

# THE Chocolate



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KARACHI GOLF CLUB MEMBERS

May 2025

## Ahmed edges Zubair to win Rashid D. Habib title

Pakistan's professional Ahmed Baig successfully defended his title in the 2025 edition of the Rashid D. Habib Open Golf Championship at the Karachi Golf Club.

While Ahmed won the crown, it was KGC's very own Muhammad Zubair who stole the limelight with a stunning display. Zubair was leading for the best part of the contest but back-to-back bogeys allowed Ahmed to make a winning comeback. Ahmed sank eight birdies in the final round of the prestigious championship and finished on 15-under 273 for a two-shot victory. Zubair, who had seven birdies and was going bogey-free until the 16th hole, finished with 67 after his late meltdown for a total of 275.

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# KGC captain Ahmed Ismail eyes massive improvement

Ahmed Ismail, KGC's captain is an avid golfer who took up golf when he was 12 years old. Among his golfing achievements is a rare ace on a par-4 hole. In an interview with The Chocolate, Ahmed Ismail talks on a variety of issues ranging from his love for the game to the efforts being made to further improve our sprawling golf course. Following are excerpts of the interview:

**Q: How and when did you start playing golf?**

**A:** As kids, around 12 years old, my cousins and I would go to KGC mainly to play on the swings. While there, we'd often see our uncles playing on the course. We had an old Wilson golf set lying around at home, and occasionally, we'd bring it to the driving range just for fun. What started as a few casual shots eventually turned into a genuine interest — and that's how I began playing golf.

**Q: The fondest memories of your golfing life?**

**A:** One of my most unforgettable moments was a hole-in-one on the par-four 17th hole (yellow course). I hit a great drive — helped by the tees being up front and a strong tailwind. We assumed the ball landed on the green, but after 10 minutes of searching, we gave up thinking it was lost. Later, when my friends were picking up their balls from the hole, they found mine sitting at the bottom — it had gone straight in! That remains my fondest golfing memory.

**Q: What prompted you to contest KGC election?**

**A:** I've always wanted to see KGC as one of the premier golf clubs in Pakistan. While the club was doing reasonably well, I felt we weren't quite living up to the legacy and potential we hold. I wanted to contribute to steering KGC back toward becoming the number one golfing destination in the country and ensure we protect and elevate the traditions it stands for.

**Q: What are your targets as KGC captain?**

**A:** My primary goal is to elevate the overall standard of the club, to establish Karachi Golf Club as the premier golfing destination of Pakistan, offering an exceptional experience through world-class facilities, championship-level courses, and a welcoming community for golfers.

**Q: How do you rate KGC course?**

**A:** In terms of layout and design, I'd rate it a perfect 10 — it's



a beautiful course. However, I would give current course conditions a 6. That said, I'm confident that with the hard work we have planned, we can bring it up to a 10 in due time.

**Q: Who are your favourite golfers both in Pakistan and abroad?**

**A:** Internationally — Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy have always been my top picks.

Locally — I regularly play with some of the pros, especially Mr. Waheed Baloch and Mr. Zubair, both of whom are exceptional players from KGC. I recently watched an intense final round between Zubair and Ahmed Baig from Lahore — so for me, it's definitely Waheed and Zubair who stand out.

**Q: What is your favourite golf course?**

**A:** Without a doubt Karachi Golf Club. It's home.

**Q: Who is your chief rival?**

**A:** These days, I don't really have a main rival. But in the past, I had a very competitive golfing friendship with Mr. Sibtain Haji. We played a lot of matches against each other. Lately, he hasn't been playing much — he blames his back, but I suspect it might have something to do with me beating him a bit too often at the game.

**Q: Your favourite veteran golfers?**

**A:** I have a lot of respect for the senior legends of the game. Internationally, names like Nick Faldo, Greg Norman, Gary Player, Seve Ballesteros, and Arnold Palmer come to mind — icons we grew up watching. Locally, I hold deep respect for all the veteran golfers at KGC and hope to provide them with the best playing conditions possible.

**Q: Your favourite Pro?**

**A:** Locally, it would have to be Mr. Waheed Baloch. He has probably won more titles at KGC than anyone else and consistently honours the club's name across the country. Internationally, my favourite pro is, without question, Tiger Woods — a legend of the sport and a constant source of inspiration.



