

GIA *insights*



GIA

Golf Industry Association

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Annual General Meeting 2026

REFLECTING ON PROGRESS, SHAPING THE FUTURE

**AGM
Preview**

GIA Elections 2026
Member Participation &
Nominations



Strong Leadership. Stronger Industry. Shared Growth.



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GIA

Golf Industry Association



GOLF & TURF SUMMIT INDIA 2026

13th Edition

GOLF & TURF SUMMIT 2026

The 13th GIA Golf & Turf Summit 2026 is set to unite industry leaders and stakeholders for a powerful exchange of ideas, insights, and collaboration. This year's summit will put a spotlight on the defining trends and major opportunities driving the future of Indian golf.



To be announced



Join us today.



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FROM THE DESK OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

Respected Industry Representatives and GIA Members,

As we approach the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Golf Industry Association (GIA), we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members and industry partners for their continued support, engagement, and commitment to the growth of the Indian golf ecosystem.

Over the years, we have worked together to strengthen GIA as a credible and collaborative platform that represents the diverse interests of the golf industry. Through our collective efforts, we have advanced initiatives focused on industry development, stakeholder engagement, knowledge sharing, advocacy, and the promotion of golf as an important contributor to sport, tourism, recreation, and economic activity.

As we look ahead, it is important that we continue to build a stronger and more representative Association. A growing and engaged membership base enhances our collective voice, strengthens our ability to address industry priorities, and creates greater opportunities for collaboration across all segments of the golf ecosystem.

The forthcoming AGM will provide an important opportunity for members to come together, review our progress, exchange ideas, and contribute to shaping the future direction of the Association. We also encourage all eligible members to actively participate in the Association's democratic processes and governance activities, which remain integral to the continued strength and credibility of GIA.

We firmly believe that the future growth of golf in India will be driven by collaboration, shared purpose, and active industry participation. We therefore encourage existing members to remain closely involved in GIA's initiatives and invite organisations and professionals who are not yet members to join us in strengthening the collective voice of the industry.

Together, we can continue to build a more connected, influential, and sustainable future for golf in India.

Sincerely,

Dr. Himanshu Talwar
Director General





GIA Board Members

Name	Designation
Mr Anirudha Seolekar	Patron & Chairperson
Mr Aakash Ohri	Patron
Mr Devang Shah	Patron
Mr Brandon de Souza	Patron
Mr Anit Mehrotra	Director
Ms Deepali Shah Gandhi	Patron & Director
Mr. Dharendra Jha	Director
Mr. Rakesh Sharma	Director
Mr. Declan Mccollam	Director

About Golf Industry Association (GIA)

It's a non-profit Industry Association registered under the Societies & Trust Act of India, formed by Golf Industry Groups.

Core Activities

- Promote Golf in India through researched information dissemination to all levels of government and the general public. The GIA will specifically develop a golf related research document each year to present to all levels of government and to promote this information through media outlets.
- Educate and inform its members by the offering of an annual conference, targeted training opportunities and professional Industry interaction.
- Assist to build and promote the Indian Golf industry by supporting the activities and aims of the Indian Golf Union, the Government of India Tourism Authority and other golf related groups through the running of an annual Golf Expo.

Why you should join GIA

1. Membership is open to all Golf related establishments / organizations including golf clubs as well as to individuals involved in an official capacity in the Indian Golf Industry.
2. This gives you a universal platform to co-ordinate and to interact with serious players in the Golf industry.
3. As a member you are entitled to avail of the services rendered by the Association such as expert advices on construction of Golf Courses, redesigning of courses, turf management, course maintenance, irrigation, etc.

GIA Membership Categories & Fees

- International Membership – \$500 (All Inclusive, No Voting Rights)
- Corporate Membership – ₹25,000/- + GST (Full Member Rights)
- GIA Greens Section (Active Golf Superintendents) – ₹1,000/- + GST (No Voting Rights)

Who Can Become a Member?

- Corporate Membership is open to all golf-related companies, establishments, and organizations, including golf clubs.
- International Membership is open to companies or representatives based outside India.
- GIA Greens Section Membership is exclusive to active golf course superintendents.

Note: Membership is restricted to those who agree to abide by the GOLF INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION Constitution and Code of Ethics. A full copy is available on the GIA website.

Join GIA today and become part of a growing network dedicated to the advancement of the golf industry!



dg@golfindustryassociation.in



www.golfindustryassociation.in

GIA Membership Benefits:

- Receive information about industry developments through GIA website and newsletter.
- Make contacts and network with other members – leaders in the industry.
- Receive invitations to zonal and national networking and educational programs featuring international and Indian experts.
- Receive a 15% discount on Exhibition space fees to the India Golf Expo – the industry's most important annual event.
- Gain access to presentations, articles and support information on our "Member's Only" area on the website.
- Receive one complimentary delegate pass to the India Golf Expo (For golf clubs who become corporate members) which includes the main conference, lunches, networking coffee breaks and hosted gala dinners.
- Post questions to members and get answers and insights to problems and queries through vast expertise of our members.
- Receive notices about international conferences and events.
- Vote at the annual India Golf Expo Awards.
- List your company on the GIA website & use the GIA Logo in email signatures & stationary

More Benefits

- Receive one complimentary delegate pass to the India Golf Expo (For golf clubs who become corporate members) which includes the main conference, lunches, networking coffee breaks and hosted gala dinners.
- Post questions to members and get answers and insights to problems and queries through vast expertise of our members.
- Receive notices about international conferences and events.
- Vote at the annual India Golf Expo Awards.
- List your company on the GIA website & use the GIA Logo in email signatures & stationary

GIA Account Details

- Account Name: Golf Industry Association
- Bank Name: Axis Bank Limited
- Branch: Bund garden, Pune
- Address of Branch: Ashoka Galaxy, Plot No 1, Galaxy Society, Dhole Patil Road, Bundgarden, Pune – 411001
- Account Type: Saving Account
- Account No: 911010034935000
- IFS Code: UTIB0000073
- Swift code for wire transfer bundgarden branch – AXISINBB073

Dr Himanshu Talwar

Director General

Golf Industry Association (GIA)

Phone: +91 93153 71716

Email: dg@golfindustryassociation.in

website: www.golfindustryassociation.in

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of the Golf Industry,

As we approach the Annual General Meeting of the Golf Industry Association, I find myself reflecting not only on the year gone by, but also on the larger journey of GIA and the responsibility we collectively carry towards the future of golf in India.

