



**Ravibir Singh**  
**President**

Tel.: 0172-2740327, 2740350  
E-mail: golfchd\_2004@yahoo.com

*The Chandigarh Golf Club*  
*Sector 6, Chandigarh*

No. CGC/President/8352/

22.04.2021

Dear Golfer, Friend, and Fellow Member,

At the outset I would like to thank you for unanimously electing my committee at the Annual General Meeting in January. We will endeavor to live up to your expectations and provide a quality, efficient and transparent management. We remain open to suggestions and will strive to serve members in the best interest of the club.

We are all currently facing difficult days with the unrelenting COVID pandemic. Despite that we hit the ground running and got down to work from day one. Immediate attention was required to relay the Club's sewerage system as the Club had received notices for disconnection. Apparently for many decades the sewage was unknowingly being disposed into the municipal storm water line & serious note of this was taken by the National Green Tribunal. Relaying the complete sewage system was a mammoth task as a new line measuring almost one kilometer with appropriate sloping had to be fabricated from the Club House to connect with the Corporation sewerage line on the main road near the gate of the 6<sup>th</sup> Green. This also caused some damage to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> fairways which has been remedied.

Extensive coring, sanding and fertilisation of the fairways and greens was started in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. Additionally dethatching of the Greens was done. Golfers are now getting excellent lies on the fairways and the golf course is in lush green condition. The Greens took a little more time to improve, and have been opened in a phased manner and are now playing true & well. Our endeavor was to get rid of all the patches which had come up during the low growth period of the winter months. Development of a good root structure will hold the Golf Course in good stead through the monsoon months. Temporary Greens have been in play whilst maintenance of our Main Greens was on. We plan on maintaining the Temporary Greens so that they can be used efficiently as and when maintenance of a Main Green is required.

We have constructed a new cart path along the 7<sup>th</sup> fairway and repairs of all other carts paths across the golf course are being carried out. Fencing along the 13<sup>th</sup> fairway abutting the forest has been done through kind courtesy of the UT Forest Department at no cost to the club. We are also in the process of completing fencing around the course and work from the area around the 2<sup>nd</sup> tee to the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee is currently underway. Once completed, we will endeavor to have the entire golf course

fenced. The complete turf on Tee 10 was removed. The Tee was leveled, and replaced with fresh sod. We now plan on improving more tees during the course of the next few months. All work is being done under professional advice as per standard Golf Course Management practices. Weeding of the course is an ongoing process and will continue in a systematic manner.

We have arranged for new practice balls and new mats for the driving range. There was a slight delay in receipt of practice balls as there is a major global supply constraint due to the pandemic. In spite of having placed orders well in advance, the supply of balls is coming in dribbles. However, we will continue to provide quality practice balls on a regular basis. We are also in the process of upgrading the training and coaching systems of the club since one of our prime objectives is development of golf in the region. Focus will continue on young golfers and encouragement will continue to be given to promotion of the sport.

We have set up a new committee for improving organisational records of the club. Towards this end we have procured high resolution scanners and digitisation of all club records has been initiated. By the time we demit office we hope to have completed digitisation and indexation of the all club records. We will also be publishing a new Club Directory. Members are urgently requested to check with the Club office if their records including mobile numbers and Email IDs are up-to-date. We are also upgrading the Information Technology infrastructure of the Club.

Plans for construction of huts on the right side of the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway abutting the back lawn had been passed by the UT Administration. However, the Raj Bhawan Security has rejected the location based on security protocols. We are now exploring alternate options and have approached the UT administration to allow us to build rooms in the area above the Saloon Bar. Schematic plans have already been submitted and progress will depend on clearing of the plans with both the UT Administration and the Raj Bhawan security. All pending issues for getting the Occupation Certificate of the Club House post sanction of plans are underway. We also received a notice for payment of upwards of Rupees Nine Crores from the Municipal Corporation for property tax, which we feel is totally unjust and wrong. The Club had already approached the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court who has "stayed" the matter. We have initiated steps to find a resolution.

On the financial front, we would like to thank members for passing the budget in the EGM dated 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2021. Funds of the club will be used prudently and we will endeavor to raise fresh funds despite the current hurdles faced by the economy. We have taken appropriate steps to ensure fiscal accountability and all pending Service Tax, GST & Income Tax matters are being actively pursued. We have set up a special committee for Fund Raising and innovative tools are being used towards this end. By the end of this decade it is estimated that the Club will face a total Gratuity outgo of about Rupees Five Crores. We propose initiating investments in an appropriate Fund which will take care of this outgo/requirement in the long run.

