

Message from
Chair, SAFGR



Dear Golfing friends,

First things first! I am delighted to inform you that 58th IGFR World Championship 2022-23 shall now be held in Delhi, India! Indeed, this an honour for all Rotarians and golfers alike!

Golf game has now become ‘normal’ after COVID Pandemic situation abating and our members are enjoying the game in their daily life with all the safety precautions.

I am pleased to inform you that SAFGR is spreading its wings worldwide. It was indeed a pleasure to have enjoyed listening to R I Director and avid Golder Dr. Virpi Honkala from Finland when SAGFR invited to share her experience in organizing the 46th European Rotary Golf Championship in Verumaki, Finland in July 2021.

You will shortly hear our esteemed speaker Rtn. Abdel Hakim Taheri, President of IGFR Morocco to address us on March 10th inviting golfing Rotarians to participate. Friends, it is time we consider attending the 57th IGFR International Golf Championship of Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians at Marrakech, Morocco (igfr-international.com) in October 2021 and personally invite the golfers to India!

Friends, it is my humble request that you invite your Rotarian Golfing friends to become a member of the SAFGR and also explore connecting your Rotary Golfing friends abroad with SAFGR office bearers asap to help promote our IGFR World Championship in India in Nov. 2022.

Happy Golfing & Warm Rotary Regards,

Parag Sheth

Message from
**Chair
Kashmir Retreat
May 2021**



My Dear Golfing Friends,

The 1st issue of e-Bulletin was with you some time back. Now it is my turn to take you to Kashmir! Most of you know that 21-26 May, 2021 time is to experience golf in Srinagar and Pahalgam. I surmise it would be dream come true sojourn!

The ‘Royal Springs’ golf course in Srinagar is like a true paradise on earth. This is often visited by golfers from all over the country. Another golf course in Srinagar is renovated and newly christened ‘Kashmir Golf Club’. Then yet another one is the most picturesque Golf Course surrounded by snow clad mountains in Pahalgam!

Though we now have as many as Over 154 registrations with about 100 golfers, dear members continue to send bookings. But we cannot accept more bookings. Those who missed out Kashmir, they will have chance to register and experience Thailand [Sep. 2021] and Morocco [Oct. 2021]. Many thanks for an overwhelming response from all of you!

It will be our endeavor to make Kashmir Retreat a memorable one for both Golfers and non - Golfers and we look forward to have a great time in Kashmir! I hope to have chance to communicate with you.

Warm Regards,

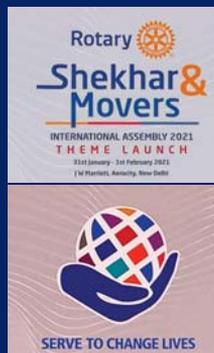
Navdeep Chawla

ROTARY THEME 2022-23

At the glittering event of International Assembly christened as ‘Shekhars & Movers’ in New Delhi on 31st Jan. 2021, RIPN Shekhar Mehta released theme for his year as ‘Serve to Change Lives’.

SAFGR Chair Parag Sheth and Rtn. Punam Sheth graced the launch event.’

WISHING OUR OWN RIPN SHEKHAR MEHTA A VERY FRUITFUL YEAR!



SAFGR MEMBERS' MEET & GREET

AT QUTAB GOLF CLUB, NEW DELHI

➤ On 3rd Feb. 2021, 2 two-ball comprising Rtn. Parag and Mr. Anil Dev of GolfPlus Monthly played against Rtn. Punam Sheth and Rtn. Navdeep Chawla. Latter duo won the fun game.



AT SOUTH

➤ The 2021 season of GST commenced on 7th Feb – a 9-hole tournament. It takes place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. This tournament is held under the aegis of the Kochi Chapter of SAFGR along with G15+, a group of Golfing enthusiast known as Sunday Golf Tournament (GST) at CIAL Golf and Country Club for the last 2 years.



