

# GOLFINGLY YOURS

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings and here's wishing you a happy Independence Day and a great year ahead. Amateur Golf in India has progressed rapidly in the past few years and Junior golf has been growing so fast that the IGU was pleased to start the zonal feeder tours to accommodate the expanding numbers. Skill levels on the national tours keep on improving such that the foremost players are turning professional while still in their teens! We are also seeing a dichotomy or sorts. On one hand we are always on our toes to nurture the next level of players, which ultimately increases depth in our ranks. On the other, medals may

not be won at every outing, as youngsters on the team have to go through the process of getting competition exposure on the big stage.

This is a call to all amateurs to hone your skills and play abroad at the best of courses against top competition—all at the cost of the IGU!

Golf, when compared to other sports, provides an extended window for competitive play. It is well known that golf is not just about physical ability and hand-eye coordination. To succeed in the game one also needs experience, maturity and the clever use of one's mental ability. This balance of mind and body is known to peak during the late 20s and early 30s of a player's age. So if a player postpones turning pro by a few years, nothing is lost. This is something all players, their parents, coaches and advisors should consider before taking the pro plunge.

A number of IGU initiatives have elevated standards enabling our players to leave their mark in most international events that they participate in. India has won the silver medal in the last two editions of the Asian Games and clinched the bronze at the 2011 Nomura Cup. Manu Gandas won the individual silver at the 2013 Asian Youth Games, Aditi Ashok claimed the Asia Pacific Cup at the 2014 Junior Open Championship and Tvesa Malik was crowned the 2014 Sri Lankan Ladies Amateur Champion.

Our men's team, with an average age of 20 comprises of Feroz Garewal, Manu Gandas, Udayan Mane and Samarth Dwivedi and the ladies team with an average age of 17, is composed of Gurbani Singh, Aditi Ashok and Astha Madan. Here's wishing our players all the very best for the Asian Games and the WATC.

Good luck and Godspeed.

**Raian Irani**

*President*



**ROLEX**

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### Director General's Message



The past couple of weeks have been hectic with preparations in full swing for the forthcoming events, the important ones being the Asian Games at Incheon, Korea and the World Amateur Team Championship in Japan. The players selected for the Asian Games, have recently had a good feel of the competition course in Korea. This exposure should do a world of good to build up their confidence level. We wish them a happy and successful outing.

I also take this opportunity to formally welcome Mr. Arun Singh as the new Director General of the Indian Golf Union who will be taking over on 1 September. I wish him a successful and satisfying innings ahead.

With this I will like to sign off, wishing the IGU every success in the years to come. It is has been a wonderful journey through the last five years and I feel privileged that I was part of this wonderful organisation, which is committed to promoting the game of golf in India and has succeeded in bringing it to a level where the Indian golfers are now a force to reckon with in Asia.

Cheers and God bless the IGU.

**Maj. Gen. A. Parmar (Retd.)**

## OBITER DICTA...

**M**y global perambulations, in the recent past took me to two Majors, The U.S Open at Pinehurst, U.S.A in June and The Open Championship at Hoylake, U.K in July.

Suffice to say that while the Americans run their event differently both were conducted in the highest of standards. Walking inside the ropes as a referee and watching the best of them best each other is an experience no money can buy. The icing on the cake was that for the first time there were two Indian Referees at The Open. Making her debut was Shalini Malik from Delhi and she recounts her experience at The Open. It has been a pleasure for me to recount both these experiences in this issue.



The teams have been selected for the WATC in September and the Asian Games in October. I will be officiating at the WATC and will be the Technical Delegate for Golf at the Asian Games and I will certainly keep a look out for our players.

In a first for our Newsletter, we have two well-known personalities contribute their bit. Sujith Somasunder, is one many of you will recognise as a former Indian cricket team opening batsman. He is a certified Mind Coach now and he writes about being in "the Zone". Shaili Chopra, is an award-winning journalist and host of the *Golfing Indian* show. She discusses issues of interest in the current scenario.

Kevin Barker writes about unpleasant lies on a golf course and how to deal with them.

"The story of life is quicker than the wink of an eye, the story of love is hello and goodbye... until we meet again". We say goodbye to Abhi Parmar, our DG, who hangs up his boots after a successful 5-year stint. Thank you Abhi, for the pillar of strength you have been for the IGU. Arun Singh, takes over as the DG and I am sure the entire golfing fraternity joins me in wishing him the very best in all his endeavors.