GIA was established with a simple yet important vision to create a common platform for all stakeholders connected with the game of golf. Golf courses, clubs, developers, suppliers, professionals, consultants, turf experts, equipment providers and service partners all form part of a single ecosystem whose success depends on collaboration, knowledge sharing and collective advocacy.

Over the years, the Indian golf industry has witnessed significant growth, but it has also faced challenges. Like many industry associations worldwide, GIA has experienced periods of strong engagement as well as periods where participation and membership have declined. Such moments are not setbacks; they are opportunities for renewal, reflection and reinvention.

As we prepare for elections later this year, I believe it is important to remind ourselves that GIA must always remain larger than any individual, committee or tenure. Leadership changes, but the institution must continue to grow stronger with each passing year. Our objective should be to build an association that serves the industry for decades to come.

The coming years present tremendous opportunities. India is witnessing growing interest in golf, increased participation among younger players, expanding golf tourism, advancements in turf management practices, and greater opportunities for industry collaboration. GIA can and should play a leading role in facilitating these developments through education, networking, advocacy, industry best practices, research and meaningful engagement with government and regulatory authorities.

Membership remains the foundation of any strong association. I therefore urge every stakeholder connected with the golf industry to actively participate in GIA's activities and support the Association through membership and engagement. A stronger membership base gives us a stronger voice, greater influence and a greater ability to create value for the industry as a whole.

On behalf of the Managing Committee, I extend my sincere gratitude to all our members, past Chairpersons, past Committee Members, industry leaders and partners who have contributed to GIA's journey. The foundation they have built provides us with the opportunity to take the Association to the next level.

As we gather for the AGM and subsequently for the elections, I encourage every member to participate actively, share ideas freely and contribute constructively. Together, we have the opportunity to shape the next chapter of GIA and ensure that it remains the recognised voice of the golf industry in India.

The future of GIA will not be defined by one committee or one term. It will be defined by the collective commitment of all those who believe in the growth and development of golf in India.

I look forward to your continued support and participation.
With warm regards,

Anirudha (Anil) Seolekar
Chairperson
Golf Industry Association (GIA)
June 2026



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YAMAHA



GIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

The Golf Industry Association (GIA) is pleased to announce its Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled for 17 July 2026 at 11:00 AM.

The AGM serves as the Association's principal forum for reviewing the progress made during the year, presenting the audited financial performance, discussing key industry developments, and outlining the strategic direction for the future. It also provides members with an opportunity to actively participate in shaping the Association's priorities and governance.

During the meeting, members will receive a comprehensive overview of GIA's activities, initiatives, industry engagement programmes, educational efforts, membership growth, and advocacy undertaken throughout FY 2025-26.

All members are encouraged to participate and contribute to discussions that will help strengthen the voice and impact of the golf industry in India.

Together, we continue to build a stronger, more connected and future-ready golf ecosystem.



ELECTIONS TO FOLLOW - SHAPING THE FUTURE OF GIA

Following the Annual General Meeting, the Golf Industry Association will initiate the election process for the next Managing Committee in accordance with the Association's Constitution.

The forthcoming elections represent an important opportunity for members to participate in the governance and future direction of the Association. The newly elected Managing Committee will play a key role in advancing industry advocacy, membership growth, education, sustainability initiatives, stakeholder engagement, and strategic development across the golf sector.



Members interested in contributing to the leadership of GIA are encouraged to actively participate in the election process and submit their nominations once the Election Notice and Schedule are formally released.



Further details regarding:

- Election Schedule
- Nomination Procedures
- Eligibility Requirements
- Voting Process

will be communicated to members separately following the AGM.

Your participation strengthens the Association and ensures a vibrant, representative and forward-looking future for the golf industry.



SCOTTY CAMERON
PHANTOM

Scotty Cameron introduces the Phantom 3.2 and Phantom 12 putter models, bookending the tour-proven 2026 Phantom lineup with new mid-mallet and high-MOI mallet designs to target distinct player needs and preferences:



The Phantom 3.2 is a compact, maneuverable mid-mallet that blends soft, rounded contours with straight, clear alignment features.



The Phantom 12 offers a large, confidence-inspiring footprint with the deepest and lowest center of gravity (CG) of any Phantom putter to maximize stability and forgiveness.

Every model in the 2026 Phantom lineup is crafted and precision milled to deliver a softer sound and feel while preserving feedback off the putter face.

Landing in golf shops worldwide this summer, the new 3.2 and 12 models complement Phantom's diverse range of head and neck configurations with tour-inspired shaping for more confidence over the ball.

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Improvement of stress tolerance in turf



Fig. 1: Advanced greennkeeping measures reduce heat and drought stress

Recommendations for the promotion of heat and drought tolerance for turf

Native cold zone grasses are well adapted to a cool climate. Due to increasing global warming and associated climate changes, we will have to cope with periods of high temperature and low rainfall. Heat and drought stress can effect grasses and thus have a negative impact on the performance of sports turf. In contrast to warm zone grasses which are well adapted to varying climates, cold zone grasses only tolerate a relatively low temperature range. It is important to condition grasses using targeted treatments, thereby increasing their tolerance to heat and drought stress.



Fig. 2: Dry stress symptoms on a golf green

Tab. 1: Critical points of temperature

	cold zone grasses	warm zone grasses
Optimal ranges		
Shoot growth	18–24 °C	27–35 °C
Root growth	10–18 °C	24–29 °C
Critical areas		
Air temperature	> 30 °C	> 36 °C
Soil temperature	> 29 °C	> 29 °C

Grass reactions to heat and drought stress:

- Root flattening
- Leaf necrosis
- Reduced photosynthate activity
- Reduced photosynthate activity
- Increased respiration: more carboh- ydate consumption

Fig. 3: Only basic fertilization under drought stress (25% irrigation)



Fig. 4: With additional Kali Gazon fertilization, NK ratio 1:3 under drought stress (25% irrigation)

Potassium and Silicone increase the drought stress tolerance

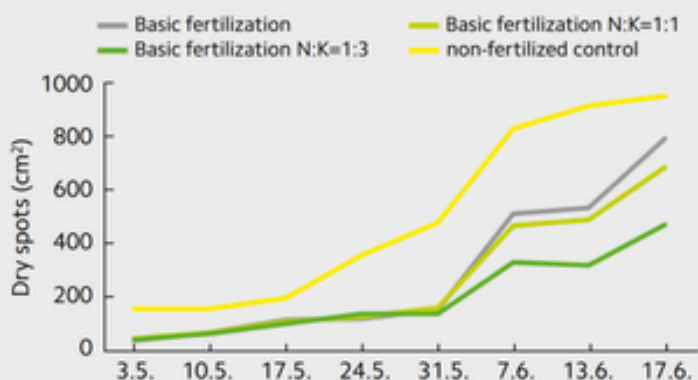
Many publications clearly demonstrate that potassium and silicone applications significantly increase drought stress tolerance and a reduction in heat and drought correlated turf damage. Potassium optimises the water balance within the plant, reduces ineffective transpiration and promotes the resistance and regeneration of turf grass during summer weeks.