The winners of the 7th February tournament were :

Front Nine : 1st - TM Shaji, 2nd - Anil Menon, 3rd - Ramesh Vasudevan, 4th - Dr. Vijayan

Back Nine : 1st - Ninan Philip, 2nd - Adwaith, 3rd - Srinivas AV, 4th - Joseph Joseph

The winners of the 21st February tournament were :
1st - Col Jayapalan, 2nd - Manikandan, 3rd - George Paul, 4th - Dr. Vijayan

AT NEPAL

➤ An experience of nature's height to share! RC Kathmandu Kantipur member Rtn. Purna Sakya & family closest to the Himalayan Range, Pokhara, Nepal.



AT WEST

➤ On Republic Day 26th Jan. 2021, RC Baroda Cosmopolitan, Vadodara

held a golf tournament 'On Course for a Cause' where seventeen 4-balls played the event. Being a fund-raising event, they were able to raise about Rs.4.0 lac. SAFGR members Sandeep Bhalla, Ajit S. Mehta, Vishal Parikh and Kalpesh Shah were amongst the active organizers. Rtn. Sandeep mentioned that the money raised will go towards autistic and children with special needs. Chair Parag Sheth also played during the event.

SAFGR member Rtn. [Dr.] Kaushal Anand of RC Ahmedabad Cosmopolitan had the chance to partner with



former legendary cricketer of Indian team Mr. Kiran More for an 18-hole game at Kensville, Ahmedabad. Rtn. Anand found more very humble and friendly!

Played the 4th edition Golf tournament organised by Rotary Club of Baroda Cosmopolitan. Very well planned and covered all purpose to organise the golf fellowship. **Congratulations to team Cosmo.**



AT EAST

JAMSHEDPUR PLAYS GOLF LEAGUE! [JGL] - IV 2021

Report by Rtn. Sujata Sachdev

➤ The JGL is based on the likes of the Indian Premier League for cricket, a hot favourite among our 'one sport' crazy nation. Through the JPL, Golfers experience thrill, competition, excitement in this event.

The excitement begins a few months before the actual start of the event. Team formation is a major job handled by the team Captains with much aplomb, selecting members for their teams keeping in mind the quality of their game, their handicaps, compatibility, and their ability to bear the pressures associated with the event. The golf course is a hub of activity with teams regularly practicing,

assessing partnerships, assessing team members and, in the process, of course, providing livelihood to a large number of caddies.

The JGL began on Sat, 23rd Jan. 2021 with a match play event between the teams divided into two pools. Each team consists of 13 players, with a maximum of two ladies, and a minimum of one senior golfer (60 years plus). The fixtures are held every weekend with each team fielding ten players in groups of 2 each thus making 5 pairs.

This year 11 teams were in the fray. The season took off after a lot of preparation and strategic team meetings. In the golf course a huge board radiates team names like birdie battalion, phoenix, Yellow Eagles and such like and reflects their points. Flags depicting the logo of each team are flying high. The game continues.....

SPEAKER MEET FROM FINLAND

RI Director 2020 -22
Rtn. Virpi Honkala from Helsinki, Finland

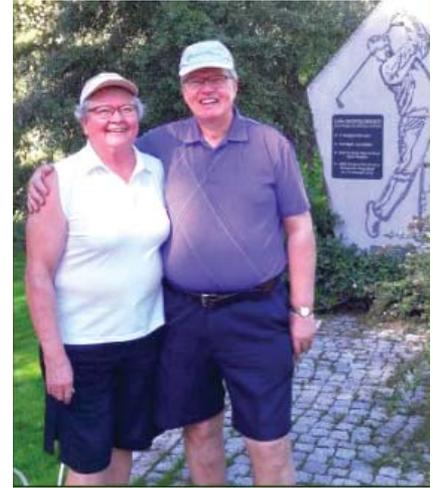
On 24th Feb. 2021 SAFGR was lucky to have Dr. Virpi, a very accomplished Surgeon and Medical Director as the speaker. She was also the founding member of Finnish Network of promoting Hospitals and Health services.

For her stellar services in the field of health, her services were awarded by the

President of Finland in 2015. She was closely associated with multi-district water harvesting project with global grant.

Dr. Virpi has held many responsibilities in Rotary space. She is recipient of TRF Distinguished Services Award. Her husband Matti has been a Rotarian and PDG. Virpi and her husband are Major Donors and members of Bequest Society and Paul Harris Society.

