

GOLF

STYLE

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TREADING
THE COURSE IN
QUEST OF PAST GLORIES
AND FOLLIES

TAKING BOLD AND
SANGUINE STRIDES ON THE
FAIRWAY
FOR THE FUTURE

the year of the **expected** and the **unexpected**

GOA GOLF

green tribute

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MIDST WHITE sand beaches, tall coconut groves and a dolphin inhabited ocean, golfers, celebrities in their chosen fields collected to honour and commemorate the man who shared their passion for the game of golf. Lalit Suri, the hotel tycoon, picked up the game of golf a little late in life but as he was bitten by the golf bug he contributed to it in a big way by creating a truly 'links' course along the pure white sands of Canacona beach in South Goa at his hotel, the Intercontinental Grand.

Jyotsna Suri, in remembrance of her husband's birthday and his penchant for golf, invited prominent golfers to the Intercontinental Grand Resort in Goa for a round during the day. The event stretched over two days; the golfers rubbed shoulders with celebrities like Ajay Jadeja, Farooq Abdullah, Robert Vadra, the 'flying Sikh' Milkha Singh, lawyer Pinky Anand, RC Bhargava, Manjit Singh, ex-captain of the Delhi Golf Club among others, who all took time off to play in the stableford tournament in the memory of Lalit Suri.

Aptly named 'The Grand Greens,' it is the only regulation nine hole golf course in Goa and for golf enthusiasts, it

proves a big blessing to find one spread over 84-acres of lush green vegetation, with alluring views of the azure blue Arabian sea. The welcoming party thrown at the Villa more than made up for the late arrival of some guests from Delhi, who were delayed due to air congestion at the Delhi airport. The guests dined under clear starry skies and were regaled by Goan music and food. On popular demand the tee off time was pushed an hour later to nine for the match the next day.

The next morning all participants turned up decked in Greg Norman golf wear, contributed by the gracious hostess. After 'chotti hazari,' they were driven in golf carts to their respective demarcated tees for the shotgun start. The weather was warm and balmy with a cool sea breeze, just right for a scintillating round of golf and it was clear that the players were all itching to try their luck on the best links course in town.

The prize distribution was an elegant affair at the Braganza, where the participants eagerly awaited the announcement of the winners. The overall winner declared with 40 points was Rahul Yadav. Second in line came Manjit Singh. Kavita Singh won the closest to the pin on the fifth hole prize. Ajay carried his cricket prowess to the game of golf too and got the longest drive prize. The evening ended on a nostalgic note as the success story of Lalit Suri choreographed by Rohit Singh Negi and produced by wife Jyotsna was shown to an audience that had known the man and shared many moments of camaraderie with him through the years.



Farooq Abdullah and Manjit Singh

Jhonni Suri



Jyotsna Suri

A SANDY AFFAIR

A ROUND OF GOLF IN BEAUTIFUL GOA OCCASIONED A WIFE'S TRIBUTE TO HER HUSBAND, SAYS RITA SAWHNEY