For turf vitalization and preparation for drought and heat stress, additional Potassium applications with e. g. Kali Gazon can be recommended.

Typical dry spot symptoms, so-called Localized Dry Spots (LDS) and leaf necrosis can be significantly reduced by timely application of potassium (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6).

Fig. 5: Influence of potassium on the tolerance to dryness

Test parameters: Dry spots

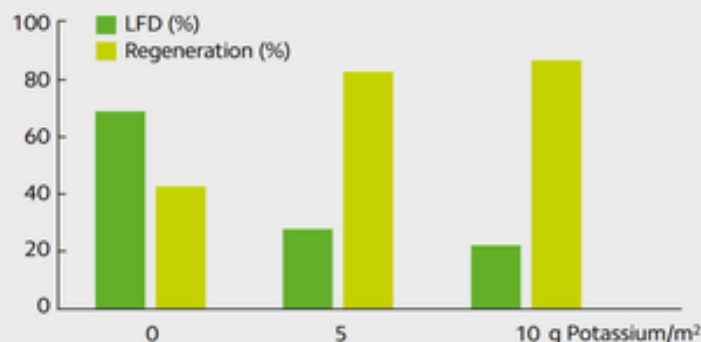


Basic fertilizer: Floranid® Twin Turf
Potassium fertilizer: Kali Gazon

LANDLAB Turf Research Station, Vicenza, Italy, 2016

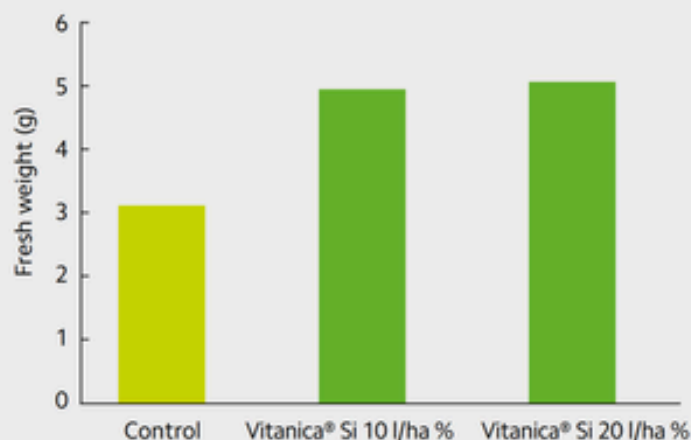
Fig. 6: Influence of potassium on the tolerance to dryness

Test parameters: Leaf damage (LFD) and regeneration



According to: Fry & Huang, 2004

Fig. 7: Influence of silicone on drought stress tolerance of grasses



Graphic: Dr. Fritz Lord, Global Crop Manager Turf COMPO EXPERT, Münster, 2016

Turf grass can preferentially absorb and store silicone. Silicon is not an essential nutrient, but it plays a key role in the heat and drought stress physiology of plants, by strengthening the cell walls and initiating complex plant defence processes.

Several trials at COMPO EXPERT Research & Development Centre confirm that applications of Vitanica® Si can change the wilting point of turf and will help turf grasses to survive extreme temperatures (Fig. 7).

Algae extracts for grass vitalization and mitigation of abiotic stress factors

3–4 applications of 10–20 l/ha Vitanica® algae extracts have proven in practice to be excellent, especially during the summer at intervals of about 3 weeks. The algae extracts from the sea weed *Ecklonia maxima* are produced in a gentle cold process and containing therefore a high concentration of bioactive ingredients, such as e.g. antioxidants responsible for heat tolerance. Depending on the target, different formulations are available. The Vitanica®-products can be combined with 0.5–1 L soil surfactant/ha to improve the absorption of nutrients and active ingredients, especially in the case of dry weather.

Effects of Vitanica® sea weed extracts

- Increase of the anti-stress hormone Cytokinin
- Improvement of photosynthesis performance
- Increase of carbohydrate storage = Depot for increased stress-related consumption
- Increase of antioxidants and thus protection from photooxidative stress
- Promotion of root growth
- Grass stabilization

Vinod Goyal
CEO, Agricare Corporation



The Rise of Golf in India: Success Stories and Future Opportunities

Golf in India has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past two decades. Once perceived as a niche sport limited to select communities, golf is steadily evolving into a vibrant industry that contributes to tourism, hospitality, real estate, corporate networking, and sports development. With increasing participation, world-class infrastructure, and growing international recognition, the Indian golf ecosystem presents significant opportunities for stakeholders across sectors.

One of the most encouraging developments has been the emergence of Indian golfers on the global stage. Players such as Jeev Milkha Singh, Anirban Lahiri, Gaganjeet Bhullar, and Aditi Ashok have proven that Indian talent can compete with the best in the world. Their achievements have not only elevated India's profile in international golf but have also inspired a new generation of aspiring players. Success stories like these play a crucial role in broadening the sport's appeal and creating pathways for young athletes.



The growth of golf infrastructure nationwide has also been instrumental in the industry's progress. India is now home to a growing number of high-quality golf courses, many of which are integrated with premium residential developments, resorts, and tourism destinations. These facilities attract domestic and international visitors, generating economic activity and supporting local employment. Golf tourism, in particular, holds substantial potential, with destinations such as Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, Pune, and Goa increasingly attracting golf enthusiasts seeking unique playing experiences.



Corporate engagement has been another key driver of growth. Golf tournaments and networking events have become valuable platforms for relationship-building and business development. The sport's ability to bring together professionals from diverse industries has strengthened its relevance beyond recreation, creating opportunities for sponsorships, partnerships, and event management businesses.

At the grassroots level, there is a growing focus on making golf more accessible. Junior development programs, academy initiatives, and school partnerships are helping introduce the sport to younger audiences. Continued investment in talent development, coaching, and affordable training opportunities will be essential to ensuring long-term growth and diversity within the sport.

Despite these positive trends, there remains significant untapped potential. Greater awareness, improved accessibility, and strategic collaboration between government bodies, private stakeholders, educational institutions, and sports organisations can further accelerate the industry's development. Expanding participation among youth, women, and first-time players will be particularly important in creating a more inclusive golf ecosystem.

