

GOLFINGLY YOURS



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Fourth Quarter

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Anupama Singh

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Golf in India has come a long way in the past decade. It may not be wrong to say that the signature of the Indian Golfer on the international map is quite distinctly visible now! Our Amateurs have done us proud by giving us many podium finishes this year and I am certain that the impetus being given by the IGU will improve their achievements further in the coming years. I must congratulate all our teams who have brought laurels to the nation with their fine performance starting with the Men winning the coveted Team, Silver Medal, at the 2010 Asian Games, in a highly competitive field.

The Indian Golf Union has launched many initiatives this year with the primary objective of helping our member clubs in improving the upkeep of the golf courses and making available a larger field of trained and competent individuals for Course Rating and as Rules officials. I must thank our Council Members for their untiring efforts and support in making all this possible.

The *Golfingly Yours* newsletter is being revived after a gap of a few years. I am sure under the able guidance of the Editorial Board, it will provide excellent reading to all with a quarterly summary of all that is happening in the IGU and golf in India.

I wish *Golfingly Yours* every success in the times to come.

Rohit Amin
President, IGU
 2010-2011


*The President, Council and Secretariat
 of the Indian Golf Union
 wishes all its members, constituents, partners and patrons
 a very happy Diwali
 and extends its best wishes
 for a very happy and prosperous 2012.*


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Tusshar Malhotra
Assistant Director, Golf Operations

Alan Singh
National High Performance Manager

C.S. Shetty
Tournament Director

Director General's Message

It is indeed a happy moment for the *Golfingly Yours* (GY) to be back in circulation after a gap of three years. While a lot is happening in Indian amateur golf, the IGU has taken great strides, in these past three years, to make that happen. The IGU is committed to bringing Indian golf at par with the best in the field. We already have IGU representation in various international golf organizations. The players are regularly hitting the podium with impressive results making us and the country proud. *Golfingly Yours* will now come back to you, at regular intervals with all the IGU news updates. Let us wish the new, fresh look GY, a great new innings!

Maj. Gen. A. Parmar, VSM (Retd.)

Secretariat Update

The IGU Secretariat has recently been expanded and has now a Director General, Secretary and Director Golf Operations and an Asst. Tournament Director. In addition there is a dedicated Tournament Director who is responsible for conducting the national golf tours. Mr Alan Singh, the National High Performance Manager, assists the Secretariat in running the National Squad Training Program.

In addition to the normal official activities involved in running a Sports Federation Office, the Secretariat is primarily responsible for planning and conduct of national tours, conducting various national and international IGU Programs, obtaining government sanctions and maintaining liaison with foreign federations.

OBITER DICTA...



This newsletter was, in the past, managed by *Golf Digest* for us and the IGU thanks all those involved for having put it together. After a hiatus, we are back, this time, edited and produced in-house!

The evolution of the game of golf in India has been mercurial to say the least!! Despite having in our ranks, the oldest golf club outside of the U.K, in Royal Calcutta, established in 1829, the growth has been unsatisfactory. Consider this, India has only 240 or so golf courses and around 100,000 golfers while in China, where the first golf course was built post 1982, KPMG

forecasts 1.3 million golfers playing in 2000 golf courses!

Golf is indeed a multifaceted game, encompassing real estate, tourism, apparel, accessories and equipment. A Stanford report, states that the U.S golf economy was valued at USD 275 billion, including direct and indirect revenues.

It is estimated that there are around 300,000 professionals worldwide. Out of this, again, rough estimates put the number of playing pros at about 3000. This is but a miniscule 0.005 per cent of all golfers worldwide. Our 100,000 golfers are split equally between real estate and non-real estate golfers with a smattering of professional golfers. There are around 300 amateurs and juniors and just 10% of these amateurs actually make the international grade, at some level or the other. Given this very lopsided equation, the world beaters and champions for India must come from the amateur ranks. Year 2020 is a realistic, Olympic target for us to work with amateur golfers and make medal winning a certainty.

The IGU's stated objective is to play a central, pivotal role around the development of golf in the country while working closely with various stakeholders to develop their chosen area of expertise. The urgency is for us to expand the games footprint in India. There needs to be a five pronged, systemic approach to this.