Social Welfare is ingrained in the core of most members and holds a special place for us all. One of the first activities we undertook was to ensure health insurance for our club staff and regular caddies. We have also set up a public liability insurance for safeguarding our members from liability. An employee's welfare fund has been started with all members and club staff contributing to this fund. Money from this will be judiciously utilised as and when required on emergency basis by the club staff. Pandit Gopal Dutt (Panditji) sadly passed away in January this year and Sodhi Ram the Caddy Master also unfortunately passed away in February. One son of each has been suitably employed by us in line with the Club's policy of adequately looking after the staff. Since Panditji died of Covid and the family had spent a huge amount on his treatment we have sent out an appeal to members to assist them in covering this expense. I would like to thank members for their generosity in contributing to cover this expenditure. It warmed the cockles of my heart when some members approached me to give larger donations. These contributions have been put into the Employees Welfare Fund which we hope will continue to grow with your support and will be a great source of strength to our staff as and when the need arises.

Jerseys were distributed to all our caddies which were donated free of cost to the club by the Caddies Welfare Trust (CWT) Delhi. One of our members Mr. Ashish Bagrodia also generously donated T-Shirts which have been distributed to the caddies. We would like to thank them immensely and any member wanting to donate for a good cause is welcome to get in touch with me any time. Medical camps have been held for all employees and a number of employees were discovered with morbidities. Appropriate remedial action has been taken in each case.

There has been a huge influx of golf carts owned by members during the COVID pandemic resulting in our golf cart shed being jam-packed. We are addressing this issue and will be expanding the shed to hold more carts. The club is also continuously looking to add cart facilities especially for our senior citizen members. We had added a number of Club carts in my last tenure and will continue to explore further solutions, funds permitting.

When we took over, the economy was looking up and the Covid pandemic appeared to be on its way down so we had resumed active entertainment in the club and hosted a couple of Club Nites which were much enjoyed by the members giving welcome relief from the troubled times everyone was going through. In good social order, once we found resurgence in the pandemic, we immediately curtailed these activities. We hope to resume entertainment & social activities once it is safe and the wave is over. We had also opened our health club and other club facilities, some of which have had to be temporarily shutdown in view of the current situation. We will continue to provide quality products from our bar & catering facilities as per norms established by the Government from time to time.

Tournaments have again suffered on account of the pandemic though we were able to hold the Samarvir Sahi Cup in the end of February under aegis of the Indian Golf Union which attracted top amateurs from across the country. The Golf Course and

conduct of the tournament was much appreciated by all and it was a matter of pride that local boy, Mansukh Sandhu won the tournament. Other smaller tournaments were held before the current wave of the pandemic hit us. It was our vision to hold an Asian Tour event later this year but this is now shrouded in uncertainty because of the pandemic. We are in the process of setting up a "home-grown" golf league for our members. It will be an interesting format covering a wide spectrum of golfers and details will be shared with all in due course.

Maintaining of discipline in all club facilities is critical to the efficient functioning of the organization. We seek the co-operation of members towards this end both in the Club house and on the Golf Course. Please ensure all guest are signed in and accompanied by you when you visit the club. Instances have been reported where members have given their cards to non-members for use. Members are requested to ensure they desist from this practice as cases such as this will attract strict disciplinary action. On the Golf Course, we have given more powers to our Marshals and the Starters towards ensuring discipline. They have been requested to be firm yet polite. We seek the complete co-operation of golfers in supporting them. After all, their role is only ensuring our rounds of golf are more pleasurable. Many complaints on the booking system were raised at the AGM and when we took over. Slow speed of play was another issue bothering golfers. We undertook some progressive steps towards resolving these and am glad to state that with your unstinted support both issues have been resolved. On most days a round of golf is now completed under four and half hours. We must unanimously ensure this trend continues as this not only ensures a more enjoyable round of golf but also facilitates more golfers getting a game.

Finally, the Covid pandemic has affected all our lives. Please follow appropriate protocols, wear a mask, maintain social distancing and sanitise regularly whilst visiting the club. We urge members to also get vaccinated. This is for your own safety as well as the safety of fellow members. In line with Government regulations, the club is in the process of ensuring all staff and caddies get vaccinated against the COVID-19 pandemic in the interest of everyone's safety. Please follow club communication regularly as the Administration is announcing frequent changes in systems/protocols on account of the pandemic which need to be followed in real time.

With warm regards from the entire committee. We pray you all stay safe and have a healthy year ahead. Happy Golfing,



Ravibir Singh  
President