# Captain's Corner



Dear Members,

I'm happy to share that things are steadily looking up at the Karachi Golf Club.

To begin with, the new swing set has been installed and it's heartening to see children enjoying it already – a small but meaningful step in making the club more family-friendly.

On the infrastructure front, the driving range net is nearly complete. We've been assured that it will be fully installed before the end of May, and we look forward to formally inaugurating it. Soon, members will be able to hit their drivers freely once again on what will be a world-class driving range.

On the course side, I'm pleased to report progress. As promised, we've removed preferred lies on the Red Course

following annual maintenance. The fairways and greens have responded well and are now in good condition. With summer in full swing and grass growth at its peak, we're leveraging this period to push our maintenance work aggressively.

The annual maintenance of the Red Course is nearly complete, with final touches underway – especially levelling the tees.

On the Yellow Course, work is ongoing, and we're optimistic that within a few weeks we'll be able to play it without preferred lies as well.

As for the Blue Course, renovation efforts are progressing at pace. If all goes according to plan, we're targeting October for the new greens to be ready for play.

There's still much to do, but the energy and effort behind the scenes are strong. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we work toward restoring the Karachi Golf Club to the high standard, we all aspire to.

Happy golfing,

Best Regards,

**Ahmed Ismail**  
Captain, Karachi Golf Club

## Ahmed edges Zubair to win Rashid D. Habib title

*Continued from page 1*

Mohammad Munir (69) ended in third place, six off Ahmed, while Talat Ijaz, who fired an eagle in his 65, finished fourth on 281, one ahead of Matloob Ahmed (72). Shabbir Iqbal, the Pakistan number one, and Hamza Amin both carded 70 to end the tournament on 283.

In other categories, Mohammad Tariq took the senior professionals' crown with a one-shot victory over Aurangzeb Khan.

The margin of victory was the same in the junior professionals' contest, with Syed Ali Noshairwan Naqvi edging Rehan Babar.



**RESULTS**  
**RASHID D. HABIB MEMORIAL**  
**NATIONAL PROFESSIONALS GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
06 - 09 February, 2025

**PRO-AM**

<b>Runner Up Team</b>	M. Minhaj Maqsood S/Lt Junaid Irfan Lt Cdr Irfan Rashid Dr. Salman Qureshi	55.5 Points
<b>Winner Team</b>	Muhammad Zubair Abdullah Adil Brig Ayaz Peer Saleem Adil	55.1 Points
<b>Hole In One</b>		
<b>Blue Hole # 4</b>	Amjad Yousuf (Rwp)	Toyota Corolla Car
<b>Hole In One</b>		
<b>Blue Hole # 4</b>	Tallat Ejaz (Gym)	Golf Set

**Professionals - Prize Money Rs. 6,815,000**

<b>Runner Up</b>		
Muhammad Zubair (Kgc)	275 Gross (-13)	Rs 602,787
<b>Winner</b>		
Ahmed Baig PAF (Royal Palm Golf and Country Club)	Gross 273 (-15)	Rs 937,676

# Abdul Rehman, Arslan Shikoh win Hamid D. Habib titles

Among the highpoints of the golfing season at the Karachi Golf Club is the prestigious Hamid D. Habib Golf Championship. The event always attracts a huge number of participants and this year's edition was no exception.

There was a festive atmosphere at the KGC during the weekend. But on the course, there was fierce competition for top honours in various categories.

In the amateurs' category, the experienced Arslan Shikoh Khan won the gross title with a score of three-under par 69. Abdul Rehman won the net trophy with a score of 66.



Among the other winners were Capt Ansar Mehmood, R/Adm Javed Iqbal, Humera Khalid, Rukaiya Habib, Cdre Zafar Mehmood, Capt Khizar Naqvi, Eshaan Nawab and Abdullah Bilal.