Looking ahead, the future of golf in India is promising. As the country continues to invest in sports infrastructure and promote active lifestyles, golf is well-positioned to become a more mainstream platform for both sports and business. By building on existing successes and embracing innovation, the Indian golf industry can unlock new opportunities for economic growth, tourism, talent development, and international recognition.

The journey so far has been encouraging, and with sustained commitment from all stakeholders, Indian golf is poised to achieve even greater milestones in the years ahead.

Rakesh Sharma

Managing Director at AG Horizon Pvt. Ltd.



Powering the Future with Advanced Energy Solutions

Reliable power is essential across a wide range of electric applications, from golf carts and utility vehicles to industrial equipment, floor cleaning machines, and other specialised electric mobility solutions. As industries continue to evolve, the demand for efficient, durable, and low-maintenance battery technology continues to grow.

For decades, lead-acid batteries have been the trusted choice for many applications, with brands like Trojan earning a strong reputation for reliability, durability, and consistent performance. Today, with advancements in energy storage technology, lithium-ion solutions are transforming the market by delivering longer service life, faster charging, lighter weight, improved efficiency, and virtually maintenance-free operation.

As an authorised distributor of leading battery brands including Trojan and Marxon, IPI offers customers access to a comprehensive range of energy solutions designed to meet

diverse operational requirements. From traditional deep-cycle lead-acid batteries to the latest lithium technologies such as Trojan's Lithium One Pack range, IPI provides solutions that balance performance, reliability, and cost-effectiveness.

Beyond supplying products, IPI's strength lies in its commitment to customer support. Our experienced technical team assists customers with battery selection, system recommendations, installation guidance, troubleshooting, and after-sales service to ensure optimum performance throughout the product lifecycle.

By staying aligned with the latest advancements in battery technology and partnering with globally recognised manufacturers, IPI continues to deliver innovative and dependable power solutions that support the evolving needs of customers across multiple industries.

Bala Sundaram
Deputy General Manager -
Battery Division & Logistics
IPI Pvt Ltd



El Niño - The Growing Frequency Confronting Indian Golf Assets

The “Turf grass” on your course is more than just grass. It’s a key, integral operational asset. It’s the primary, long term asset, which a lot of other investments and expenses are incurred to take care off, to deliver the course condition which the players and membership expects.

For decades, we have relied on Tifway 419 bermudagrass as the gold standard. Today, strict groundwater regulations, climbing fertilizer costs, and mandatory transitions to recycled water are turning this legacy grass into a financial liability.

Updating turf strategy is no longer just an agronomic choice—it is a critical move to protect real estate value, slash overheads, and ensure long-term business viability.



Climatology Shift: Why Legacy Turf Is Wholly Unprepared

The primary driver forcing this strategic rethink is the dramatic escalation in extreme weather patterns. Historically, between 1900 and 1950, India experienced an El Niño event roughly once every seven years - 7 events over 50 years.

However, modern data reveals a stark compression of this cycle:

- The 1980–2000 Era: The sub-continent witnessed a quickening rhythm, averaging an event every 3 to 4 years - anchored by the historical 1982–83 and 1997–98 events.
- The 2000 to Present Era: The acceleration has broken records. India has weathered 8 distinct El Niño cycles - 2002–03, 2004–05, 2006–07, 2009–10, 2014–16, 2018–19, 2023–24, and the 2026 super cycle
- This means that severe heatwaves, prolonged summer stress, and delayed monsoons are now a recurring structural reality rather than a rare anomaly. Revisiting turf selection in light of this permanent climate shift is the only logical path forward for asset preservation.



The Metrics That Matter: The High Cost of Tifway 419

To understand the financial exposure of maintaining legacy turf under these escalating conditions, leadership must look directly at the consumption metrics. A standard 18-hole golf course in India sitting on Tifway 419 requires roughly 10 lakh to 15 lakh litres of water every single day during the peak, dry summer months.

Annually, this aggregates to a staggering 30 crore to 40 crore litres of water per course.

When multiplied by the rising power tariffs required to pump these massive volumes daily, alongside escalating sewage treatment fees, the cost of keeping Tifway 419 hydrated during prolonged El Niño heatwaves is a massive drain on operational cash flow. Moving the needle on these figures is the single fastest way to permanently lower a club's fixed overheads.

Doing More with Less: The Next Generation of Turf

The solution lies in a new class of elite, climate-resilient cultivars. Turf breeders have specifically engineered modern grasses like TifTuf, Tahoma 31, Celebration X, and Endarra 81 to do more with significantly fewer resources. Unlike legacy varieties, these advanced hybrids are bred for extreme drought tolerance, rapid injury recovery, and exceptional leaf density.

Across university and field trials, this new generation of turf consistently delivers an incredible 25% to 35% reduction in water consumption compared to the old Tifway 419 standard, all while maintaining premium playability and vibrant color.

When you scale a 25% to 35% savings across an entire facility, the numbers quickly compound into a compelling business case. Transitioning an 18-hole course to these modern cultivars slashes annual water use by roughly 8 crore to 14 crore litres.

Looked at as a medium-term asset investment, this means that over a span of just 4 to 5 years, the club will have saved almost an entire year's worth of water. This massive operational windfall directly insulates a club's bottom line from the unpredictable spikes of resource scarcity, pumping power costs, and resource inflation.



Non-Disruptive Transition: Interseeding and Intersprigging

The greatest financial advantage of these modern cultivars is that adopting them does not require shutting down the course or losing green-fee revenue. Golf courses can seamlessly phase in these superior grasses using two progressive, low-impact agronomic techniques: interseeding and intersprigging.

Interseeding introduces advanced, drought-resistant seeds directly into the existing fairway canopy right after standard maintenance practices like aeration.

Intersprigging embeds live vegetative cuttings directly into the active turf matrix.

Because these modern hybrids feature hyper-aggressive horizontal growth rates, they will naturally out-compete, overrun, and replace the fading Tifway 419 over two to three seasons. This allows the property to remain fully operational, funding its own ecological and financial upgrade through uninterrupted daily play.

While exact varieties and timelines can be tailored in discussion with subject matter experts, the strategic mandate for leadership is clear: the time to future-proof your turf asset against an El Niño-dominated future is now.

Rohit Damani
Five S Turf LLP, India.



