,899,625
Senior Professionals	7,318,000	10,972,901	6,675,215
Junior Professionals	2,466,000	3,863,748	2,949,875
Total Purse	51,477,221	73,528,089	42,524,715

Amateur Policy

- Amateur status of our amateurs was looked into and it revealed that majority of the top players were actually not amateurs and in fact were playing golf as a livelihood and earning money in one way or the other in violation of the R&A Amateur Status Rules.
- A deliberate study was carried out over two years and finally this anomaly was addressed. Separate categories were introduced which not only allowed upcoming youngsters from the caddy stream to learn golf up to a certain age and then transit to pro ranks. All those above 25 years of age and in violation as alluded above were not allowed to continue playing as amateurs. Majority of such good players turned pro and has started earning handsomely.
- This has encouraged the young real amateur players coming up and participating in tournaments as now they know they stand good chance to win prizes and enjoy the challenge of the game. Consequently, a 16-year-old won the National Amateur title last year.

Renaming from PGU to PGF

Pakistan Golf Federation was registered as Pakistan Golf Union (PGU) in 1960. Although we had changed it to PGF in early 80s but in fact it was still PGU in the Government documents. After a long-drawn-out process and painstaking effort, the name has been officially changed to Pakistan Golf Federation in 2019 in Government documents.

Registration in FBR as Non-Profit Organization (NPO)

Pakistan Golf Federation was not registered as a Tax Payer. With lot of efforts and necessary documentation now with the grace of God PGF has not only registered as a Tax Payer but as a Non-Profit Organization too. By registering in FBR PGF has saved approx. 1.8 million tax which was being paid earlier.

PGF Registered at Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP)

The PCP awards accreditation to non-profit organizations that demonstrate that they are a well-functioning organization having sound structures and systems to deliver services effectively and efficiently. Thereby Certified organizations are enabled to be known as risk free as they operate with reduced organizational risks and improved internal governance practices. PGF has been accredited with PCP and through this step its credibility stands certified and enhanced. This has been a major achievement by the PGF staff.



Play Under the Rules of Golf

PGF Officials attended the R&A Tournament Administration Rules Seminar in Scotland

PGF had taken initiative to develop Golf under the rules. To this end we were able to get seven Level II and one Level III qualified officials from R&A. Now PGF has a Tournament Administrator in the person of Col Zahid Iqbal who has been a great help in organising our tournaments.

He has also acted as an official in couple of European Tour Matches. One of the Level II officials of Pakistan has been invited to become Rules Official by Singapore Golf Association.



Col Zahid Iqbal



Muhammad Qasim



Maj Rao Ismail



Omar J Zia



Minhaj Maqsood



Malik Kamran



Salman Abbasi



M Yasir Khokhar



Ladies Golf on the Rise

In recent years golf in Pakistan has progressed by leaps and bounds and ladies golf is no exception. In fact ladies golf has been on top of the priority list of the Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) alongside juniors.

More and more ladies tournaments are being added to the national golf calendar. Some of them are part of the country's major championships while others are held exclusively for lady golfers.

It was quite a different story in the past when ladies events weren't given much importance. After staying low key for years, things finally started changing in 2016 when Gen Zaheer-Ul-Islam, the then President PGF, acceded to Dr Asma Shami's request to sanction the holding of an exclusive, annual ladies golf championship at the national level.

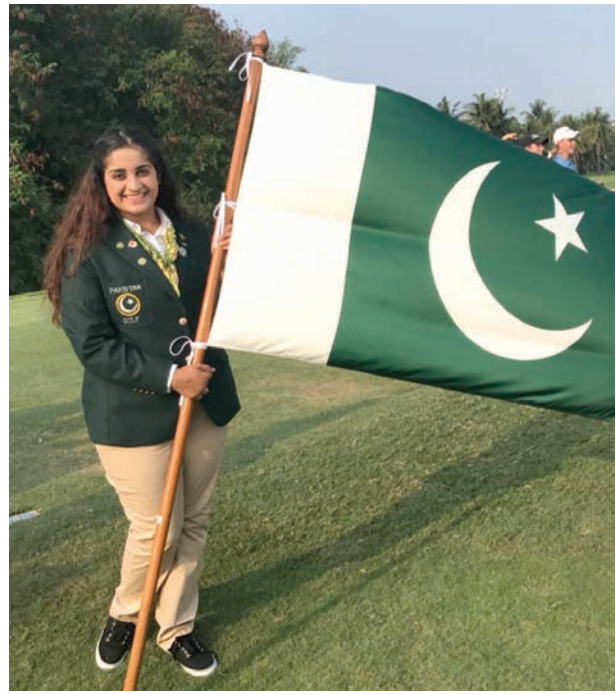




The idea was to rotate the National championship between the country's three major centres - Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad.