RESULTS		
HAMID D. HABIB MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT		
15th & 16th February 2025		
<b>JUNIORS</b>		
Winner Gross	Eshaan Nawab	84 Gross
Winner Net	Abdullah Bilal	69 Net
<b>LADIES</b>		
Winner Gross	Humera Khalid	83 Gross
Winner Net	Rukaiya Habib	73 Net
<b>VETERANS</b>		
Winner Gross	Cdre. Zafar Mahmood	38 Gross
Winner Net	Capt. Khizar Naqvi.	33 Net
<b>SENIORS</b>		
Winner Gross	Capt Ansar Mehmood	76 Gross
Winner Net	R/Adm Javed Iqbal	66 Net
<b>GUESTS</b>		
Winner Gross	Major Irfan	79 Gross
Winner Net	M. Ali Abbas	69 Net
<b>AMATEURS</b>		
Winner Gross	Arslan S Khan	69 Gross
Winner Net	Rao Abdur Rehman Badar	66 Net
Hole In One		
Blue Hole # 04	Capt Nauman Hussain Tirmizi	Golf Set
Hole In One		
Red Hole # 03	Mr.Rashid Malik(KGC)	Changan Deepal L07 Ev Car



# Waleed Bilal wins Peracha Cup

Waleed Bilal carded a stunning score of 74 to win the amateurs gross title of the Peracha Cup Golf Tournament 2025 at the Karachi Golf Club. In the net category, Abdul Moiz carded a score of 68 to win the title.

Other winners of the two-day tournament included Cdre Saad Bin Jabbar, Brig Ayaz Peer, Amna Amjad, Nida Arfeen, Jamil Hamdani, Aftab A. Khan, Mustafa Maqbool and Abdul Raffay.

RESULTS		
PERACHA CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT		
21st & 22nd February 2025		
	Name	Score
<b>JUNIORS</b>		
Winner Net	Mustafa Maqbool	32.5 Net
Winner Gross	Abdul Raffay	37 Gross
<b>LADIES</b>		
Winner Net	Nida Arfeen	35 Net
Winner Gross	Amna Amjad	42 Gross
<b>VETERANS</b>		
Winner Net	Jamil Hassan Hamdani	33.5 Net
Winner Gross	G/Capt Aftab A. Khan	39 Gross
<b>SENIORS</b>		
Winner Net	Brig Ayaz Peer	71 Net
Winner Gross	Cdre Saad Bin Jabbar	73 Gross
<b>AMAGEURS</b>		
Winner Net	Abdul Moiz Alam Gul	68 Net
Winner Gross	Waleed Bilal	74 Gross



## CARE OF THE COURSE KGC BYE LAW 5(e)

1. A player must ensure following on the course:
  - (i) Before leaving a bunker, a player must carefully fill-up and smoothen over all holes and footprints made by him.
  - (ii) Repair all pitch-marks on the greens and all divots by replacing the divot and filling with sand.
  - (iii) Ensure that golf bags are not brought onto the green, and when putting down flagstick no damage is done to the surface.
  - (iv) Not to drive the golf carts in other than the designated areas.
  - (v) Not to treat the course as practice area. Golfers must avoid playing more than one ball on the course to hone their skills. It only adds to unnecessary wear & tear to the course.
2. Non-compliance of these instructions will lead to imposition of fine/disciplinary action against members checked by course marshals during the monitoring.

# Meet Tournament Coordinator KGC

Mr. Amir is the Tournament Coordinator of Karachi Golf Club, his journey as Head of the Tournament Department started as an Assistant Supervisor at the Arabian Sea Golf & Country Club from 2006 to 2010 and transitioning to the KGC in 2015. It has been a unique and rewarding experience for him to witness and contribute to the growth and development of management golf tournaments of National as well as International Level. Following paragraphs, will cover his personal journey and key figures who influenced his grooming, and potential for future developments in the management of golf tournaments.

“Working in a challenging environment at Arabian Sea, I honed my skills and gained valuable experience in event coordination and management. In 2015, I joined the Karachi Golf Club as a starter, where I was able to apply my knowledge and skills to a larger and more prestigious setting. The

transition from Assistant Supervisor to Tournament Coordinator was a significant milestone in my career, and I am proud to have reached this position through hard work and dedication. I have also assisted Airmen Golf Club and Rayhan Hills Golf Club in conducting tournaments at their clubs.