ProLine H800 Series Direct Collect 50" (126 cm)

The Toro ProLine H800 direct collect rotary mower with high-lift dump mechanism was engineered for unmatched collection performance and lowest total cost of operation and ownership. Featuring a powerful Yanmar® 24.7 hp (18.4 kW) diesel engine, fast groundspeed up to 9.3 mph (15km/h), our innovative Smart Airflow direct collection design, and 77" (1.95 m) high-lift system that dumps clippings directly into truck beds or trailers, and you can quickly see the ProLine H800 has no equal when comparing overall collection performance and productivity. The ProLine H800 also runs longer without stopping, due to its large 10.8-gallon (41 liter) fuel tank, automatic deck cleaning wipers that prevent the chute from plugging, and innovative sensor technology that automatically shuts off the mowing deck when the hopper is filled. Packed with productivity enhancing features, the ProLine H800 can mow, collect and dispose of up to 3 acres (12,000 m²) of material per hour!



- Equipped with a high-volume 1 cubic yard/214 gallon (810L) hopper with 77" (195cm) maximum dump height for easy clean-up of clippings.
- Direct grass collection with Smart AirFlow system to maximize collection performance.
- Productive and versatile 50" (1.26m) cutting/collection deck with optional mulch kit.
- Get more done with a 25 hp Yanmar® 3-cylinder liquid-cooled diesel engine and permanent hydrostatic Cross-Trax 4WD with differential-lock and automatic traction assist.
- 0.8"–4.3" (20–109mm) electric height of cut adjustment switch (from seat).
- Tilting deck with 46° deck lift for easy access to blades and daily clean-up.
- Large 10.8 Gallon (41L) fuel tank allows for a full day of operation.
- Enjoy ease of maintenance and operation.

Mr Pradeep Kamble
Regional Service Manager
IPI- Toro



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Journey of G4I - "Where There Is a Will, There Is a Way"

The world of golf is often associated with precision, patience, discipline, and resilience. Behind every successful swing lies countless hours of practice, failures, corrections, and determination. The story of G4I is no different. It is not merely the journey of a company or an initiative - it is the journey of belief, persistence, sacrifice, and an unshakable vision against overwhelming odds.

The Start-Up Dream

Every great journey begins with a dream. G4I was born out of passion - a passion to create something meaningful for the golfing fraternity, something that could unite players, professionals, enthusiasts, and aspiring talents under one purposeful platform.

Like every startup, the early days were filled with uncertainty. Resources were limited, support systems were fragile, and the path ahead was unclear. Yet, the vision remained strong. The belief was simple: golf in India deserved a platform that could inspire, engage, and elevate the ecosystem while creating opportunities for players and stakeholders alike. The foundation of G4I was not built on luxury or convenience. It was built on sacrifice, sleepless nights, continuous planning, and unwavering commitment. Every small step forward was earned through determination.



The Planned and Shelved Tournament of 2023

In 2023, G4I aimed to make a significant mark through a major golf tournament initiative. Months of planning, networking, coordination, sponsorship discussions, and logistical preparations were undertaken with immense enthusiasm.

However, despite the hard work and sincere intentions, circumstances forced the tournament to be shelved. For many, this would have been the end of the road. Critics questioned the feasibility of the vision. Some dismissed the idea altogether. Others believed the ambition was too large to become reality. But setbacks are often hidden lessons. The shelving of the 2023 tournament was painful, yet it became a defining moment in the G4I journey. It taught resilience, strategic thinking, and the importance of patience in building something sustainable.

The Planned and Shelved Tournament of August '26

The spirit of G4I remained alive. Refusing to surrender to disappointment, the team once again returned to the drawing board with renewed energy and sharper focus. A new tournament was planned for August '26 with even greater ambition and preparation. The intention was not merely to host an event, but to create an unforgettable experience for the golfing community.

Unfortunately, unforeseen challenges once again delayed the dream. Another setback arrived. Another moment of disappointment tested the strength of the leadership and the organization. Yet, true determination is revealed not during moments of success, but during moments of adversity.

The CMD's Realization and Renewed Determination

Every entrepreneur faces moments of introspection. The CMD of G4I recognized that mistakes had been made along the journey. Some decisions could have been handled differently. Certain opportunities may have been missed. But instead of allowing those realizations to become burdens, they became fuel for transformation. Great leaders are not those who never fail; they are those who learn, adapt, and rise stronger after every failure.

The CMD's realization marked a turning point. It strengthened the resolve to rebuild with greater clarity, better planning, stronger partnerships, and renewed commitment toward the golfing community. What emerged was not frustration, but maturity. Not defeat, but determination.



"Impossible" According to Many - "Possible" According to the CMD

Many people said it could not be done. Many believed the dream was unrealistic. Many questioned the ability of G4I to survive repeated setbacks. But history has repeatedly shown that every breakthrough first appears impossible until someone dares to believe otherwise. The CMD of G4I chose belief over fear.

The journey became a living example of the saying:

"Where there is a will, there is a way."

The road may be long. The obstacles may be many. But determination has the power to create pathways where none seem to exist.



In golf, players often recover from impossible lies, challenging bunkers, and difficult terrains through focus and confidence. G4I embraces that same spirit. The journey itself has become proof that persistence matters more than temporary defeat.



Membership in GIA - A Potential Turning Point

Every growing institution reaches a moment that can redefine its future. Membership in GIA could become such a turning point for G4I. Beyond recognition, such an association represents credibility, learning opportunities, networking possibilities, industry exposure, and the chance to collaborate with established stakeholders in the golfing world.

More importantly, it symbolizes acceptance into a larger ecosystem that values growth, integrity, and long-term vision. For G4I, this is not merely about status. It is about creating opportunities for the golfing fraternity and ensuring that the original dream continues to move forward despite every challenge faced along the way.

A Story of Pain, Persistence, and Purpose

The journey of G4I is not a story of uninterrupted success. It is a story of courage during uncertainty. It is about standing firm when support is limited. It is about carrying a vision when others doubt it.

Behind every effort lies untold pain - emotional struggles, financial pressures, criticism, delays, and repeated disappointments. Yet the determination to continue has remained stronger than the obstacles themselves.

For the golfing community, the story of G4I serves as a reminder that every meaningful achievement demands resilience. Dreams are not built overnight. They are built through persistence. And as long as the will remains alive, the way will always emerge.



Conclusion

The journey of G4I continues.

It continues with hope. It continues with learning. It continues with renewed strength. And above all, it continues with belief. Because in golf, as in life, the greatest victories often come after the hardest battles. And G4I stands today as a testimony to one enduring truth:

"Where there is a will, there is a way."

Mr Harish R
Marketing Manager
G4International



Golf Can Support Tourism, Investment and Family Participation in India: DP World PGTI CEO Amandeep Singh Johl

Experts discuss emerging sports pathways for young athletes at Raising An Athlete Sports Talk Series

New Delhi, June 19, 2026: Golf can become a powerful career pathway, economic growth driver for India and family sport, if supported with greater awareness, access and infrastructure, said Mr. Amandeep Singh Johl, CEO, DP World PGTI, at the Raising An Athlete Sports Talk Series hosted by Equalsportz, in association with India Habitat Centre, in New Delhi.