Firstly, the number of people playing the game needs to be exponentially multiplied. We hope to reach a half million footprint with our most ambitious project, ever, the National Centralized Handicapping System, using the proprietary, USGA software called GHIN.

Secondly, these vast numbers will need quality coaching. Much as our National Golf Academy of India is a fine example of setting coaching standards, we have just 20, A-category coaches as teaching staff. A very structured program of spotting, grading and training coaches in the D, C, B & A categories is underway.

Thirdly, the IGU's Junior Development Program has been restructured, on the advice of Dominic Wall, now with the R&A. The IGU's South Zone Golf Tour is a model that needs to be replicated. The key to it is a structured and methodical process, with the IGU playing a vital role in providing the guidance and support to any organization that wishes to be a feeder tour to the IGU's programs.

Fourthly, we need to engage Government for their assistance and funds to create low cost infrastructure. The game will be taken to tier two and three towns across India with street corner driving ranges, pitch and putt facilities and 9 hole courses. Private enterprises need to be encouraged to contribute as well.

Fifthly, we need to be able to continuously spot talent for which we have introduced the office of a National High Performance Manager.

The strategies of the IGU will be discussed, in GY, by the Chairperson's of the various Committees.

While infrastructure in India is brought up to speed, our clubs will remain our source of support. The IGU is formed by the clubs and we will constantly work with them to take this game to the next level.

We look forward to hearing from you, your comments on this redesigned newsletter and your views on what the IGU must do and needs to do for this game.

Golfingly yours,

Ishwar Achanta

Email: ishwar.achanta@indiangolfunion.org



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Junior Committee



Junior golf continues to show progress as it becomes more and more attractive and open to kids, all over the country. Unlike most other sports that give a bigger built child an advantage over a smaller built child, though of the same age, golf is an equal opportunity provider, as the game's focus is on individual skills.

Golf, being a self-policing game, places strong emphasis on values such as honesty and it is necessary that children are taught these lessons, early on, in order that such values translate to day-to-day life.

With research indicating that parental support is critical for long term success and participation in sport, parents must also provide emotional support, as early involvement, in competition, can be confusing for the young performer. Parents must understand the problems that confront young golfers and develop support strategies that can enhance the experience.

IGU is committed to promoting junior golf and create a stable, for future champions. Most of the juniors coming through the system have gone on to represent India at the Asian Games, Nomura Cup and the Eisenhower Cup. The focus is now on developing future Olympic champions. A transparent and merit based system is in place wherein juniors can play in various categorized tournaments through the year, collecting merit points based on their standings. A national squad is created and excellence training is provided to them. From this pool, teams to represent India will be selected. The IGU is looking at setting up Academies, with residential facilities, in each region, where complete all round development of juniors will be taken up.

Brijender Singh

Chairman - Junior Committee

National Golf Academy of India



With the support of the R&A, the PGA of Europe and the Chandigarh Golf Association, the training and accreditation programs of the National Golf Academy of India (NGAI) are growing from strength to strength every year. Our committed Teaching Staff have ensured that all the player ability tests and certification programs for 2011, have been completed. An additional D Certification course was held in the south zone, courtesy of the Bangalore Golf Club. The NGAI has, till date, certified 377 coaches (20 Class A, 130 Class B, 34 Class C and 193 Class D). The credibility of the programs has been established by endorsement from the coaches of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.

A five-day elite player development course was held in April, by David Kearney, a leading PGA coach. The 20 top coaches and 3 national squad players who actively attended this R&A funded program, all took home something positive from the experience. In the coming year, the NGAI intends to have more programs, concentrating on specific parts of the game, such as putting and game management.

While the bank of teaching aids and the DVD/book library continues to expand, the master plan for improving the onsite facilities is under active consideration. Please visit the NGAI website (www.ngai.org.in) for more information on forthcoming courses and activities.

Raian Irani

Chairman - NGAI Committee

Alan's Musings!



The Indian Golf Union, in its endeavour to establish a sound National Golf Development system starting from the grass roots to elite levels, is giving its complete support to build the national squad systematically, a concept being followed in some of the golf advanced countries much like Golf Australia's High Performance Program.

In India, national squads in each of the categories i.e. Men, Ladies, Junior Boys and Junior Girls have already been formed with induction into the squad, purely performance based.