The IGU also takes this opportunity to wish Karun Taunk of Jamshedpur, the very best in his endeavours as he turns professional. Karun has been a great ambassador for the IGU and we look forward to his keeping the Indian flag, flying high.

India celebrates her 68th Independence Day and in the era of brand new governance, here's hoping happy times for all.

**Ishwar Achanta**

Email: [ishwar.achanta@indiangolfunion.org](mailto:ishwar.achanta@indiangolfunion.org)

### FAREWELL ABHI PARMAR

When I first met Abhi Parmar in 2009, the man's quiet demeanour left me wondering if this was what the IGU needed at a time when the IGU was looking for strong leadership. I could not have been proven more wrong when Abhi through the years has shown us that he is made of steel on the inside. His ability to defuse a potentially explosive situation with the calmness of a millpond has possibly been the single factor that has kept the diversity of the elected representatives of Indian Golf, together. The expression "an officer and gentleman" fits Abhi to the T! Having served the Nation for 4 decades in the Indian Army and thereafter serving Indian Golf for the next 5 years, Abhi you have done yourself, your family and our country proud. Farewell, my friend, Godspeed and good health. We take strength from Richard Bach's words, "Don't be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again after moments or a lifetime, is certain for those who are friends."

With grateful thanks,

**The Editor, GY**

For and on behalf of The President and Council Members of the IGU.



## FEATURES

### Playing in the “Zone” & 7 Keys to Entering One



The best score that any golfer has ever achieved in any official or unofficial competitive major golf event is 13 under. Two players who have achieved this are David Duval and Annika Sorenstam, who were both in the “zone”, that day.

Annika Sorenstam shared her deep desire and vision to shoot a perfect round, which

is 18 under or a score of 54. She said “I believe I can hit 18 greens, hit every fairway, and make one putt which is you know—Vision 54, which means you birdie every hole. That’s in the back of my mind. I want to putt better, chip better. That day when I hit 18 greens and one putt, I’ll know I’m a complete golfer.”

Will that ever happen? I’m not sure, but it’s possible when one is playing with supreme confidence and an invincible feel. A day like that is one when you can’t seem to put a foot wrong. You are so immersed in your game that you are oblivious to other players, distractions and the passage of time. Your swing seems so easy and effortless and the club an extension of yourself. You feel so much in control of your game and emotions. Only after the round do you realise that you played the best round of your life, and were “in the zone” or the Bubble as many would also call it.

The Zone is what most golfers aim for but is a rarity in golf. However, most golfers would have experienced the Zone even if it is briefly and for a few holes. It’s impossible to force yourself into the zone, but I believe you can create a mindset that helps you enter the zone more frequently. Let’s look at 7 Keys to entering the Zone. This will enable one to play better golf and achieve their lowest score ever.

- (1) **Develop Pure Belief in Self:** Supreme belief in your ability and that you can hit good shots are pre-conditions to playing well. Confidence develops from quality practice, past successes, trusting your skills and knowing that you are talented.
- (2) **Focus on Task:** The ability to totally focus on the job at hand is critical to peak performance in any sport. Many amateurs lose focus by thinking ahead (future) or thinking about what just happened (past). Know the performance cues you should focus on and be aware when you are not focused on them.
- (3) **Get Razor Sharp Focus:** Focused attention is another characteristic of playing in the zone. Your attention varies from broad to narrow, and you need both to play well.
- (4) **Rely on Sub-conscious mind:** The feeling of an automatic and effortless swing is another mental state associated with the zone. Trust your swing and your ability to produce the shot that is needed. Just envision your plan - the shape, type of shot and the target and swing freely and fearlessly and it just happens.
- (5) **Emotional Balance:** Most of the time golfers fight themselves on the golf course when they make mistakes. Golf requires a balanced emotional level.
- (6) **Clear Plan:** A clear plan leads to a decisive mind that is very important to entering the zone.
- (7) **Have Fun:** Golf is a game at the end of the day and it should bring joy.

