

KOLTE PATIL PRESENTS PUNE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 TEES OFF ON APRIL 10

- **Prize Purse of Rs. 30 lakh**
- **Field to feature galaxy of Indian stars such as Ajeetesh Sandhu, Khalin Joshi, Rashid Khan, Chikkarangappa, Chiragh Kumar, Rahil Gangjee**

Pune, April 9, 2018: The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), the official sanctioning body of professional golf in India, will be staging the Kolte Patil presents Pune Open Golf Championship 2018 at the esteemed Poona Club Golf Course from April 10 – 13, 2018. The tournament which is the sixth event of the PGTI's 2018 season, carries a prize purse of Rs. 30 lakh. The Pro-Am event is scheduled for April 14.

The Presenting Partner for the event is Kolte Patil Developers. The Official Rehydration Partner of the event is Fruitnik ORS. Hotel Crowne Plaza Pune City Centre is the Official Hotel Partner.

The tournament will play host to a galaxy of Indian stars such as Asian Tour regulars Ajeetesh Sandhu (a winner on the Asian Tour last year), Khalin Joshi, Rashid Khan, Chikkarangappa, Chiragh Kumar, Rahil Gangjee, Himmat Singh Rai and Viraj Madappa. The other prominent Indian names in the field are Shamim Khan (2017 PGTI Order of Merit champion), Udayan Mane, Harendra Gupta (2016 champion), Mukesh Kumar and Shankar Das.

The foreign challenge will be led by defending champion Anura Rohana of Sri Lanka as well as his compatriots N Thangaraja (2018 PGTI Order of Merit leader) and K Prabakaran, Bangladesh's Md Zamal Hossain Mollah, Australia's Kunal Bhasin and South African Damian Naicker.

The host city of Pune will be represented by professionals Gurki Shergill (winner of 8th TATA Open 2009), Pravin Pathare, Sameer M Shaikh, Akshay Damale and Sagar Raghuvanshi as well as amateurs Jay Shirke and Pratik Nirmale.

This is a 72-hole stroke-play tournament featuring a field of 125 professionals. The cut will be applied after the first 36 holes. The top 50 players and ties will make the halfway cut and continue to play for another 36 holes.

Nidhi Srivastava, VP- Sales & CRM, Kolte Patil Developers Ltd, said, “We are overwhelmed and excited on being associated with Pune Open Golf Championship 2018. There’s an incredibly strong alignment between our two organizations’ commitments to promoting health, fitness and sport. We at Kolte Patil Developers firmly believe that sport is an important piece of a balanced livelihood, thereby ensuring all our spaces have interactive / sporting facilities. We look forward to being associated with many such renowned events in the near future.”

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Mr. Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO, PGTI, said, “We are delighted to be back in Pune for the Kolte-Patil presents Pune Open 2018. Pune is today an important golfing centre in Western India and this event gives us an opportunity to further popularize the sport in the city. We thank Kolte-Patil Developers Ltd. and the Poona Club Golf Course for partnering with us in staging the third edition of the Pune Open and look forward to yet another successful tournament.”

The Poona Club Golf Course, the venue for the event, is spread over 100 acres and dotted with majestic banyan trees and other flowering trees. The course, which is one of the top championship venues in the country, is well appreciated for its water bodies and fast and true greens. The course has staged many National level professional, amateur and junior events over the years.