

Karachi Gymkhana Newsletter

December 2020

WHEN DID YOU LAST VISIT THE CLUB'S BAKERY?

SOHAILA TOBEH, our New *Patissier* and Catering Head, exhibits her brilliance, which has significantly improved our offerings to the members. You can now relish the increased array, and new range, of delectable Cakes, Donuts, Hot Chocolate, and a variety of artisanal breads, made with locally milled as well as Austrian Kornmix; favorites being, the 7 seed and sundried tomato. Our garlic cheese bun has also developed quite a following.

While the newly introduced bakery products do well, our old and gold products continue to be member favorites, having had a facelift, both in terms of recipe/taste as well as presentation. Don't forget to try the Banoffee pie, available whole or by the slice, and also the eclairs, baklava & malt cake.

That is not all, ***even the prices have been reduced!*** As a result of Sohaila's hard work and the improved efficiencies of Ali Chinoy, Catering Convener, Shabana Dhanji and the catering team.

We encourage all members to stop by the bakery shop to see the changes, and enjoy the privilege of having access to one of the finest bakeries in town! The new look of the bakery will enthrall you, as you browse through the new additions! Don't forget to try a cake pop on your way out!

So why wait? Visit the Bakery, enjoy the scrumptious goodies and give us your valuable feedback.



New KG Bakery



Sohaila and her delectable creations



Endless choices for healthy breads



KITCHEN ISO9001 CERTIFICATION

Members would be pleased to know that the Club's kitchen is being certified for ISO 9001. KG will be the first club or hotel kitchen in Pakistan to claim this distinct standard. It continues to establish KG as the leading catering provider to its privileged members

The certification entails multiple processes at each stage, cleanliness & hygiene, storage standards, safety and employee hygiene. These processes will ensure that we follow the best global standards

This activity is nearly completed, and as soon as the certificate is issued, it would be shared with all our worthy members.

CATERING COST

With professional handling and incorporation of systems, **input cost has been reduced by 20%**, from 70% to 50%. This is directly reflected in the prices of items charged at the Club. Ali Chinoy, Convener Catering, and his team have done a remarkable job in harnessing these efficiencies.

CURRENT PROJECTS

During the current year, the GB and the MC have initiated the following projects: -

- 2nd Car Parking
- Re-designing of the entire Swimming Pool area
- Laying of synthetic walking track
- Elevated world standard tennis courts
- Solar Power Generation – Completed; it gives a saving of Rs. 1.58 Million PA in electricity charges
- Dressing rooms of Squash Court
- Lift for Ladies Gymnasium

Work on many of these projects have been held up due to closures during Covid-19 lockdown and the unnecessary court cases/complaints, initiated by some mischievous members



State of the art kitchen standards implemented



Proposed Car Park

Efforts are being made to resolve these challenges as soon as possible, enabling these projects to re-start, which will not only enhance the facilities for the Members but also improve on the Club's ambiance. We request all Members to continue supporting these initiatives, despite the vocal unruly opposition of the few detractors, who have created hurdles for the Club at each step over the last few years.

This committee has worked very hard to keep improving the club and will continue to do so.

UPDATE ON CLUB LEGAL MATTERS

The Lease issue of the Club has been pending for decades, and was finally taken up for closure and settlement, to ensure the protection of the Club and Members' rights.

An incorrect impression is being created, that the Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan has not granted the lease to Karachi Gymkhana, and that the issue has been left at the mercy of the Sindh Government. **THIS IS NOT TRUE**. The facts of the Supreme Court Judgment are as under: -

- The Sindh Government had filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against TWO Sindh High Court Judgments, allowing lease to Karachi Gymkhana
- **The Supreme Court disposed the appeal of the Sindh Government without setting aside the two judgments of the Sindh High Court**
- The Supreme Court further ordered: -
- That there should be no undue interference in the management of the Club by Government Officials
- That Government Officials who by virtue of their service portfolio, are entitled to avail the membership facility during the term of their office, as per the rules of the Club
- No interference is to be made to get the facility available to persons not otherwise entitled for membership, which causes difficulty and amounts to interference in the management affairs of the Club
- The Sindh Government undertook (which has been made part of the judgment) that it has no intention to take over the property or deprive the citizens/residents of Karachi of the recreational facility being made available by the Managing Committee of the Club
- The Sindh Government also undertook (which has also been made part of the judgment) that it would not create impediments whenever any permission for improvement or renovation, modification, construction, addition or alteration are sought in accordance with the municipal law
- Therefore, in accordance with the Supreme Court Judgment, an application has been filed at the Sindh High Court for execution of the Lease, which is expected to be executed as soon as possible