*For more information call Sujith Somasundar on 9845211023 - Certified Mind Coach and a Certified High Performance Coach or write to [Sujithsom@gmail.com](mailto:Sujithsom@gmail.com)*

**Sujith Somasundar**

#### 2014 Level 1 IGU - R&A Rules School at Coimbatore Golf Club



14-year-old Drishti Karambaya scored 88% in the exam



Sonam Chugh scored a centum in the exam





## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Ladies Committee



The start of the new calendar year for the girls was with the Army Open at Delhi in April followed by the North Indian Open. At the Army Open, Amandeep Drall kept her nerve to win her first tournament, while veteran Gurbani Singh won the North India at her home club the DGC. This was followed by the Southern India which was won by

Raksha Phadke who is currently studying in USA.

The first Ladies Open at Mysore, the Mysore Open had the generous sponsors offering overwhelming hospitality to both the players and the accompanying parents with Astha Madan winning her maiden title here. The Southern leg was followed by the second stage of trials for the Asian Games, at DLF and Jaypee. In a nail-biting finish, Aditi who was in 5th position, played an amazing round of six under in the back nine to make the team. Gurbani who was leading with a margin of 17 strokes, over the next player was

joined by Astha, who continued her good form to make the team, with Amandeep making it as the reserve.

The Singapore Open which was held at the Orchid Country Club had Vrishali Sinha and Tvesa Malik representing India. Vrishali won the best Gross for Day 2 at 3 under and the best Gross in her category. The Indian Team tied at 2nd.

At the British Open Junior, Aditi did India proud by winning the Asia Pacific Trophy. Aditi and Feroz leave shortly for the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing.

Gauri Monga and Amandeep Drall, have been selected to represent India at the Malaysian Open from 12th to 14th August. A preparatory camp held at the Dream Park Golf Club, Korea, the venue of the Asian Games, has the players motivated and ready for the Asian Games. We wish them all the best and look forward to a medal in golf in the Youth Olympics as well as the Asian Games.

**Anuva Saurabh**

*Chairperson, Ladies Committee*

## FEATURES

### Shaili Speaks



It's that time of the year when I spend my summer dedicated to golf travels. I was recently at Abu Dhabi for the Golf Business Forum. Where business and golf come together, there the industry's top minds explore new opportunities, ideas, technology and innovations in the game.

It is an important milestone in ensuring that golf remains an evolving sport in the light of economic challenges, the cricket frontier and even the long format of the game. Interestingly enough, the confluence of business and golf makes it an even more exciting conference to be part of.

As a business journalist I have interviewed over three hundred global and Indian executives on what they learn from the game. But at this conference I am going to learn and know about how corporations are promoting the sport, how new technology and ideas help in popularising it and just what kind of new environment-friendly efforts are improving the cost-benefit analysis for the game. And this is not only important for professional but amateur golfers too.

There's another very curious discussion at the forum this time that promises to raise a few eyebrows among my Indian friends who believe golf is an old man's (or woman's) game. The 18-30 age group is actually reflecting a complete changed consumer behaviour, the kind that suggests that golf not only appeals to this age bracket but

also may depend on them to grow the sport across the world. I for one have long been an advocate of 'young golf'.

Just recently one of India's twenty-something Anirban Lahiri won the Indonesian Masters and played two Majors. Shiv Kapur finished in the top 25 at the US Open. These were amateurs once. They grabbed every opportunity and practised to be perfect. For those of us who have been crying hoarse about finding our own Tiger Woods, our own icons to help push the game, will only be too pleased to see the performances of young players like Lahiri, Gaganjeet Bhullar, Chikkarangappa and Rashid Khan.

The latter two, were fostered by a foundation that gave them golf clubs because they didn't have access or the funds to play the game. This is the real story of Indian golf. It's not elite. It's not pretentious. It's not about cigar-smoking big shots. It's about below-30 fire-in-their-belly golfers. These will be our icons.

If India is among the countries along with that promise to resurrect the game's economics, then we have to be a player in the part. I am only too happy to note that young cricketers are also taking to it in a big way.

I am most hopeful that as I represent India to discuss innovation in golf and explore the possibilities of growth in the sport, golf's future will pick the country as a demographic play. And that the promise of numbers will bring global names, sponsors, technology, innovation and attention to the sport in the country. Like in any idea, business will have to remain at the central of its growth.

**Shaili Chopra**



## RULES & REGULATIONS

R&A

### Hornets and More



Playing the second round of the Malaysian Open in April, Pablo Larrazabal ended up in a water hazard. Nothing remarkable about that, except it was Larrazabal HIMSELF that was in the water, not his ball.