Inspiring as the couple is, Virpi and Matti are golfers. They joined IGFR in 2003 as life members and have attended



five tournaments since, last one being at Hamburg in 2019.



FROM MEMBER'S PEN

GREAT CHIPPING FROM THE FRINGE!

Contributed by Rtn. Sujata Sachdev, RC Jamshedpur West

Brooks Koepka chips in for eagle on 17th to take one shot lead.

[Event: PGA Tour Feb 4-7, 2021, Phoenix Open]

From where Koepka found himself after his drive on fateful 17th, there was a large hump between him and hole. From this spot, he had a difficult pitch if he wanted to get the ball close. With little green to work with, he had to strike a perfect shot to get the ball close.

Knowing that the high flop has a small margin for error, Koepka played a lower pitch shot. He chose a landing spot in the fringe near the hump, taking some heat off the ball as it approached the hole.

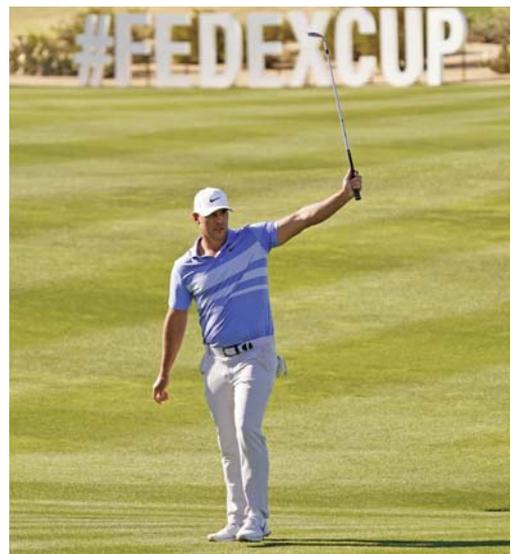
There is great learning from this shot for the recreational golfers - how to use the fringe to slow down your chips and pitches around the green.

So, guys and gals, next time you are

out practicing, start choosing a distinct spot you want the ball to land. Once you start hitting those spots with regularity, try choosing a spot on the fringe as you'll notice ball loses a lot of steam on first bounce and slows down, which can be great for you, especially if you are short sided.

It also means, when next time you face a short-sided pitch, don't go straight for the lob wedge. Instead, assess if a lower-lofted pitch that lands in the rough might be more prudent option. It's a crafty shot to have in the bag around the greens, and it is much lower risk than the flop shot!

Wishing you a good shot from the fringe!



UPCOMING IGFR EVENTS

IGFR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AT MARRAKECH, MOROCCO IN OCT. 2021

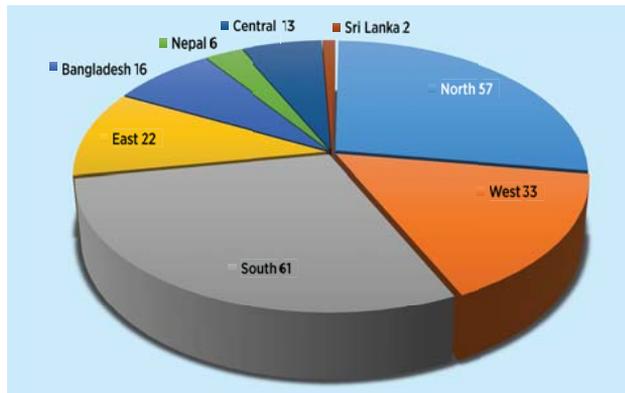


All Rotarian Golfers who are members of IFGR are welcome to register. Chair Parag has appealed to all to please go online [www.igfr.org] and pay your membership fee asap. Fee is only Euro 250.0

SAFGR LIFE MEMBERSHIPS [TOTAL 210]

SAFGR members may celebrate an achievement of sorts! As on 28th Feb. we hit a 208 mark!