Prize winning KG lawns



UPDATE ON CLUB LEGAL MATTERS continued

- To enlighten our worthy members of true facts, and to put venomous and damaging chatter to rest, appended hereunder are the operative parts of the two judgments of the Sindh High Court, granting lease to Karachi Gymkhana: -
- **Judgment of Single Bench:***In view of hereinabove facts and circumstances of this case and the evidence led by the parties, I am of the view that Plaintiff (KG) has made out its case and is entitled for judgment and decree.....Resultantly the suit of Plaintiff (KG) has to be decreed.*
- **Judgment of Double Bench:***The appellants (Govt) thus are directed to renew the lease of the respondent (KG) without any delay.*
- Yet another impression is being given that the Club is engaged in over 50 court cases. THIS IS ALSO NOT TRUE! To further state, **the Club has not initiated any cases against any member or agency**, and has only defended itself, its properties and its rights, and has only pursued implementation of decrees already granted. In almost all the cases the Club has gotten favorable verdicts to its stand point from the Courts.**The Members who have gone to the courts and complained to Govt agencies against the Club have only brought disruption to the Club, inconvenience to the members at large and substantial reputation and image loss for Karachi Gymkhana.**



Covid protocols in place at the club dining area



Beef burger new recipe



Socially distanced seating



Pool snack bar structure restored



CATERING:

It's hard to satisfy the pallet of all of our large volume of Members, yet we constantly endeavor to keep improvising, to cater to the diverse needs of our Members. We have tried to promote an inclusive environment and have hired many young and talented ladies, all educated and trained in F&B. We are also providing training and education to all of our old servers as well, so that the service provided to our Members further improves.

Although the live breakfast is a constant favorite, yet we have further added a few extra items to our already successful menu. Be sure to try the Granola Yoghurt Bowl, our 3 Cheese & Chive Omelet, the Chocolate Pancakes and the Berry-Lemon Waffles!

Our live coffee bar offers a number of new coffees, both hot & cold.

Do try our caramel Macchiato Mocha Frappe and our Vanilla Lattes. The KG Special 'Dalgona' Coffee is also amazing! With advent of winter, the new Hot Chocolate could be your best friend. Keep dining often so that you can keep a tab on our constantly improving new Menus.



New look of KG library



Squash Court floor polished

LIBRARY:

With over 65,000 Books, **KG Library** can boast of being one of the finest libraries of this metropolis. All three sections, namely: The Main Library, Junior Library and the Reference Section, are extensively used by members and their families, particularly students. Keeping in view its wide-ranging use, both the libraries have been refurbished thanks to Convenor Mr. Salim Yusuf to enhance the ambiance for the reading pleasure of our members. Apart from books on varied subjects, also provided are a choice of daily/weekly newspapers and magazines, both national and international. During the last year, 400 new books have been added to our existing collection. Technology is increasingly used by our students and children, and provision of PC's continue to be available for research and study online.

MAINTENANCE

In-house regular maintenance work and paint works has been carried out in Dining Halls, KG Halls, Swimming Pool and Sizzler areas. Grinding, polishing and markings of the Squash Courts have also been undertaken by our own staff, and the new look is shiny and fresh.

As Mr. Fawad Salim Malik's tenure comes to an end, following is a brief of the last few years, where he has had the privilege to serve the Club and its esteemed members

The loss recorded at closing of December 2015 was Rs. 55 Million. This has now been turned into a profit of approx Rs. 10 million.

The reserves of the Club stood at Rs.90 Million at the close of 2015. This has now been increased to Rs.500 million.

President Fawad Malik says:


"The general deterioration of KG for 2 decades was there for all to see. We have done our best to reverse the damage and restore the lost glory, respect, reputation and standards of the legendary Karachi Gymkhana, and I am grateful to the overwhelming support of the large majority of members for helping us do so. The people who oversaw the deterioration of the Club and drop in standards have done their best to create hurdles and stop our progress, but Alhamdulillah God has supported the Members and my team, and below is a short non-exhaustive list of what we have completed in the last few years

- Club Lobby was re-designed/restored to **old heritage**; with original mosaic flooring, wooden paneling, along with banisters and railings rehabilitated
- **After 22 years the Club won a prize in the Garden Competition**
- Sam's Snack Bar was refurbished, along with new menus and electronic ordering
- Weekly Fine Dining was introduced
- For the first time **Ramzan SEHRI was introduced**, with astounding success
- Renovation and modernization of the Bakery was done
- Palm Court Tea Room was launched with a new menu
- **Special Daily Breakfast was started** with a large and comprehensive menu
- Two New Modern Cold Storages were added