Having just played out of a bunker, Larrazabal was walking along the fairway when he felt something on his nose. He swatted it away and was suddenly surrounded by a swarm of

angry hornets that proceeded to sting him repeatedly.

"They were three times the size of bees," Larrazabal said. "They were huge and like 30 or 40 of them started to attack me big time. I didn't know what to do. I've never been so scared." Hornet attacks have resulted in dozens of deaths in China in the last couple of years and so Larrazabal was right to be scared.

He sprinted down the fairway, threw down his score card, pulled off his shoes, tore off some of his clothes and dived into a lake for safety. Once he resurfaced he was treated by a doctor before resuming play...in new clothes. Remarkably he birdied the hole!

Where a player has physical problems, e.g. stings, bites and injuries, it is reasonable to allow him 10 or 15 minutes to recuperate but more time than that is generally inadvisable. Consideration needs to be given to all the other competitors in the field, not just the injured party, and if a player is unable to continue after a short break then he must withdraw.

Thankfully dangerous situations on the golf course are few and far between. However, golf is played outdoors, and wildlife cannot be avoided. If a player's ball comes to rest in a situation that is dangerous to the player, e.g. near a bees' nest, rattlesnake or territorial swans, it would be unreasonable to expect the player to play from such a dangerous situation and unfair to require the player to incur a penalty in seeking to avoid injury.

In equity (Rule 1-4), if the ball lies through the green, the player may, without penalty, drop a ball within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest spot not nearer the hole that is not dangerous and is not in a hazard and not on a putting green. That safe spot may be a few yards away, it may be twenty yards away; it really depends on the nature of the danger.

It is worth noting that unpleasant lies are a common occurrence which players must accept. So there is no relief from plants such as poison ivy, cacti, stinging nettles or prickly gorse as such conditions are not unusual. Remember, you have the option to deem your ball unplayable though...

#### Essentials

- It is reasonable to allow a player 10 or 15 minutes to recuperate from physical problems, such as hornet stings and injuries.
- A player is entitled to relief without penalty from a "dangerous" situation.
- Unpleasant lies such as poison ivy or stinging nettles, are not considered to be "dangerous" situations.

**Kevin Barker**

*Assistant Director of Rules, R&A Rules Ltd*

**Congratulations to our Council Member, Dilip Thomas for winning the British Senior Open Pro-Am at Royal Porthcawl**



Photo credit © ROLEX/Chris Turvey

L to R: Jean Noel Bioul of Rolex, Dilip Thomas, John Cook, American Professional and Arnaud Laborde of Rolex



## FEATURES

### At the 2014 Open Championships



Playing golf as a junior in India in the early nineties meant playing with the boys. It also meant little or no access to any information about women's golf in the rest of the world. Consequently, when we'd practice putting, the mantra that would go through our collective little heads was "this five footer is to win The Open Championship."

Needless to say, I never did get an opportunity to make that winning putt, but, as I grew up, the dream itself evolved. I stopped playing competitively and started refereeing. Now the Holy Grail was to be invited to referee at The Open.

I arrived at Hoylake on the Monday before the tournament and as I picked up my credentials, it took every bit of self-control I possessed to not awaken the ghosts of the stately Thornton Hall Hotel by shrieking giddily "I'm here! I'm here!"

An hour later, en route to the Royal Liverpool Golf Club, the enormity of where I was suddenly hit. I was thrilled to bits while at the same time felt like a complete interloper. Walking through the entrance gates of the club did nothing to ease the feeling. If anything, they were amplified. This was hallowed ground.

I made my way over to collect my uniform provided by Ralph Lauren, which was a sight for sore eyes.

I think my nervousness may still have been pretty evident at dinner because Chris Hilton (Chairman of the Rules Committee) took pity on me and invited me to join him on his course walk the next day. This proved to be absolutely invaluable and helped calm me down a little.

As we plodded and plotted our way down the fairways of the RLGC, I went through an amalgamation of emotions that were to be my best friends through the week. Absolute delight, incredulity, confidence and terror – all playing in a constant loop like elevator music.