Here is the break up by regions –



North 57 [27%]

| | |
|------------|----|
| Chandigarh | 5 |
| Delhi | 29 |
| Jaipur | 12 |
| Ambala | 1 |
| Amritsar | 1 |
| Rohtak | 1 |
| Lucknow | 1 |
| Roorkee | 6 |
| Dehradun | 1 |

South 61 [29%]

| | |
|------------|----|
| Bengaluru | 18 |
| Chennai | 9 |
| Hyderabad | 11 |
| Cochin | 15 |
| Salem | 1 |
| Belgaum | 1 |
| Trichy | 1 |
| Coimbatore | 4 |
| Kodaikanal | 1 |

West 33 [15.7%]

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Bharuch | 3 |
| Pune | 2 |
| Mumbai | 7 |
| Rajkot | 1 |
| Ahmedabad | 5 |
| Vadodara | 15 |

East 22 [10.5%]

| | |
|-------------|----|
| Kolkata | 7 |
| Jamshedpur | 12 |
| Patna | 2 |
| Bhubneshwar | 1 |

Central 13 [6.2%]

| | |
|----------|----|
| Nagpur | 12 |
| Kolhapur | 1 |

Bangladesh 16 [7.6%]

Nepal 6 [2.9]

Sri Lanka 2 [1%]

Above data give us ample idea how cities and regions need to create more awareness about SAFGR within the Rotary fraternity to eulogize golfers' passion and promote fellowship to meet Rotary ideals.

BREAKING NEWS!

IGFR Board has confirmed that SAFGR shall be the official hosts of 58th IGFR World Championship event in India from 5-11 Nov. 2022! This is a deserved compliment to the SAFGR Chair and his able team to finally clinch the prestigious event first time in Asia and on Indian soil!



SOUTH ASIAN FELLOWSHIP OF GOLFING ROTARIANS

IGFR World Championship at MOROCCO

Wednesday, 10th March, 2021

Key Note Speaker : Rtn Hakim Tahri
President, IGFR Morocco

Time : 07:00 pm IST & 02:30 pm Morocco

Zoom Meeting ID : 342 540 1374 • Pass code: golf

Rtn. Abdel Hakim Tahiri
Morocco

Fondly known as Hakim, is the promotor Chairman & CEO of his pharma company Gynebio Pharma. He is Avid Golfer and participated in 56th IGFR Golf World Championship at Hamburg, Germany in May, 2019. He is key person to organize the 57th IGFR World Championship at Morocco.

In year 2000 Rtn. Hakim joined Rotary Club Casa-Anfa [RID 9010]. His commitment to Rotary brought him face to face to hold positions of Club President in 2009-2010; Governor Deputy in 2010-2012 and Governor Deputies Coordinator in 2012-2013. Currently, he is President of IGFR Morocco and Board Member of IGFR International.

Hakim is the Board Member of FMIP (Fédération Marocaine de l'Industrie et l'Innovation Pharmaceutique), a pharma industry body.

Rtn. Hakim is happily married to Layla and has 3 children Mamoun, Maria and Malik.

Rtn Parag Sheth
Chair, SAFGR

SAFGR ID CARDS

SAFGR members are welcome to celebrate an achievement of you all - as on 28nd Feb. we hit a 208 mark!



Total Members 210
Cards under preparation 140

The 70 members are most humbly requested to send in your latest passport size picture and blood group information and be counted at various golf courses.

Enjoy Fellowship Globally

As at this day, about 20 SAFGR members have become life members of IGFR. Members are urged to join IGFR and have the privilege to meet and play with the golf legends all over the world. Please go online [www.igfr.org].

A CHARITY GOLF EVENT AT HYDERABAD

Visit comments by - PDG Parag Sheth, Chair SAFGR

I travelled to participate in the 6th Edition of Golf Charity event of Rotary Hyderabad Deccan [RID 3150] held on 21.02.2021. It was an amazing experience to witness fund raising Golf tournament for community cause. It was well planned and well executed event for mammoth health projects initiated by Club members.

I noticed every member worked in unison with dedication and one voice. There was no attention to their status, stature and position in the society and Club. All golfers were a family. The event enabled collection of sufficient donations even in this pandemic time. This

was possible due to members' commitment, transparency and accountability. It was very inspiring to observe that over and above the general collections, one donor simply telephoned to the Event Chair urging him to match the donation only one day before the Event. And it was bingo!

