

HANNEY



Strong field

Nearly 40 young talents from over 10 countries will be on view when the fourth Albatross International junior golf championship is held at the Greg Norman-designed Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida, from November 21 to 23.

Countries like South Africa, South Korea, Thailand, Sweden, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates and Nepal join the host in the 54-hole competition to be played for boys and girls in four age-groups.

At stake will be nine individual and four team titles in a field of 124 golfers.

The groups are category 'A' (15-17 years), 'B' (13-14), 'C' (11-12) and 'D' (8-10). In addition, a 'D' category, for six and seven-year-olds, has also been introduced.

The event, co-sanctioned by the Hank Haney International junior golf academy, carries R&A World amateur golf ranking points.

This year, the players can also garner Junior Golf Scoreboard ranking points that benefit those looking for admission to US colleges on the basis of their golfing skills.

South Africa's Magda Kruger, a top-100 player in the R&A's World Amateur Golf rankings is the highest ranked girl in the fray.

Japanese Tennoshin Ogawa and Taisuke Ono (both in 'B') will turn out for the Hank Haney International junior golf academy in India.

The Indian hopes rest on Manu Gandas, Tapendra Ghai (both 'A'), Tanvir Kahlon ('B'), Sarthak Chhibber ('C') and Pratyush Sharma ('D').

Among the girls, Tavleen Kaur Batra ('A'), Seher Atwal, Ashvika Gogia ('B'), Arshia Mahant, Khushi Nehra ('C') and Tanishka Kumar ('D') will be watched with interest.

Thailand, which leads the Asian challenge, will have the services of Benyappa Niphatsophon in 'A' category and Punit Anupnsuebsai in 'B'.

The duo has been consistent on the junior leaderboards around the world.