To put the scale of The Open in perspective, the biggest events I'd worked on previously were the Avantha Masters in India followed closely by the Dubai Ladies Masters. There were, at most, a dozen rules officials working both. At the 143rd Open there were eighty-three. The number of spectators through the week exceeded two hundred thousand. The grandstand erected on the 18th green was so large that my brain could not visualize a TIO drop without the dropping zones provided.

Each group had one walking referee, one bunker raker (they are usually head greenskeepers from courses around the country), one

leaderboard carrier and one scorer. Marquee groups had a rules official walking as an observer and travelling marshals, who, as I discovered, are all from the military! More than three thousand men and women volunteered at the event. Many, like Ben the leaderboard carrier in my group, came from families that have a long history of working The Open. His father was a scoring supervisor and his mother was a scorer with another group. They had been doing this as a family for many years. What a great family tradition!

On day one, I (thankfully) went as an observer with Robby Ware from the US PGA as the referee. The observer's job is to walk ahead of the players, spot the ball and inform the referee of any potential rulings that may come up. It's also a great opportunity to watch and learn.

On day two I was flying solo. My group consisted of Matt Jones, Chris Wood and Bernd Wiesberger. I walked over to the first tee and introduced myself to the starter, the legendary Ivor Robson. As I waited for the players to arrive I looked up at the crowded grandstand surrounding the tee and I'm not embarrassed to say that I had goosebumps. I introduced myself to the players, held my breath as I fervently hoped that they would find the middle of the fairway and we were off. The nerves began to calm down after a couple of holes as I remembered that I do know how to do this. It is my profession and after twenty-five years of association with the game, it is now in my blood. I had a couple of gentle rulings (5-3 and 12-2 for those who want to know) and before I knew it I was shaking hands with the players at the 18th. I had just had my first experience of being an Open referee.

My learning curve at the Open soared. The opportunity to study just how the best in the world (players and officials) perform under pressure was fantastic. But if I were asked what the most treasurable experience of my week had been, I'd say without doubt that it was meeting the most wonderful people from all over the world. Some, I had the privilege of working with in the past, but most were strangers who very quickly became friends. The fact that I'm lucky enough to be a part of this tiny community of warm, affectionate, witty, eccentric, intelligent men and women who are united in their love for this noble game, was never lost on me.

Members of the Rules Committee that I interacted with went out of their way to make me feel welcome. I was a rookie – simultaneously anxious and dazzled. They all said the same thing to me – soak it up, enjoy it, you first time comes only once. I took that advice to heart and will remain forever indebted to the Indian Golf Union and the R&A for giving me an opportunity that was incomparable.

**Shalini Malik**  
*Open Championship Referee*





## FEATURES

### At the Land of the Royal Liverpudlians

The greatest and oldest spectacle on earth in the world of Golf, The Open Championship, unfolded at The Royal Liverpool Golf Club at Hoylake between July 17th and 20th, 2014.

#### For the 12th Time

Staged for the 12th time at Hoylake, after its first appearance in 1879, won by Harold Hilton, the RLGC has a hoary tradition. Past winners include the likes of Tiger Woods (2006), Robert De Vincenzo (1967), Peter Thomson (1956), Fred Daly (1947), Alf Padgham (1936), Bobby Jones (1930), Walter Hagan (1924), JH Taylor (1913), Arnaud Massy (1907) and Sandy Herd (1902).

#### Royal Patronage

There are just 64 golf clubs on this planet that have the “Royal” patronage. Royal Liverpool, founded in 1869 was granted Royal patronage by Prince Arthur, one of the sons of Queen Victoria, in 1871.

In India, the Royal Calcutta founded in 1829 (the oldest golf club in the world outside the British Isles) was granted Royal patronage by King George V in 1911.

#### The Wirral

Located in Merseyside, this is a beautiful part of North Western England. That the townspeople gave up their privacy to host the 143rd edition of The Open Championship is a testament to their undying support to the golfing world’s greatest spectacle.

The Wirral is the home to The Beatles, the famous Mersey Ferries (since 1330) and the Mersey Railway Tunnel, which is the world’s first underwater railway tunnel. An independent study commissioned by the R&A suggests that the economic effect for Wirral and Liverpool will be in the region of GBP 75 million. Little wonder that counties and clubs vie with each other to host these prestigious Championships!