Salutes to President Raju, Event Chair Kamal and the whole



Hyderabad Deccan team. I thank you from bottom of my heart for the enjoyable game and the hospitality extended to me during my Hyderabad stay!

SAFGR SUPPORTED EVENTS

RC Hyderabad Deccan

News brief by President Rtn. VVSN Raju of RC Hyderabad Deccan –

The RC Hyderabad Deccan has been very active in its service activities and with the support of TRF and Rotary Clubs globally. The club has executed several projects in the areas of safe water, literacy, education and health care for our local communities. The current community service projects in focus are:

“We deeply appreciate the participants and sponsors that vie to participate in our annual Rotary Golf for Charity tournament and celebrate their commitment to give with us, back to our communities.”

- Setting up of a State of art 8 bedded charitable Rotary Dialysis Centre. This is run in partnership with Red cross society at Guntur [Telangana]. The outlay was Rs 1 crore.
- Setting up of a Community Health Centre at the Gurudwara, Ameerpet having complete suite of Diagnostics and Medical Consultation at very affordable prices with an estimated cost of Rs. 50 Lakhs.

Rotary Club of Hyderabad Deccan [RCHD] is now 34 young [chartered 1988] with 100 active members from various vocations. Club efforts have impacted lives of over 20,000 school going children by providing them with safe water, classrooms and desks. Over 200,000 villagers benefitted by provision of 40 RO plants in fluorosis affected areas. In 2016, RCHD set up a Dialysis Centre at Secunderabad and a state



of art Blood Bank at Ameerpet at a total cost of over Rs. 2.0 crore in partnership with the TRF and Rotary Club of Naperville Chicago.

The Dialysis Centre, housed in the Secunderabad Gurudwara and run by the Mahavir Charitable Trust has completed over 40,000 dialysis at a charge of a mere Rs. 300 each. The Rotary Blood bank housed in Challa Hospital (Ameerpet) has collected over 40,000 units of blood for the needy. Further, Club has donated a 3-laser, 11 channel cytometer setup at and run by the Basavatarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute providing free specialized diagnostic services to children from families of below the poverty line (BPL)



who are suffering from Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL), commonly known as Blood Cancer.

During this pandemic the club was at the forefront serving the needy by distributing dry rations & cooked food. We had also set up a Plasma bank for collection & distribution of blood plasma in aiding the therapy for the Covid effected. By Raju, +919866446467 Email: rajurchd@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS SUPPORTED BY SAFGR

Collaboration Golf Tournament by Rotary Club of Ahmedabad North [RCAN]

Contributed by **Rtn. Anil Singh, Asst., Governor, Zone 6, RID 3054**

On 28th Feb. 2021, RCAN's first tournament of 'collaboration' held by the Club. A total of 40 golfers participated - Rotarians and non-Rotarians. It was a 'multi-district event' held with complete support of SAFGR.

It was a well-organized event held at the Belvedere Golf & Country Club, Ahmedabad. The participants were full of enthusiasm who played with all the skills at their command and enjoyed the fellowship opportunity. It was indeed an opportunity to build and enhance bonds with Rotarians from other districts.

Exciting gifts and awards were given away by Rotary Club office bearers for their effort.

CATEGORY:

0 -12 Handicap

Winners : Col. Akhil Mishra [score 32]

13-24 Handicap:

Winner : Brig. AK Singh [score 24]

Runner up: Masood Jafry [score 23]

25-36 Handicap:

Winner : Prashit Shah [score 15]

Runner up: Nitin Patel [score 13]

Closest to the Pin

: Rahul Rajagopal [2.7 feet]

Longest Drive:

Abhijeet Singh [245 yards]

