

Golf tour unearths talented little masters of region

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The Little Masters Junior Golf Tour (LMJGT) has proved a boon for the region's young golfers.

"Formed in 2012 to encourage junior golfers fulfill their dreams, the volunteers in LMJGT are apprised of the rules of the game and are encouraged to participate in large-scale golf events. We also give tips to parents on how to make their wards practice the game accurately. We guide them on zeroing in an efficient coach as well," said Faisal Qureshi, founder of the LMJGT.

Qureshi plans to set up two more centres to assist junior golfers.

The tour has signed more than 250 members till now and has already implemented over 13 events, three parent/child events and the inaugural Punjab and Delhi NCR Skills Event.

In the skills challenge, organised in association with the 4th Punjab Event of the Little Masters Junior Golf Tour, local lad Simarjit Chadha had emerged victorious. The event was held at the Panchkula Golf Course and the Forest Hills Golf

International tie-ups and various projects in the pipeline will further hone the skills of players and prepare them for bigger golf events.

Founder of the Little Masters Junior Golf Tour Faisal Qureshi is set to open two more centres to assist junior golfers.

course recently.

"Clubs such as ITC Classic Resort, Panchkula Golf Club, JP Greens, Karma Lakelands, Forest Hills Golf Resort, Jalandhar Golf Club, Manesar Golf Club and Golden Greens Golf Club were kind enough to give their golf course for the events. They have helped us in promoting the game," said Qureshi, who has also gained the recognition of the Indian Golf Union.

In the last event, over 100 players took part in a two-day affair at Forest Hills. Some of the leading players in the region are Simarjit, Amrit Lal, Karandeep Kochar, Jujhar Saini, Manjot Saini, Hunar Mittal and Ivan Jolly. The Little Masters Junior Tour's Australian representative, Lajla, also attended the event and is planning an event along with the Canberra juniors.

The LMJGT has also tied up with the Pepsi Titan Little People's Golf Championship in the USA and the Zhang Lian Wei Invitational Golf Championship in China. An exclusive tie-up with The Jason Floyd Golf Academy in Spain is another feather in the cap, where the management sends two players a year for a weeks' coaching or invite academy coaches to visit India for attending camps.

Furthermore, the tour plans to take six junior golfers to St Andrews in 2015 to see the British Open and play a few links in golf courses.

"I have travelled all over the world playing and coaching the game. I visited India last year and was very impressed to see the response the game has been receiving," said Micheal Hebron of the PGA of America.

"Junior golf is the most important aspect of the game today. The tour is helping the young children transform into little wonders," said Jeev Milkha Singh.

In 2013, the tour donated Rs 30,000 to an NGO that helps underprivileged and handicapped children. The LMJGT has many projects in the pipeline this year.