#### Character of the Course

I was at Hoylake for the 2006 edition, which was playing shorter by 64 yards than the current 7312 yards. Legendary golf writer Bernard Darwin’s quote, “Hoylake, blown upon by mighty winds, breeder of mighty champions” is an apt rendition of the difference in character of the last two winners here.

While a number of 2 irons and hybrids were hit off the tee, there was plenty reward for using the driver. Tiger who won in 2006, took his driver out just once in 72 holes (to make a bogey), such were the tough conditions. Rory McIlroy just couldn’t stop hitting his driver and on day 2, on the par 4, 458 yard 17th, Rory hit his drive all of 395 yards!

I had the privilege of refereeing India’s Anirbhan Lahiri on Day 1 and while he was striking the ball magnificently, he shot a diffident 75 on



both days and unfortunately missed the cut. It was a great effort considering that he was battling body pain and a fever.

#### A Gracious Winner

That Rory McIlroy set aside personal and injury issues to fire a 17 under 271, to win by 3 shots from Rickie Fowler and Sergio Garcia is an achievement that deservedly, earned him the moniker “Champion Golfer of the Year”. His dedicating his win to his mother, Rosie was touching, as was his evident graciousness in acknowledging his peers.

#### An Historic First and a Proud Moment

Refereeing at The Open for a record 7th time, Hoylake was a historic first for Indian Golf. Joined by Shalini Malik of Delhi, making her debut, The Open, for the 1st time, saw two Indians officiate. At the presentation ceremony, the Referees are given a special place, just behind the podium. Standing there and soaking in the atmosphere is an experience no money can buy.

The 18th hole grand stand is a massive edifice at any Open Championship and the National flags of all the competitors find a prominent place there. Having our photograph taken with our tricolour in the background, was an incredibly proud moment and it reinforced my faith in all that is right with and in India!

**Ishwar Achanta**



## FEATURES

### A “Pinefull” Experience

Between 12-15th June, 2014 one of the four Majors in Golf, the U.S Open was held at the historic Pinehurst No. 2, golf course at Pinehurst, North Carolina. An outstandingly beautiful part of North America, this quaint village was a perfect setting for this great event, followed by the U.S Women’s Open.

#### Turtleback

Built in 1900, playing to a length of 7,565 yards off the black tees, the course is monstrously difficult. Lightning fast turtleback greens, which one wit said, “were designed to reject rather than accept golf balls”, made for some very interesting play.

#### A First For An Indian

Traditionally, the United States Golf Association (USGA), which owns the U.S Open, administers golf in the United States and Mexico and leaves the rest of the world to The R&A. In their effort to reach other National Associations, the IGU received an invite to be a part of the Rules Committee for the 2014 edition. It was an incredible privilege for me to be nominated as the 1st Indian to referee at this event.

#### All U.S Open Champs

As with the Major’s, every group has a Walking Rules Official assigned. On day 1, I was assigned to Shiv Kapur, Max Keiffer and Lian Wen Chong. On day 2, I was privileged to referee the marquee group of Retief Goosen, Geoff Ogilvy and Lucas Glover, the 2001, 2006 and 2009 U.S Open champs, respectively. On day 3, I was assigned to Jim Furyk, the 2003 champ and to watch these gents play golf from a few feet away was fantastic. That Shiv finished tied for 23rd, with rounds of 73, 70, 71 & 72 is incredible and will stand, this very fine gent whom I have had the pleasure of knowing since his amateur days, in very good stead.

#### Identify That Bunker

As part of the sustainable environment initiatives of global golf, Pinehurst had done away with the sprinkler systems on the edges of

the fairways. On TV, the course must have looked sandy and dry. Far from that, the fairways were well nourished and tapered towards the “native” areas on either side. As a result, the sides were sandy and when merging with the bunkers, it was difficult to determine the margins of the bunkers. All Rules officials were advised that when in doubt, rule that the ball was in the bunker!

#### Francis Ouimet and 001

At the historic Pinehurst Clubhouse, I was assigned a locker in the men’s room that was named after Francis Ouimet, the 1913 U.S Open champ and celebrated as America’s National Champion. For the golf aficionado, watch the movie “Greatest Game Ever Played”.

My accreditation for the event was an all access pass on a lanyard that had the number 001. While it had a nice ring to it, I certainly wasn’t the “number one” Rules official of the 2014 U.S Open!!

