



KARACHI GYMKHANA

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

Presidential Address

Respected members,

It's a great moment for my managing committee and I to utilize this opportunity and share with you our accomplishments and details of various projects, undertaken during my tenure at Karachi Gymkhana, through this newsletter.

For me, it is a matter of pride and importance, to be elected as the President of Karachi Gymkhana, twice. My second election, with a wide margin to my closest rival, shows your enormous trust in me. Like many of you, I am a second generation "GYMKHANIYAN". I am witness to the hey days of this Club, which signifies its prestige and esteem. The Gymkhana is not just over a hundred year old premises. It's a symbol of tradition in spirit and material, both. I have no hesitation in calling myself a traditionalist, who feels nostalgic about every inch of this Club.

Unfortunately, my first election didn't allow me to do what I really intended. But with the beginning of my current stint, I along with my managing committee decided not only to restore and maintain what we already have but shall also add value to the Club. Here I must reiterate my commitment to all our esteem members that we still desire to do more but due to relentless litigation by one of the honorable former President, our certain vital approvals of prime projects, through Half Yearly General Body remained stuck and caused you an unnecessary inconvenience. However, be rests assure that we will deliver to our commitment and promises and leave no stone unturned to facilitate our members to the best of our resource and ability.

Dear members, we acknowledge and value the amount of trust you placed in us. Our prime objective remains the betterment of our member, while maintaining and upholding the basic spirit of the Club. At no time, you will find us losing sight of our above objectives. Whatever we have and will achieve, shall be through your sheer backing and support. We believe that our collective effort will help us to achieve, what we envisaged, together. Inshaa Allah!

AKBAR IQBAL PURI
President



Main Projects

To restore the majestic and heritage look of the Club's façade, the khaprails of the roof has been given a complete makeover. Giving a long needed refreshed look to the heritage building structure of the Karachi Gymkhana.

The old swimming pool boundary wall which was demolished has been resurrected to its original glory. The stairs leading from the main lobby and the front lawn have been completely revamped. The original look has been recreated making it nostalgic for our senior members.



The Club has a strong tennis cadre, which has been suffering hugely due to an unnecessary and irregular car parking venture, on the tennis courts, in the recent past. To address this issue, the management decided not only to restore the area but also make all six courts operational. The courts are being worked over and furnished with a state of the art surface. We are sure, this new addition will give our tennis playing members a unique feel at par with international standards. For the comfort of our swimming pool visitors, a gazebo has been built at the swimming pool area.



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Ms. Ambreen Saqib Tapal
Vice President Convener Tender & Purchase



Mr. Jan Mohammad Dadabhoy
Treasurer Convener Finance & Automation System



Mr. Shahzad Noor
Convener Building & Technical



Mr. Rizwan Umer
Convener Cricket / Squash / Table Tennis / Badminton & Jogging Track



Mr. Jawaid Bandukda
Convener Bridge-I, II & III / Billiard & Tennis



Mr. Ayub Kazi
Convener Physical Fitness & Swimming Pool



Mr. Saqib Naseem
Convener Library / Literary / Vigilance & Discipline



Mrs. Mehnaz Fatima Diwan
Convener Entertainment & Cultural



Ms. Khizra Munir
Convener Quiz Rama & Co-convener Swimming Pool



Mrs. Nadia Dada Baig
Convener Garden & Children Play Area



Mr. Aun Ali Salim
Convener Catering / Employee Relation & Rules

To further facilitate ease of access to both the male and female members, an elevator has been installed at the physical fitness rooms. Hopefully, the installation will start paying dividends by motivating more senior members to utilize the facilities.



General Repair & Maintenance

Karachi Gymkhana mainly comprises of an old structure, which needs regular and continuous maintenance. To achieve this objective, a dedicated maintenance team was fielded into the ground, which straightaway prioritized their work. So to give a fresher look to the lobby, the floor at the main lobby, neighboring corridors and SAM's, have been polished and given a new life. While, the furniture has also been re-upholstered in uplifting colors. Keeping the hot sizzling summer in mind, KG Hall I and the adjoining passage have been air conditioned with new units. At the pool area, repair and restructuring of top shades at main and baby pools was done. A much needed repair of swimming pool and its dressing room was also carried out. At the swimming pool dressing room, the roof has been completely overhauled, new waterfall showers have been installed and all underwater fixtures at the main pool have been installed. The main lawn, is now being lit sufficiently, through the installation of new flood lights. For the viewing pleasure of our members, a new fiber optic TV cable connection has been installed all around the Club premises. On the Lodges front, new bedding and towels were purchased for the usage by its occupants.