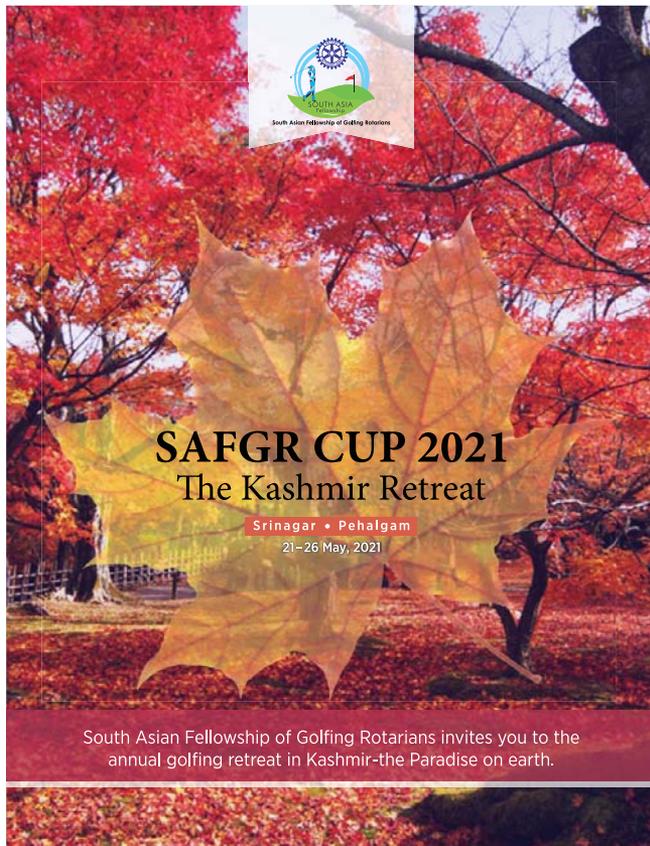



Rotary  Rotary Opens Opportunities

ROTARY DISTRICT 3281 INDEPENDENCE DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT
20-23rd March 2021
Play at your own course.
Prize giving: 23rd March 2021

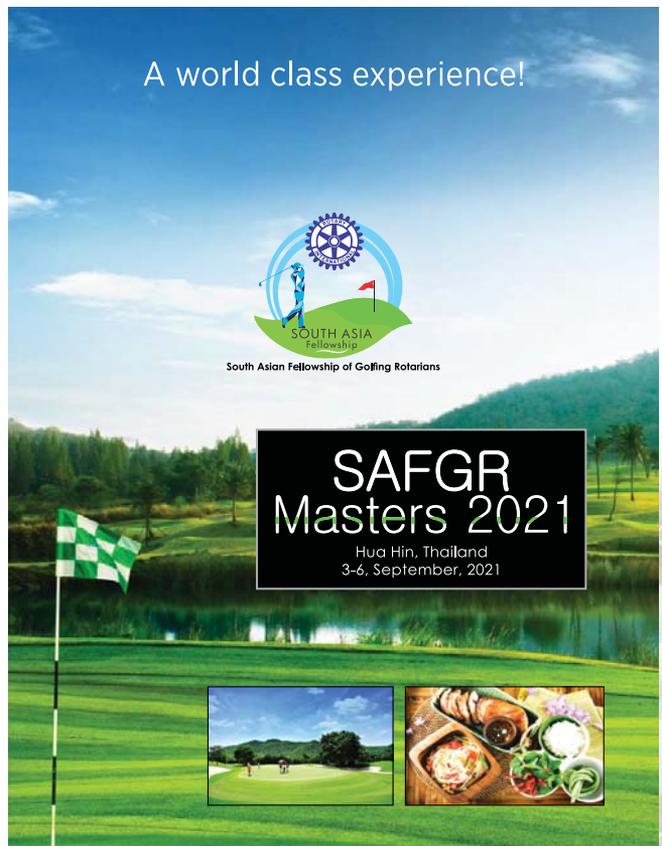
Registration Fee BDT 1000/=
PP Nasimul Hoq: 01550-151248
AK Azad Mithu: 01711-505018

Organizing Club: RC Dhaka & Uttara Supported By SAFGR BANGLADESH



SAFGR CUP 2021
The Kashmir Retreat
Srinagar • Pehalgam
21-26 May, 2021

South Asian Fellowship of Golfing Rotarians invites you to the annual golfing retreat in Kashmir-the Paradise on earth.



A world class experience!

SAFGR Masters 2021
Hua Hin, Thailand
3-6, September, 2021