Christmas tree in KG lobby

- Introduction of Food Consultant to take care of the catering department, with outstanding results
- New items and menus are being continuously added



SYNTHETIC JOGGING TRACK

AN ENHANCED EXPERIENCE OF WALKING OR RUNNING ON A UV, ALL WEATHER, HIGHLY SLIP, SPIKED SHOES RESISTANT SURFACE
EASY ON THE JOINTS AND MUSCLES
DURABLE, LASTING UPTO MANY YEARS WITH LITTLE OR NO MAINTENANCE



ESTIMATED COST : PKR 41 MILLION
ESTIMATED TIME : 2 MONTHS

TENDER NOTICE PUBLISHED IN DAILY DAWN DATED 5TH JULY 2020
(6) SEALED BIDS RECEIVED BY CLOSING DATE - 15TH JULY 2020

1. FIRST FLOOR (PKR 47, 509, 720) - USA
2. T. S. BUILDERS (PKR 30, 607, 200) - HOLLAND
3. SWALLOW INTERNATIONAL (PKR 22, 062, 002) - GREECE
4. SACHAL TRADERS (PKR 35, 457, 140) - GERMANY
5. AL-FATEH ENTERPRISES (PKR 30, 618, 000) - GREECE
6. ALI'S FITNESS (NO BID OFFERED)

CONSULTANT
EA CONSULTING (PVT) LTD



Fawad Maliks tenure achievements continued.....

- Crockery & Cutlery gradually replaced; and the process continues
- Badminton Courts were air-conditioned and renovated
- Quiz Rama Boards were changed and upgraded
- New elliptical & treadmills were added to the Ladies Gym
- Two treadmills added to Gents Gym
- New Basketball Court has been added
- All Squash Courts have been renovated
- Swimming Pool filters were changed, making KG's pool the envy of all clubs and hotels
- Football court has been renovated
- All lighting in the Club was converted to LED, for energy conservation
- Due to conversion to LED, monthly electric bill reduced by approximately 35%
- Today the entire Club is Wi-Fi enabled, with a powerful dedicated internet bandwidth of 25 megabits/sec
- All restrooms/toilets were refurbished
- Catering ordering on Tablets started, improving services and accounting efficiencies
- Ground Floor Dinning Hall was renovated and upgraded, as the roof had collapsed
- **Rear driveway was re-carpeted**
- New ablution area for members was made, both ladies and gents
- Barber Shop was completely renovated and designed
- New R.O. Plant was installed, so that **members can have unlimited free hygienic drinking water**, apart from all KG cooking being done with this water
- Free monthly entertainment programs were introduced, with different performers and catering to all members
- Quarterly Newsletter was started
- New Garden Chairs added
- Old Electric Panels were replaced, and a source of fire hazard and leakage was added
- **Cricket Pavilion & Dressing Rooms were renovated**, providing members with international standard match facilities.
- KG Food delivery service was introduced"



KG Dining hall



Catering department taken to new levels to meet popular demands



KG President Fawad Malik



Apart from the listed works, most importantly, the biggest challenge and most difficult /arduous task, to complete the Lodges was done – a project which remained a bone of contention and financial loss, and could not be completed despite a lapse of Eight (08) Years. Members are well aware how much of the Club's and their hard earned money was being drained into this project, with no end in sight. Not only did this project get completed and commissioned, but also a forensic audit and exhaustive investigation was done, which unearthed massive irregularities. As a result of this audit and investigation, for the first time in the history of this Club, a record number of members in the GB took action against the people responsible, and terminated their memberships.

Completion of this project, which now earns approximately Rs. 43 Million per annum for the Club, remains the cornerstone of President Fawad Malik's achievements.



KG Lodges

SPORTS:

The new wood paneling of the Billiard Room has brought sophistication and warmth to the area, keeping in view the old traditional architectural structure. The partition doors create an ambiance of elegance and class.

The Club's Cricket field is its pride and joy. With new grass, this lush green field is an oasis in the heart of the city. This legendary asset of KG continues to be the center point of much of the Club's sports and recreational activity.

The KG Cricket field has a historical background. Due to the old glory of our cricket field & the outstanding maintenance, the South African Cricket Team has agreed on the recommendation of PCB & our Managing Committee Member Mr. Saleem Yousuf to do their daily practice session at our ground in the first week of January 2021



Salim Yusuf with South African Team



Historical Cricket Ground of KG