Generally high performance programs take 3 to 5 years. Our journey has just begun. We have made small successes in the recent months. After a team silver medal in the Asian Games 2010, our juniors did extremely well to win a gold medal in the Asia Junior Golf Team Championship 2011 and thus qualified for the World Juniors. Our players who are part of our national squad showed maturity and determination to win a bronze medal in the Nomura Cup 2011, a medal after 18 long years!

Success in the international arena will depend on the time and effort we invest in our players. Periodical training and physical fitness programs are being worked out. Physical fitness, which has been an issue with our players, is being addressed by inducting a highly qualified golf fitness trainer and a physiotherapist.

With continued improvement in our training systems, we hope to achieve greater success in times to come.

Alan Singh

*National High Performance Manager
The Indian Golf Union*



INDIAN OPEN 2011

David Gleeson never took his foot off the pedal in the first five holes, on day 4, to come through with a record Indian Open score of 20-under, that sealed for him, the Hero Indian Open, his third career win on Asian Tour.

He fired a final round of 68 and finished at 20-under 268, three clear of the home boy, Chiragh Kumar, whose final round 70, including a 12-foot clutch putt on the 18th gave him sole second, which also ensured he had secured his Asian Tour card for 2012.

Scotland's Ross Bain and Lu Wei-chih of Chinese Taipei, winner of last week's Yeangder TPC, shot matching 67s to share third place on 272.

Meanwhile, there were mixed feelings in the Indian contingent at the end of the Hero Indian Open. A hint of sadness at Chiragh Kumar missing out on the big prize and joy for SSP Chowrasia, whose first top-10 since the win at Avantha Masters in February, took him back to the top of the Asian Tour Order of Merit.

There were other good finishes for the Indians from Himmat Rai (12 under 276) with a final round of 68, in tied seventh, Manav Jaini (9 under 279) with a final round 67, in tied 12th and Anirban Lahiri (8 under 280) with a final round 69, in tied 15th and Harendra Gupta (7 under 281, seven-under) with a final round of 72 was tied 18th.

Taipei-based Australian Gleeson completed his renaissance by winning the Hero Indian Open after missing five consecutive cuts earlier this year.

Gleeson was four-under after five holes and made 13 consecutive pars, which were enough to secure him his third Asian Tour title. The



highlight of his day came on the par-four third hole where he holed out from 140 yards.

The Australian admitted he struggled with his game earlier in the year but enjoyed a change of

fortunes when he traded in his old set of golf clubs for a new set where he was immediately rewarded with a second place finish at the Macau Open last month.

"And after making some changes to my clubs, I finally found what I wanted and it snowballed into some confidence. I've been playing well ever since," said Gleeson.

Chiragh, a product of the IGU and the 2006 Asian Games team silver medallist, was a shot back, going into the final round but failed to make a title charge as his putter went cold. "I'm not disappointed about finishing second. This is a great result for me considering this is my National Open. If someone had told me prior to the event that I would finish second, I would've taken it," said the 27-year-old.

"I played well but David just ran away with it. He made an amazing start and kept up the momentum till the end. He did not give me an opportunity to put any kind of pressure on him," said Kumar.

The IGU is proud to own this great event and looks forward to many more, exciting Indian Opens.

AMATEUR TOUR

All India Amateur Championship 2010 – 2011

The third oldest Amateur Championship in the world was played between 30th January & 6th February 2011 at the picturesque Karnataka Golf Association, Bengaluru with a strong field of 84 players including players from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, competing for the coveted trophy.

The All India Amateur Golf Championship has a history of 110 years behind it with champions like A.S Malik, Capt. P.G. Sethi, Lakshman Singh and Mr. Charles Schwartzel (2011 US Masters Champion).

IGU merit list, top 32 players took the field to start the match play event including the defending champion S. Chikkarangappa.

Chikka had some tense moments during his semi final and final matches but held on to his nerve to win his second consecutive championship.

The International Team Event was won by the Indian duo of Abhinav Lohan and Abhijit Singh Chadha.

USHA Southern India Ladies Amateur Championship 2011

The USHA Southern India Ladies Open was held from 20th to 22nd September 2011 with a strong field of ladies amateurs in the country at KGA, Bengaluru, with in form Aditi Ashok, who had recently won a Championship in a Women's Professional Tour in India as an amateur, looking to win the title.