Speaking at a session on "Understanding Emerging Sports in India," Mr. Johl said golf should not be seen only as a competitive sport or an elite pastime, but as a sport that teaches life values, brings families together and has the potential to contribute to tourism, investment and employment.

"Golf has been part of me since the age of seven. Some call it a game, some a sport, some a social space, some a stage to network and some a catalyst for growth. To me, it is all of the above," Mr. Johl said. He said the greatest lesson golf teaches is integrity.

"Golf is one of the games closest to life. You get good breaks and bad breaks, but you still have to play the ball as it lies," he said. Mr. Johl also urged parents to introduce children to golf without putting early pressure on them to become champions.

"Don't teach anyone golf only to become a champion. Introduce them to the game and let them get to where they can get to. Golf is one of the greatest family sports, where grandparents, parents and children can spend quality time together," he said.

Calling for stronger golf infrastructure in India, Mr. Johl said the sport has significant potential beyond competition.



"India needs more golf courses; more access and more awareness. Golf can support tourism, real estate, investment and economic activity. The potential is huge," he said.

The session brought together experts from golf, chess, mixed martial arts and squash to discuss how emerging and fast-growing sports are creating new opportunities for young athletes and families in India. The panel featured Mr. Amandeep Singh Johl, CEO, DP World PGTI, Mr. Vishal Sareen, International Master of Chess and FIDE Senior Trainer, Mr. Siddharth Singh, Founder and CEO, Crosstrain Fight Club and Mr. Dhruv Dhawan, Director of Coaching. The discussion was moderated by Amita Malhotra, Founder, Equalsportz.

The speakers discussed the changing landscape of youth sport in India, including the role of parents, coaching quality, financial pressures, mental preparedness, competition structures and long-term sporting pathways. The discussion also highlighted the need for families to look beyond traditional choices and understand sports that are gaining recognition through global events, leagues and structured ecosystems.

The Raising an Athlete Sports Talk Series is designed as a platform for parents, young athletes, coaches and experts to have open conversations about the real journeys behind sporting ambition. The series aims to help families make more informed decisions while supporting the next generation of Indian athletes.

About Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI):

The Professional Golf Tour of India serves as the official governing and sanctioning body for men's professional golf in India and is a recognized member of the 'International Golf Federation' and the 'International Federation of PGA Tours'. PGTI also enjoys a strategic alliance with the DP World Tour (European Tour). PGTI events offer 'Official World Golf Ranking' (OWGR) points. Global logistics leader DP World is the Title Partner and Official Umbrella Partner of the PGTI. The PGTI is led by its President, Padma Bhushan Shri. Kapil Dev, an iconic sporting legend who continues to inspire athletes and audiences nationwide.

For more information on PGTI, please visit our website: www.pgtofindia.com For media enquiries, please contact:

Nikhil Kalaan

Senior Manager – Media, PGTI
media@pgtofindia.com
+91 9910974846

Rakesh Kumar Singhal

Communications Consultant – PGTI (Former ED – SAIL)
rksh.singhal@gmail.com
+91 9910055630

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About Equalsportz

Equalsportz works to create meaningful conversations and platforms around youth sport, sports parenting and athlete development, bringing together families, athletes, coaches and experts to strengthen India's sporting ecosystem.6 Johl at Equalsportz Sports Talk

Experts discuss emerging sports pathways for young athletes at Raising An Athlete Sports Talk Series



Elite Golf Cars – Versatile Mobility from 2-Seater to 14-Seater Bus



As organizations increasingly move toward sustainable and efficient transportation, Elite Golf Cars are setting new benchmarks in eco-friendly mobility. Designed to cater to diverse operational needs, these vehicles range from compact 2-seaters to high-capacity 14-seater buses—offering seamless transportation across multiple segments.

Driving Toward a Greener Tomorrow

Elite Golf Cars are more than just transportation—they represent a commitment to sustainability, innovation, and operational excellence. With a wide product range and continuous technological advancements, they are well-positioned to meet the growing demand for clean and efficient mobility solutions.

As industries evolve, the shift toward electric mobility is not just a trend—it is the future. And Elite Golf Cars are proudly driving this transformation forward.

The Future of Electric Vehicle Innovation

The evolution of electric vehicles is rapidly transforming the mobility landscape, and Elite Golf Cars are aligned with these advancements. The future holds exciting innovations that will further enhance efficiency, performance, and user experience:

Advanced Battery Technology

- Transition toward Lithium-ion batteries with faster charging and longer life
- Improved range and reduced downtime

Smart Charging Solutions

- Opportunity charging and fast-charging infrastructure

Connected & Intelligent Vehicles

- Real-time performance analytics

Key Advantages

- ✓ Eco-Friendly Operation – Zero emissions with battery-powered technology
- ✓ Low Running Cost – Reduced fuel and maintenance expenses
- ✓ Customizable Options – Flexible configurations based on application
- ✓ Enhanced Safety – Advanced braking and stable design
- ✓ Premium Build Quality – Long-lasting and reliable performance

Elite Golf Cars – Versatile Mobility from 2-Seater to 14-Seater Bus

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Serving Diverse Industry Segments

Elite Golf Cars have become indispensable across industries:

- Hospitality & Resorts: Enhancing guest experience with quiet, smooth transport
- Industrial Facilities: Efficient workforce mobility within large premises
- Educational Institutions: Safe and convenient campus transportation
- Real Estate & Townships: Premium internal commuting solutions
- Spiritual & Heritage Sites: Comfortable visitor movement across expansive areas

Diana Cassy Pereira
Regional Manager – Sales
IPI Pvt Ltd



Turf Science: Why Professional Education Matters in Golf Course Management

Turf Maintenance Is Not Rocket Science – It Is Turf Science

One of the most common statements heard in the golf industry is, “Turf maintenance is not rocket science.” That statement is absolutely correct. Turf maintenance is not rocket science—it is Turf Science. However, what many golfers, club administrators, and even industry professionals fail to recognize is that turf science is one of the most multidisciplinary and scientifically demanding professions in modern sports facility management.

A golf course superintendent is not merely responsible for mowing grass and maintaining aesthetics. He or she is entrusted with managing a living ecosystem spread across 100 to 200 acres while consistently delivering championship-quality playing conditions. Every day, superintendents must balance golfer expectations, environmental sustainability, water management, resource efficiency, labor productivity, and financial responsibility. Achieving this requires far more than experience alone—it requires a strong scientific education.