#### Fathers Day

Father’s Day on 15th June was special. I was assigned to referee, Americans, Daniel Berger and Fran Quinn. Daniel is an 18-year-old freshman from Florida State and shot a fantastic 4 under 66 which was the best round of day 4 and the 2nd best round of the event after winner, Martin Kaymer’s two 65s. His caddie came up to me and conspired to have his dad, Jay, get on his bag coming up the 18th. The look of unbridled joy of Daniel’s face on seeing his dad, their embrace and the rousing cheers from the crowd was an emotional moment. 49-year-old journeyman, Fran, had his 15-year-old son, Owen, on his bag all week and it was heart warming to see this duo in action.

The icing on the cake was the comment by, the President of the USGA, Tom O’Toole that the USGA were honored to have the breadth of the experience of the international officials to help run their flagship event”.

#### Ishwar Achanta





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## FEATURES

### Amateur Golf Championships

#### Tata Steel Southern India Amateur Golf Championship, Karnataka Golf Association, Bangalore, 17-20 June, 2014

One of the IGU events in the southern leg of the TATA STEEL Amateur Tour was conducted in one of the top golf courses in the country, the KGA, Bangalore, the Southern India Amateur Golf Championship. The event saw a total of 96 participants taking part in this championship.

The course was in the best of conditions with green speeds of approximately 9.5 on the stimp. The yardage set up for the championship was 7215.

The first day saw the Samarth Dwivedi fire 7 birdies but also had 3 bogeys to shoot a 4 under 68 at the end of Day 1. Viraj Madappa from Kolkata was trailing behind by 1 shot after shooting a 3 under 69. The national amateur champion for 2013 Paratap Atwal who has been playing consistent and phenomenal golf in past few months was trailing behind by 2 shots after shooting a 2 under 70.

The competition remained tough for Day 2 as well, where overnight leader Samarth Dwivedi did not step off the pedal by shooting 3 under 69 consisting of 6 birdies and 3 bogeys and extended his lead to 3 shots over Pratap who continued with his consistent play and once again shot a 2 under 70. Viraj Madappa and Pukhraj Singh Gill were tied 3rd after round 2 trailing Samarth by 5 shots.

A half way cut was applied at 16 over and 50 players made it through to play the final 2 days of this event.

The leader of the championship Samarth was in no mood to give up his lead after shooting a brilliant 2 under 70 making it three consecutive rounds of under par scores. The lowest score for the day was shot by India's No. 1 Amateur, Udayan Mane who shot a 4 under 68 and climbing up 5 positions after round 3 and lying 4th in the score sheet. Samarth extended his lead to 7 shots and was comfortably placed for the final round of the championship.

The leader group on final day was formed by Samarth Dwivedi, Viraj Madappa and Pratap Atwal. As expected it was a thrilling finish to the championship, with Samarth Dwivedi feeling the pressure from Viraj and Pratap on the final day. Pratap got the lead of 7 shots after the end of day 3 down to just one shot after the first 8 holes on the final day as Samarth lost track as he had one triple bogey and 2 bogeys in the front nine. Pratap could not keep the pressure on after the cross over and Samarth maintained his cool and was looking confident in the back nine winning the championship by 4 shots to Pratap.

#### 2014 NR Group IGU Karnataka Ladies Amateur Golf Championship, 08-10 June 2014, JWGC, Mysore



An IGU Ladies Amateur event was played for the first time in one of the most scenic golf courses the players have played on, the JWGC, Mysore. Part of the course is situated inside a race track and surrounded by mountains. The course was in perfect condition and the club management did everything possible to up keep the course in championship conditions.

The course was playing to a yardage of 6,096 being the ideal length for the girls to play the championship. The conditions were tough with heavy winds and light rains making it extremely difficult for the players to compete. The tournament saw a record number of 65 girls playing the event.

The first day saw India's No.1 Junior girl player, Aditi Ashok, and one of the top amateur players in the country, Astha Madan being tied for 1st position after bringing in cards of 3 over 70 which were also the best cards in the toughest playing conditions the girls played in 2014. Trailing behind by a shot were Amandeep Drall and Arushi Pandey who both shot 4 over 74.

The conditions became tough on first day as there was gusting winds in the morning but one of the leaders, Astha improved her score in round 2 shooting a level par 70. Amandeep Drall was trailing by 3 shots after shooting 2 over 70. Overnight leader Aditi and Vrishali Sinha were trailing in 3rd position after bringing in cards of 6 and 3 over respectively.