Mehar Atwal fired a fiery 4 under 68 in the first round and continued her form over the next two rounds and win the event.

Report by **Tushaar Malhotra**.





IGU UPDATES

The 54th AGM of the Indian Golf Union



The old order changeth yielding place to the new... The IGU Council of 2010-11

Sitting L to R: Jaydeep Chitlangia, Ajay Chandele, Rita Punwani, Rohit Amin, Manjit Singh, Dilip Thomas, Sanjeev Talwar and Brijender Singh

Standing L to R: Satbinder Singh, Abhi Parmar, Mukesh Sabharwal, T.V. Ramaswami, Ishwar Achanta, Gaurav Gosh, Anil Seolekar, Manish Jaitha, Prabhat Chaturvedi and Farzan Heerjee

Not present: A.S. Mann, K.N. Shanthkumar, Pradip Patel, Vijay Dhawan, Manvender Singh, J.S. Bajwa, K.T. Parnaik and Raian Irani

The 54th AGM was held at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club, Chembur, on the 7th of September 2011. Our Council Member and President of the BPGC, Brijender Singh, played a perfect host and the arrangements were excellent.

The meeting got underway at 1510 hours and Rohit Amin, in the Chair, conducted the IGU's affairs, with aplomb.

His remarks to the General Body, reflected upon his journey to the Presidency of the IGU, his satisfaction at the progress that Indian golf is making and to the efforts, underway, to exponentially growing the game.

He bid adieu in style and welcomed his successor, Manjit Singh from the North Zone and the Vice-President, Ajay Chandele from the Army Zone and wished them well in all their endeavours.

While thanking the outgoing Council Members for their efforts and contribution, he also announced the names of the incoming Council Members, which is printed on page 1 of this newsletter.



Manjit Singh (R) presenting a plaque to Rohit Amin

On behalf of the outgoing Council and the General Body, Manjit presented Rohit with a lovely plaque, to commemorate his tenure in the IGU, first as a Council Member and thereafter as its Vice President and President. Thank you, Rohit, for all your efforts, rest assured, we will continue to work on your ideas and take them

forward. As one anonymous wit said about retirement being the world's longest coffee break, enjoy it, you have earned it! Of course, you would also need to heed Harry Vardon's advice, 'Don't play too much golf, two rounds a day are plenty.'



The Lady Bosses - Rita Punwani and Anupama Singh (R)

Rita Punwani, the outgoing Ladies Committee Chairperson was presented with a bouquet and our grateful thanks for her untiring efforts. During her tenure, the most prestigious Queen Sirikit Cup was successfully held at the Delhi Golf Club. Anupama Singh, wife of our former President, His Excellency, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Gen. J.J. Singh, took over the reins from Rita. The golfing community welcomes her and looks forward to her leadership.

The Captain of BPGC, K.K. Raman and his Committee hosted cocktails and with music in attendance, it was a lively evening indeed! The star performance of the evening was from our Council Member, Dilip Thomas for his, by now world famous, superb rendition of *Country Roads* and a couple of other popular numbers.

Do come in large numbers and participate in the 55th AGM, next year, please allow us the privilege of meeting you and knowing you.

Adios, until then.

Editor



RULES & REGULATIONS

Rules Education in India

Rules education is a continual process and the IGU has teamed up with the R&A to establish a Rules Education & Certification program in India. This is a three tier program and by the time you read this two, Introductory "C" level Courses would have been completed, one each at Delhi and Bangalore. Out of the successful candidates, 60 of those who have scored 70 % or better will sit for the "B" and "A" exam at the National Rules School at Chandigarh, January 20-22, 2012 and the two highest qualified candidates, will be sponsored by the IGU to attend to the R&A's Tournament Administrators and Referees School at St. Andrews, Scotland in February.

