

A Playoff Win For Puneet Kaur Bajwa In Panchkula



Puneet Kaur Bajwa of Punjab shot 71-73-70 to tie Zara Anand of U.P. 69-67-78 at 2-under 214 and force a playoff, where she emerged victorious on the first extra hole of the IGU's Haryana Ladies & Junior Girls Golf Championship at Panchkula Golf Club on Friday.

Bajwa's exceptional performance in the final round, despite trailing Anand by seven strokes, was highlighted by a score of 2-under 70, which included seven birdies, five of which were on the front nine. Notably, her birdie streak from holes 5 to 8 helped her catch up to the lead and enter a playoff against Anand, which she won with a birdie on the first extra hole.

Zara Anand, a student at Shiv Nadar School in Noida, went on to win by a massive 13-stroke margin in the girls B category and by six strokes in girls A and B combined. In Category C Girls, Shambhavi

Chaturvedi shot 78-81-75 (18-over 234) to win by a stroke over Guntas Kaur Sandhu, 84-71-80 (19-over 235).

Heena Kang of Haryana carded 75-68-72 (1-under 215) to finish runners-up in the ladies category.

The par-72, 6,146-yards, Panchkula Golf Course proved to be a challenging course for the young golfers, with only three out of 62 girls scoring under par over the three day tournament.

Bajwa, who is a student at Ryan International School in Chandigarh, has already been signed by Old Dominion University in Virginia, USA, she will begin playing golf for them this August.

Over the past three years, Bajwa has posted multiple Top-10 finishes on the Indian Golf Union circuit. She finished as a semifinalist at the IGU All-India Amateur Golf Championship in Bombay in 2019. In 2021, she registered a fourth-place finish in the fourth leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour in April, followed by a runner-up finish in the 10th leg of the tour in October. In December 2021, Bajwa secured a second-place finish at the IGU All-India Junior and Sub-Junior Golf Championship.

In 2022, Bajwa finished as the runners-up at the Eastern India Ladies & Junior Girls Championship in May, and later in October, she secured a fourth-place finish at the National Games held at Kensville Golf & Country Club in Ahmedabad. Bajwa's consistent performances and dedication to the sport promise a bright future for her in the golfing world

The Indian Golf Union will now head to Kolkata, where 53 golfers—28 men and 25 women—have been invited for the Asian Games trials scheduled for April 24-27, from which one male and two female golfers will qualify to join the Indian team from September 28–Oct. 1 at West Lake Golf Course in Hangzhou, China.

Results -

Ladies -

Winner - Puneet Kaur Bajwa - 71-73-70 (2-under 214)

Runner-Up - Heena Kang - 75-68-72 (1-under 215)

A Girls -

Winner - Zara Anand - 69-67-78 (2-under 214)

Runner-Up - Anvitha Narender - 72-75-73 (4-over 220)

B Girls -

Winner - Zara Anand - 69-67-78 (2-under 214)

Runner-Up - Saanvi Somu - 77-75-75 (11-over 227)

A Girls, B Girls and Ladies Combined -

Winner - Puneet Kaur Bajwa - 71-73-70 (2-under 214)

Runner-Up - Zara Anand - 69-67-78 (2-under 214)

C Girls -

Winner - Shambhavi Chaturvedi - 78-81-75 (18-over 234)

Runner-Up - Guntas Kaur Sandhu - 84-71-80 (19-over 235)