Modern turf management integrates knowledge from numerous branches of science. These include Plant Physiology, Soil Science, Agronomy, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Microbiology, Horticulture, Environmental Science, Hydrology, Meteorology, Ecology, and increasingly Data Analytics. Few professions demand the practical application of such a wide range of scientific disciplines on a daily basis.

Every management decision on a golf course has a scientific foundation. Plant physiology helps us understand how turfgrass responds to mowing, rolling, drought, heat stress, and traffic. Soil science provides the basis for root development, drainage, nutrient availability, and soil structure. Agronomy guides the production of healthy, resilient playing surfaces. Chemistry governs fertilizer programs, pesticide applications, and water quality management. Biology and biochemistry explain plant growth, microbial activity, nutrient cycling, and stress responses.



Equally important are entomology and plant pathology, which enable superintendents to identify and manage insect pests and diseases before they become destructive. Microbiology helps explain the complex ecosystem that exists beneath the turf surface, while horticulture contributes to the successful management of trees, shrubs, and ornamental landscapes throughout the property. Environmental science, hydrology, and meteorology assist in water conservation, sustainability initiatives, weather-related decision making, and environmental stewardship.

Why is science so important? The answer is simple: every maintenance practice creates a biological response. Mowing influences photosynthesis and carbohydrate production. Irrigation affects soil oxygen levels and root growth. Fertilizer applications alter nutrient uptake and plant metabolism. Aeration changes soil physical properties and root-zone health. Pest-management decisions impact both harmful and beneficial organisms. Without scientific understanding, these actions become little more than educated guesswork.

What golfers see as smooth greens, firm fairways, and consistent playing conditions are actually the result of thousands of science-based decisions made throughout the year. The difference between an average golf course and a championship-calibre golf course often lies in the quality of those decisions.



The world's finest golf courses are not maintained by chance. They are maintained by highly educated professionals who combine scientific knowledge, practical experience, research, and continuous learning. Just as medicine relies on medical science and engineering relies on engineering principles, successful golf course management relies on turf science.

Turf maintenance may not be rocket science, but it is unquestionably a science-driven profession. Recognizing the importance of professional education and scientific expertise is not a luxury for the modern golf course superintendent—it is an absolute necessity for delivering the exceptional playing surfaces that golfers enjoy every day.

Harshada Abhyankar (Bhagavati)
Golf Course Superintendent



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Advanced Golf Irrigation Systems: A Technical Approach to Precision Turf Management

Modern golf course turf management is increasingly driven by data, precision engineering, and sustainable water management practices. Among all operational systems within a golf facility, the irrigation infrastructure remains the most technically critical component influencing turf health, playability standards, resource optimization, and lifecycle maintenance costs.

A professionally designed golf irrigation system is far more complex than conventional landscape watering. Golf courses consist of multiple micro-environments greens, tees, fairways, roughs, bunker perimeters, and ornamental landscapes, each having unique evapotranspiration rates, soil infiltration characteristics, root-zone depths, and moisture-retention requirements. Achieving irrigation uniformity across such variable terrain requires hydraulic precision and intelligent control systems.



At Adhunik Facilities India, we approach golf irrigation as an integrated turf engineering solution rather than merely a water distribution network. The objective is to maintain optimum volumetric water content within the root zone while minimizing runoff, percolation losses, dry spots, and over-irrigation stress.



Contemporary golf irrigation systems are built around centrally controlled automation platforms integrated with weather stations, soil moisture sensors, pressure-regulated sprinklers, and flow-monitoring technologies. These systems enable dynamic scheduling based on real-time climatic and soil data rather than static irrigation cycles.

One of the most critical performance parameters in golf irrigation is Distribution Uniformity (DU). Poor DU directly impacts turf consistency, disease susceptibility, and fertilizer efficiency. High-efficiency rotor sprinklers with matched precipitation rates, nozzle trajectory optimization, and head-to-head coverage ensure precise water application, particularly on high-performance putting greens where surface consistency is essential.

Another key technical factor is hydraulic zoning. Greens, fairways, and roughs must operate under independent valve control due to differing water demand profiles. Advanced systems utilize variable frequency drive (VFD) pumping stations that automatically regulate flow and pressure according to demand fluctuations, thereby reducing energy consumption and maintaining operational stability across the network.

Water quality management is equally important in turf sustainability. Salinity, bicarbonate levels, and sodium adsorption ratios significantly affect turfgrass performance and soil structure. Modern irrigation infrastructure increasingly incorporates filtration systems, fertigation units, and reclaimed water integration to optimize agronomic performance while addressing environmental sustainability goals.

The integration of evapotranspiration (ET)-based irrigation scheduling has also transformed water-use efficiency in golf facilities. ET models calculate precise turf water requirements based on temperature, solar radiation, humidity, and wind speed, allowing superintendents to apply scientifically calibrated irrigation volumes rather than relying on visual estimation.



From an operational standpoint, remote-access irrigation software and IoT-enabled diagnostics now provide real-time system visibility. Maintenance teams can instantly detect pressure drops, valve failures, leakage points, or abnormal flow conditions, minimizing downtime and preventing water loss across large-scale golf properties.

In India, irrigation design must additionally account for extreme climatic diversity, fluctuating water availability, and variable soil conditions.

As sustainability and operational efficiency become central to golf infrastructure development, precision irrigation will continue to define the future of turf management. The success of a golf course today depends not only on its design and aesthetics, but on the intelligence and engineering efficiency of the systems operating beneath the surface.

Advanced irrigation is no longer just a maintenance utility, it is the backbone of modern golf course agronomy and sustainable turf management.

Akash Sharma,
Founder, Adhunik Facilities



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THE WORLD IS LOOKING AT INDIA. ARE WE READY?

Golf Tourism and the Opportunity Before Us

There has never been a more exciting time for golf in India.

Across the country, unprecedented activity is taking place within the golfing ecosystem. The DP World Tour continues to provide India with valuable international exposure. The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) is strengthening the competitive framework of the sport. The Indian Golf Union (IGU) remains focused on the development of amateur golf, while newer initiatives such as the Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) and the emergence of numerous regional golf leagues are creating wider engagement and participation.

While the objectives of these organisations may differ, the outcome is the same – increased visibility, greater participation and a stronger golfing ecosystem.



Perhaps the most encouraging development is that golf is no longer confined to a handful of metropolitan cities. New golf destinations are emerging across the country, offering experiences that extend well beyond the game itself. Night golf at Pilikula near Mangalore, golf and wellness experiences around Madikeri in Coorg, and the growth of destination golf resorts demonstrate how golf is increasingly becoming part of a broader lifestyle and tourism offering.