Objectives

- To have at least 150 people attend the Introductory Rules Schools each year
- At the conclusion of each year to have at least:
 - 50 Category C National Rules Officials
 - 15 Category B National Rules Officials
 - 5 Category A National Rules Officials
 - 2 Internationally Qualified Rules Officials
- For the IGU to become increasingly self-sufficient with regards to Rules education
- To extend the Program to nations in the region

The Program

The program for the Tournament Administrators, Rules Education and Referee Certification will be as follows:

1) Category C Rules Officials of the IGU (National Level)

- a) The IGU will conduct at least two Introductory Rules Schools to be held in different parts of India each year
- b) All of the School and the Test will be conducted in English
- c) The R&A will provide the Test which will be administered by the NGAI
- d) Examinees must achieve 70% or better to progress to the National School
- e) Those who achieve 70% or better will be certified as Category C Rules Officials of the IGU

2) Category B Rules Officials of the IGU (National Level)

- a) The R&A and IGU to conduct one National School per year for those who have obtained the requisite marks (i.e. 70% in the Introductory Rules Schools)

- b) Candidates who have secured 60 % or better in the R&A Rules School conducted, previously in India will be eligible to sit directly for the B certification at the National School
- c) R&A and IGU will each provide two instructors for the National School, although additional IGU assistance may be requested
- d) There will be a maximum of 60 attendees at a National School and entrance will be based on marks attained in the Introductory School Tests (i.e. only the top 60 scorers will be guaranteed a place)
- e) The R&A will provide the presentation and revision materials as well as the Exam
- f) All of the School and the Exam will be conducted in English
- g) Examinees who score 60% or better in the Exam will certified as B Level National Rules Officials of the IGU

3) Category A Rules Officials of the IGU (National Level)

- a) The top 30 examinees, provided they have scored 75% or better in the Exam will have the opportunity to take a Practical Exam which will involve giving rulings
- b) Those who successfully complete the Practical Exam will be certified as A Level National Rules Officials of the IGU

4) International Level Rules Officials

- a) The IGU will send two delegates, at the IGU's cost, with A certification, each year to an R&A Tournament Administrators and Referees School, either in St Andrews or in Asia
- b) If the delegates attending an R&A Tournament Administrators and Referees School achieve 80% or better in the Exam and perform to a high standard in the practical exercises (as determined by the R&A), they will be certified as Internationally Qualified Rules Official

5) Course Dates

- a) Two introductory schools are expected to be held around March and November of each year and the National School during January of each year
- b) For 2011, 1st Introductory School at Delhi Golf Club on 30th July 2011. 2nd Introductory School at KGA, Bangalore on November 5th, 2011
- c) Please contact the NGAI/IGU Secretariat or check the IGU website for details

Ishwar Achanta

Chairman-Technical, Rules & Amateur Status Committee

PORTMAN

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Gentlemen

1. Chikkarangappa
2. Abhijit S. Chadha
3. Khalin H. Joshi
4. Angad Cheema
5. Gagan Verma
6. Udayan Mane
7. Siddharth Semwal
8. Samaresh Sardar
9. Ashbeer saini
10. Lt. Col. S.K. Lakra



Chikkarangappa

MERIT LIST

B Category - Boys

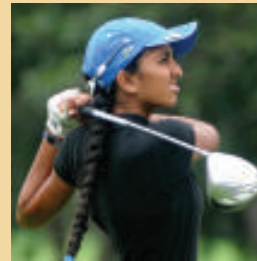
1. Viraj Madappa
2. Piyush Sangwan
3. Feroz Grewal
4. Shivnaren Srinivasan
5. Prakhar Asawa
6. Jairaj Singh Sandhu
7. Vidit Singh
8. Tae Seung Kim
9. D. Venkat Gautam
10. Mohan Sardar



Viraj Madappa

A-B Category Junior Girls

1. Aditi Ashok
2. Gurbani Singh
3. Milli Siroha
4. Nikita Arjun
5. Vrishali Sinha
6. Raksha Phadke
7. Ridhima Dillawari
8. Mehar Atwal
9. Ashta Madan
10. Tvesa Malik



Aditi Ashok

Ladies OOM

1. Vani Kapoor
2. Mehar Atwal
3. Gurbani Singh
4. Gauri Monga
5. Millie Saroha
6. Aditi Ashok
7. Shreya Ghei
8. Tvesa Malik
9. Tavleen K Batra
10. Amrita Sarna



Vani Kapoor

A & B Category Junior Boys

1. Trishul Chinappa
2. Syed Saqib Ahmed
3. Honey Baisoya
4. Tarundeep Chadha
5. Yashash Chandra M.S.
6. Manu Gandas
7. Abhishek Kuhar
8. Ankur Chadha
9. Rohan Sharma
10. Aman Raj



Trishul Chinappa

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Dilip Thomas nominated to IGF Board



New Delhi, October 25: Antony Scanlon IGF's Executive Director, announced Asia's only nominee to the IGF Board, in our Council Member, Mr. Dilip Thomas. The IGF will look into the reintroduction of the game in the 2016 Olympics. Way to go Dilip! Congratulations and best wishes.