Throughout my time at the KGC, I have had the opportunity to work with several key figures who have played a crucial role in shaping the field of golf tournaments in Pakistan. Prominent among them are Mr. Asad I A Khan, the former President of the Sindh Golf Association, Mr. Sohail Kareem Rana and Mr. Khurram Khan whose vision and leadership have been instrumental in modernising and expanding the club's tournament offerings.

Karachi Golf Club hosts approximately 28 tournaments per year managed by the Tournament Department, these include



JCSC, Rashid D. Habib (Bank Al Habib), Chief of the Naval Staff and Pakistan Open Golf Championships. The next Major event at KGC is Asian Development tour for which we are all set to host it in September 2025 in a befitting manner.

In addition to conduct of tournaments, another major milestone achieved by the Tournament Department is transition to World Handicap System (WHS) by Karachi Golf Club with the support of Mr. Adil Haji and Mr. Ahmed Jamil Siddiqi. Their efforts not only eased the implementation of WHS for members but also strengthened maintaining handicap of members.

In conclusion, I'm very thankful to the club management for giving me the opportunity to prove myself. I will continue to give my best as Tournament Coordinator and bring further improvements in conduct of tournaments in future.”



# EDITORIAL

Summer is here and the mercury is rising. But thankfully, the KGC course looks in good shape. And the best part is that things are only getting better. We have interviewed our Club Captain for this issue of The Chocolate. He is upbeat about all the positive changes taking place at KGC. New swings have been installed at the play area while the practice range is getting a new

net. Work is underway to upgrade the greens on the Blue Course. We have included details about all these projects along with the tournament coverage.

Happy reading!

**Sumeha Khalid**  
Editor The CHOCOLATE



## KGC Open Pair Monthly Bridge Tournament



### RESULTS

#### KGC OPEN PAIR MONTHLY BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

29 April 2025

Position	Pairs	Name	Score	Position	Pairs	Name	Score
1	7	Khalid Manzoor & Wajahat Suri	54.26	8	4	Shahin Iqbal & Maj Zaidi	49.44
2	10	Imran Farooqi & Tahir Dada	54.21	9	8	Hamed Mohiuddin & Khalid Mohiuddin	49.13
3	1	Riazuddin Shaikh & Mona Siddiqui	53.60	10	11	Rehana Saigol & Paro Raza	48.67
4	9	Zia Hai & Anwar Kizilbash	52.78	11	3	Hussain Jaffar & Saeed Mirza	48.17
5	6	Awwad Mirza & Riyan Shahid	52.62	12	2	Mumtaz A. Khan & Jalal Khan	47.46
5	14	Shahzad A. Noor & Javed Rahman	50.93	12	12	Muneeb & Asad Aslam	45.24
5	5	Afzal Shaikh & Tehseen Ayoub	50.71	14	13	Samad Tirmazi & Mobin Shaikh	43.50

### OBITUARIES

**Mr. Umar Ghafoor**  
(Membership No. 1695)



**Mr. Cyrus R.F. Cowasjee**  
(Membership No. 07)



### PRIORITY COURSE

**Monday to Friday:**

Priority will be on Red Course.

**Saturday/Sunday & Public Holidays:**

Both courses Red and Yellow, before cut off time for non-members i.e. 08:30am, alternate flights for members and non-members will be regulated.

### Hole-in-One

**Mr. Nayyar Hussain**  
Membership No. 2641  
scored Hole-in-One on Hole # 11 (Yellow Course) on March 05, 2025



**Brig Salman Khaliq**  
Membership No. Nya 10692  
scored Hole-in-One on Hole # 08 (Blue Course) on March 07, 2025



**Mr. Omer Faruque**  
Membership No. 358  
scored Hole-In-One on Hole # 16 (Yellow Course) on March 08, 2025



**Mr. Omar H Khan Bangash**  
Membership No. 1691  
scored Hole-in-One on Hole # 11 (Yellow Course) on March 10, 2025



**Mr. Altaf Hashwani**  
Membership No. 2126  
scored Hole-in-One on Hole # 04 (Blue Course) on March 30, 2025



**Mr. Hasnain R. Nensey**  
Membership No. 2254  
scored Hole-in-One on Hole # 08 (Blue Course) on April 02, 2025



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