Domestic golf travel has also witnessed a significant rise. Golfers are travelling more frequently across states to experience different courses, resorts and destinations. The aviation sector has taken note. Air India recently introduced complimentary golf baggage allowances on select domestic and international fares, making travel easier for golfers. International carriers are recognising the same opportunity, with Air Astana offering complimentary carriage of golf equipment for golfers travelling to Almaty. Such initiatives reflect a growing acknowledgement that golfers represent a valuable and high-spending travel segment.

At My Golf Tours, we have had the privilege of promoting India as a golf tourism destination for over 15 years. Long before golf tourism became a widely discussed subject, we believed that India possessed all the ingredients necessary to become a major player in the global golf travel market – world-class golf courses, luxury hospitality, rich culture, wellness experiences, diverse landscapes and excellent value.

Over the years, we have consistently represented India at international golf tourism platforms and trade events. Recently, at the invitation of the Indian Ambassador to Denmark, we participated in the Danish Travel Show, at Herning, Denmark, in February 2026. One of Scandinavia's leading travel exhibitions. Alongside India Tourism and Goa Tourism, we presented India's golf tourism opportunities to travel professionals from Denmark and the Nordic region. The response was extremely encouraging, with strong interest shown in India as an emerging golf destination. Improved air connectivity between Scandinavia and India is further strengthening this opportunity.

During 2026, we also participated in the Asian Golf Tourism Convention in Thailand and the European IAGTO Convention in Spain. The message from international golf tour operators was remarkably consistent: India is viewed as a sleeping giant in golf tourism.



The challenge is not the quality of our golf courses. It is not the quality of our hotels or tourism infrastructure. The challenge is perception and coordinated promotion.

Globally, an estimated 4.5 million golfers travel annually on golf holidays. Countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, Ireland, New Zealand, Japan and the UAE have successfully positioned golf tourism as a significant contributor to their visitor economy. These destinations have demonstrated how golf can drive occupancy, increase visitor spending, extend average lengths of stay and generate year-round tourism demand.



India has the infrastructure to compete with any of these destinations. What is required is a structured and collaborative approach involving golf courses, tourism boards, hospitality partners, airlines and tour operators.

One initiative that deserves serious consideration is the creation of annual hosted familiarisation programmes for carefully selected international golf tour operators. Well-planned golf tourism circuits showcasing India's leading golf courses, hospitality and cultural experiences can significantly accelerate awareness and product development in key source markets. The return on investment for participating golf courses can be substantial, particularly through the monetisation of underutilised tee times and the creation of new international demand.

The opportunity extends beyond golf courses alone. Increased golf tourism benefits hotels, airlines, transport providers, restaurants, local communities and destination management companies. It contributes to foreign exchange earnings while promoting India as a premium tourism destination.

The question is no longer whether India has the potential to become a leading golf tourism destination. The infrastructure already exists. The market opportunity is evident. International interest is growing.

The real question is whether the stakeholders of Indian golf are ready to collectively seize this opportunity.

The world is looking at India. It is time for India to confidently say, "We are ready."

By Arun Iyer- Mg. Director My Golf Tours,
Committee Member Golf Industry Association
Hon. Secretary. Travel Agents Federation of India - WI



Measuring Infiltration Rates:

GUEST ARTICLE

A Critical Tool for Better Golf Course Management

One of the most important yet often overlooked aspects of golf course management is understanding how quickly water moves into the soil profile. Whether you're managing greens, tees, fairways, or roughs, knowing your turf's infiltration rate can help improve irrigation efficiency, reduce runoff, and promote healthier playing conditions.

For years, turf managers have asked a simple question:

"How do I accurately determine infiltration rate in the field?"

I have answered that question with the Infiltrometer, a practical and reliable field instrument designed specifically for measuring water infiltration in turfgrass systems.



Why Measure Infiltration Rate?

Infiltration rate is the speed at which water enters the soil surface and moves downward through the turf and soil profile. This information is critical for:

- .Fine-tuning irrigation schedules
- .Reducing water waste and runoff
- .Identifying localized dry spots and compaction issues
- .Evaluating the effectiveness of aerification programs
- .Monitoring changes in soil performance over time
- .Improving overall turf health and playability

Without accurate infiltration data, irrigation decisions often rely on estimates rather than measurable field conditions.

Fast, Simple, and Accurate

The Infiltrometer is designed to be simple to operate and easy to use. In many situations, infiltration rates can be determined in as little as fifteen minutes, allowing golf course superintendents and turf managers to quickly collect valuable data without disrupting daily operations.

The instrument utilizes double-ring accuracy, a proven method for minimizing lateral water movement and providing dependable infiltration measurements. An integrated elapsed-time indicator helps users correlate irrigation run times with actual field infiltration rates, making it easier to optimize watering programs.

Valuable Record Keeping

Regular infiltration testing creates a valuable historical record of soil performance. By tracking Infiltrometer readings over time, golf course managers can identify significant changes in water percolation that may result from:

.Soil compaction

- .Organic matter accumulation
- .Aerification and cultivation practices
- .Sand topdressing programs
- .Seasonal environmental conditions
- .Reduced disease pressure

Research and field experience have shown that golf greens with the lowest infiltration rates often experience the greatest disease pressure.

By identifying these problem areas and improving infiltration through targeted aerification, topdressing, and other cultural practices, superintendents can reduce disease risk and help prevent turfgrass loss.



Regular infiltration testing and record keeping also provide valuable data for evaluating maintenance programs and making informed long-term management decisions.

Proven Performance

The Infiltrometer has been trusted by hundreds of colleges, universities, golf facilities, and government agencies. Its durable construction and dependable performance make it a valuable addition to any turf management program.

For golf course superintendents seeking a practical way to improve irrigation management, conserve water, and better understand soil performance, the Infiltrometer provides a trusted, reliable, and long-lasting solution.

Measure. Monitor. Manage.

Understanding infiltration rates is one of the most effective ways to maximize turf quality while making the most of every gallon of irrigation water.

John Mascaro
President Turf-Tec International





GIA

Golf Industry Association

Registered Address

501, Kensington Court, Lane No. 5, Off North Main Road, Koregaon Park, Pune – 411001, India

Dr. Himanshu Talwar

Director General

- **Phone:** +91 93153 71716
- **Email:** dg@golfindustryassociation.in
- **Website:** www.golfindustryassociation.in
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/golfindustryassociation/>
- **Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/gia_india_/
- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/industry_golf
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