This proved to be a 'game changer' from which there has been no looking back. Since then, Dr Shami, along with the other two Lady Members of the PGF's Executive Committee, Ms Zeenat Ayesha and Mrs Humaira Khalid,





have been able to prevail upon the Punjab, Sindh, KPK and Federal Golf Associations to sanction similar Ladies Golf Championships in their respective domains.

Recently Baluchistan was also finally added to the list when 50 lady golfers from all over Pakistan travelled to Quetta to participate in the first ever Baluchistan Ladies Golf Championship held on 25-26 September 2021.

The step was hailed by Lt Gen Mian Hilal Hussain, who commented: "Taking Ladies golf to Baluchistan, that too in such numbers, has left most of us in awe."

The tournament itself was very hotly contested in which 45 ladies participated of whom 8 were single handicappers.





The age bracket of the golfers ranged from 9 (Daniah Irfan) to 76 years (Mrs Yasmeen Mubarik). As there was a tie between Rimsha Ejaz, handicap 2, (151) and Hamna Amjad, handicap 1.7, (151), Rimsha Ejaz was declared as the overall winner of the Championship on back count.

The real high point of this trip was the induction of 14 young sportswomen of Baluchistan into the fraternity of ladies golf.

They spent the day observing the players play and later hitting on the practising range and putting on the practise green under the supervision of the resident coach. Their interest in golf indicated their zeal and motivated the visiting lady golfers to facilitate them even further. Three ladies golf sets were donated by the visiting lady golfers to the Quetta Golf Club and placed there for the use of these newly registered golfers.



Parkha, Hamza, Ahmed Shine in PGF Longest Drive Contest

The 2020 PGF longest drive competition turned out to be a big success.

Again, this has been a new initiative to instill some fun and competition in hitting prowess. The Second PGF Long Drive Competition was held on 5th March 2021, participated by ladies, amateurs and professionals. Most of the participants were champions of merit and they managed to hit powerful drives.

In ladies' segment, Parkha Ijaz of Defence Raya was the champion with a distance of 297 yards.

Champion in amateur category was Hamza Zahid Khan of DHA Golf Club, Karachi. His driving distance was 363 yards.

Champion in Pro category was Ahmed Baig. His hitting distance was 372 yards.



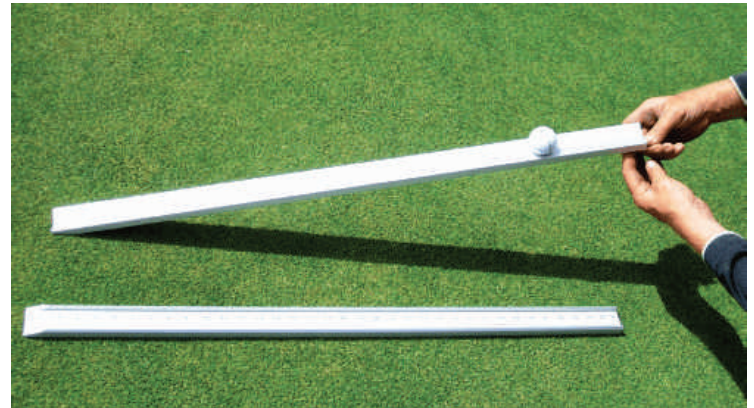
PGF Extends Helping Hand to Golf Courses

In a welcome initiative PGF provides equipment to golf courses

It was observed that our golf courses did not have standard and quality tools, flags, poles, hole cups etc. for greens. PGF decided to provide the above to most of the courses, especially those with less resources. Over three dozen golf courses we've provided imported Flag Poles, Flags, Sand Rakes, Hole Cups, Hole Cup Rings and Hole Diggers.

Those courses who organise most of the calendar matches were also provided with Stimp meters to monitor and maintain proper speed on the greens.

PGF has also procured and distributed Brush Cutters to all golf courses of the country at the scale of one per 9 holes.





Nizamuddin Faridulhaq™ group



FROM
**BUNKERS OF
PESHAWAR**
TO FAIRWAYS OF
KARACHI **CREEK,**



OUR TEAM OF
EXPERTS
AND EQUIPMENT
STOOD ON THEIR TOES
TO SERVE THE
NATION

HONDA

Thwaites

Trojan.
BATTERY COMPANY
Clean energy for life.

CARLISLE

**STANDARD
GOLF COMPANY**
EMPLOYEE OWNED

POGO
Superior strength | Better decisions | Healthier turf



www.nfhaq.com

021-35866198 | 021-32424129 | 0311-6342722 | 0311-6342755 | 0312-6342777