Final day was no surprise as Astha played some consistent and a beautiful round of golf and won the NR Group IGU Karnataka Ladies Championship by 5 shots. The excitement was for the Runners-up position where there was a tie between Aditi Ashok and Vrishali Sinha. After the playoff of 2 holes, Aditi brining in her experience held her nerves to win the play off over Vrishali and taking the Runners-up trophy.

**Tusshar Malhotra**

*Assistant Director, Golf Operations*







## MERIT LIST

Gentlemen	Ladies	A&B Category Jr Girls	A&B Category Jr Boys	B Category - Boys
1. Udayan Mane	1. Gurbani Singh	1. Aditi Ashok	1. Feroz Singh Garewal	1. Kartik Sharma
2. Simarjeet Singh	2. Aditi Ashok	2. Ridhima Dilawari	2. Viraj Madappa	2. Sarthak Chibber
3. Pratap Atwal	3. Gauri Monga	3. Vrishali Sinha	3. Shubham Narain	3. Karan Pratap Singh
4. Samarth Dwivedi	4. Ridhima Dilawari	4. Seher Atwal	4. Pukhraj Singh Gill	4. Pratheek Nagaprasad
5. Aman Raj	5. Astha Madan	5. Gaurika Bishnoi	5. Varun Parikh	5. Kshitij Naved Kaul
6. Arjun Sharma	6. Vrishali Sinha	6. Vidushi Sinha	6. Karandeep Kochhar	6. Ranveer Grewal
7. Vikram Rana	7. Millie Saroha	7. Siddhi Kapoor	7. Arjun Prasad	7. Sunhit Bishnoi
8. Syed Saqib Ahmed	8. Seher Atwal	8. Nistha Madan	8. Mohan Sardar	8. Aadil Bedi
9. Trishul Chinnappa	9. Amandeep Drall	9. Suchitra Ramesh	9. Kartik Sharma	9. Bhav Sharma
10. Viraj Madappa	10. Tvesa Malik	10. Trisha Sunil	10. Piyush Sangwan	10. Yuvraj Singh

				
Udayan Mane	Gurbani Singh	Aditi Ashok	Feroz Singh Garewal	Kartik Sharma

### Indian Golf Team

The IGU is pleased to announce the Indian Golf Team for the 17th Asian Games at Incheon, Korea from 25-28 Sept, 2014 and the 2014 World Amateur Golf Team Championship in Japan from 01-14 September 2014.



#### 2014 Asian Games:

##### Men's Team

Feroz Garewal  
Udayan Mane  
Samarth Dwivedi  
Manu Gandas

##### Women's Team

Gurbani Singh  
Aditi Ashok  
Astha Madan



#### 2014 World Amateur Golf Team Championships (Eisenhower Cup & Espirito Santo Trophy)

##### Men's Team

Feroz Garewal  
Udayan Mane  
Manu Gandas

##### Women's Team

Gurbani Singh  
Aditi Ashok  
Astha Madan



Eisenhower Cup

### STOP PRESS



Rory McIlroy wins his second Major of the year, the PGA Championships at Valhalla, August 10, 2014

### The World Amateur Golf Rankings - August 2014

This	Last	Player	Country	Points avg.
1	1	Oliver Schniederjans	USA	1372.64
2	2	Robby Shelton	USA	1278.57
3	3	Chang-woo Lee	Korea	1246.30
4	4	Scottie Scheffler	USA	1213.89
5	5	Renato Paratore	Italy	1203.23
6	56	Doug Ghim	USA	1196.22
7	8	Guillermo Pereira	Chile	1187.70
8	6	Bradley Neil	Scotland	1185.79
9	16	Brian Campbell	USA	1185.03
10	7	Scott Vincent	Zimbabwe	1175.55





The Indian Golf Union

*Launches*

## NATIONAL HANDICAPPING SERVICE

The IGU's National Handicapping Service (NHS) is open to all golfers in India, whether they are members of golf clubs or not and is based on the USGA's GHIN software used in over 60 countries. **Online registration, submission of score-cards and handicap verification** will usher in a new era of convenience, transparency and consistency for Indian golfers which is at par with similar services offered by other national governing bodies of golf across the world.

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