Sports Facilities Maintenance

The Karachi Gymkhana believes in prioritizing the physical well-being of its members hence in the ladies physical room a steel flex treadmill and two standing air conditioning units were installed. At the gent's fitness room an elliptical trainer machines, a fitness factory, a leg press hack squat and a 40-inch Smart LED TV have also been added. Two fitness treadmills at ladies and gent's fitness rooms were made operative through the installation of costly display consoles. While outdoors, we have installed new floodlights at both the skating rink and the basketball courts so that your games can seamlessly transcend into the night. At the Squash courts for the players in waiting, we have installed a 43-inch TCL smart LED television. At the Bridge room, during power outages, to keep the focus of our senior member, an uninterrupted power supply has been ensured through installation of a new UPS. To keep temperatures down, during hot summers, both the Table Tennis courts and the Jogging Track Ladies dressing Room have been air-conditioned with new standing units. On the demand of the badminton playing members, the adjacent dressing room to the courts has been extended and completely redone. Besides, to refresh our tiring and exhausted members, a massage room has also been established, at Cricket ground.





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Catering

After the main projects and the maintenance, the Catering was our next main focus. To give a fresh smart look to the catering staff, a new uniform has been designed and procured for the servicing staff. This year larger number of members are flocking to the Club and to give them efficient and timely service, an additional crockery for 500 people and sitting arrangement, through purchase of new chairs and table for around 160 people has been acquired. After quite a long covid break, Ramzan Sehri Iftar dinners have also been resumed. The food, in general is being provided in a cozy and clean environment of the Club, we have endeavored to provide a variety of food and taste to our members. Consequent to that a sea food night, Burns Road night, recurrent Korean Hotpot and a Chinese buffet dinner were organized and had an extremely positive feedback. On the occasion of Eid and Independence Day, we had the opportunity to serve 800 people a sumptuous breakfast and a wonderful Independence Day cake.



IT Department

A new state of the art smart RFID car sticker has been introduced that will prevent the entry of undesirable and non-members at the Club.



Entertainment

Gymkhana prides itself in hosting a wide variety of programs throughout the year for its varying taste of members. The most significant events which tantalized the members were the fund raising concert held for the flood victims, a Bhangra Night with a traditional touch and a Ball Night for our glitzy loving members. A huge response from our members was seen, to these events, which made them the most talked and appreciated event of the town.



For our members with an eclectic taste a Qawali event was hosted. Besides these major events, the members were entertained with few upcoming beautiful amateur vocalists, regularly. Other entertainment events such as an hustling bustling and glowing Chandraat was organized, followed by a grand Eid Millan Party. Every month movie shows were also shown, while all sensational and thrilling cricket matches were screened at the Club.



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Literary Endeavors



Karachi Gymkhana has a large segment of literary members, who are enthusiastic and crave literary events, throughout the year. To quench their thirst, the Literary Committee paid special attention to this need and organized such events, regularly. Few main events organized were Mehfil e Milad, a melodious Mehfil Hamd O Naat, a flowery Mazahia Mushaira, a deeply engaging story telling session, a blazing session with a motivational speaker. Meet the writer programs with renowned writers were also held. As for other activities, during Ramazan a ten days Taraweeh were organized, a very informative awareness session on diabetes was delivered, a writing and an Art competition was conducted. Animated movie screenings were held for children. The last but not the least a special children programme was organized to encourage and highlight their faculties by performing various small skits.

Tournaments

In line with KG's sports spirit, several sports tournaments were organized at The Karachi Gymkhana:-

- Six Red Balls Open Snooker tournament in the month of May.
- KG Annual Swimming Championship during October.
- 35th KG Ramazan Cricket Festival sponsored by Omar Associates.
- Cricket match between the President XI and Vice President XI in March.
- Summer Bridge Festival was held in the month of July while the Bridge Pair contests are being played monthly.



Summer Camp

At Gymkhana we believe in providing our children with creative and recreational outlets during their summer holidays. This way they can think outside the box and explore their talents outside the vicinity of their educational institutes. During the summer, kids had a range of summer camp options to choose from, which included cricket, table tennis, basketball, football, skating, taekwondo, roller skating and badminton. We had a great response in all these activities and it remained extremely beneficial for children of all ages.