Gurbani grabs Sri Lankan Amateur Golf title; Chikka runner-up in men's section

Kandy, Sri Lanka, October 22: Gurbani Singh, re-established herself as a leading amateur in the region by winning the 124th Sri Lankan Amateur Golf Championships, one of the most prestigious titles in amateur golf. The youngster showed great stamina by beating Isza Fariza Ismail of Malaysia on the 34th hole on Saturday.

The Indian contingent had another boost as Seenappa Chikkarangappa finished Runners Up with a total score of 292 over 72 holes in the men's competition. Chikka's effort included a 66 in the third round.

A day earlier, Chikka and Gagan Verma won the International Team Event with a total score of 297 for two days. The women's team, too finished second.

Upcoming Events

November 24, 2011

Men: SAARC Championship
Venue: Rambagh Golf Club, Jaipur

December 5, 2011

Men: Jharkhand Open - East Zone Qualifier
Venue: Beldih Club/Golmuri G C,
Jamshedpur

December 12, 2011

Men: RCGC Cup Golf Championship 2011
Venue: RCGC, Kolkata

December 12, 2011

Men: East India Amateur Golf
Championship 2011
Venue: RCGC, Kolkata

The World Amateur Golf Rankings - October 2011

This	Last	Player	Country	Points average
1	1	Patrick Cantlay	USA	1657.33
2	3	Patrick Rodgers	USA	1461.22
3	2	Jordan Spieth	USA	1460.87
4	6	Peter Uihlein	USA	1237.84
5	4	Hideki Matsuyama	JPN	1222.22
6	7	Chris Williams	USA	1215.49
7	10	Kelly Kraft	USA	1190.00
8	8	Corbin Mills	USA	1189.04
9	5	Yoshinori Fujimoto	JPN	1175.86
10	25	Cheng-tsung Pan	TPE	1173.81

Soon to be launched in India!!!

The Indian Golf Union's National Centralised Handicapping System (NCHS) Using the GHIN Handicap Program™



What is GHIN®?

GHIN (pronounced “jin”) stands for the Golf Handicap and Information Network®. This department was founded by the USGA more than 30 years ago to assist state, regional and international golf associations by providing a high quality handicap computation service. GHIN believes a handicap computation service must be dynamic and be driven by customer desire and changing technology. The USGA and the IGU have entered into an agreement to launch the GHIN in India.

The GHIN Handicap Program software provides for scores to be electronically routed from any club within the GHIN network. Away scores are re-routed to the home clubs.

Objectives

- Established and preferred practice worldwide
- Enhances the experience of every golfer in India as standardized handicaps benefit all players
- Recognizes and includes growing number of golfers who cannot obtain golf club memberships and enables them to enjoy and participate as equal players in the game
- Required to cope with the exponential growth
- Encourages junior golfers who cannot obtain proper club memberships to establish genuine handicaps
- Create a sustained revenue stream
- IGU can plough the money back and develop golf

Club Support Solicited

Communicate	↔	Benefits of NCHS to members
Permit	↔	Address by IGU to membership
Establish	↔	Time frame for mandatory migration; say 12 months
Collect & transfer	↔	Nominal fee
Data/Cards	↔	Enter data for a fee or collect cards in drop box

What does NCHS offer golfers in India?

Non real estate members	↔	Valid & globally recognized handicap
USGA's GHIN	↔	Time tested & established system
Handicaps	↔	Equitable
Fundamental Element	↔	Enjoyment by all
Unites	↔	All golfers with a single voice
Allows all	↔	Enter global events without prejudice

Club administrators and golfers - do contact the IGU for more information!!



The Indian Golf Union
New Delhi, INDIA

