Benny D’Costa is a golf professional and also a technician at BPGC. He married golf when he was 22 and his spirit is still up at 54. Benny’s father was also a golf professional, and after him Benny carried the game forward. “I did play cricket, football, hockey but I feel golf is the most challenging one of all. The point of interest is just 0.5 inch that has to be hit with precision by club and the golf ball has to cover about 250, 450 or even 600 yards to reach the designated hole,” shares Mr. D’costa. He revealed that golf has gained its own share of popularity over time. “Between 60s and 70s, it was only 35 to 40 rounds a day played but today, the numbers have shot up to 120 a day,” he elaborates. Aged 5 or 75, each one takes pleasure in playing the game as a professional or as an amateur. Schools and colleges do not have golf in their academics owing to space constraints and lack of expert faculty for proper guidance. Golf course stretches to around 80 to 90 acres. Club restricted sport leaves our youth unaware about it. BPGC did conduct a workshop in BARC schools so as to introduce and inculcate interest towards the sport among the rising generation. Six figure fees structure to pursue the game is quite expensive and far beyond the reach of middle income group. BPGC have started giving crash courses to the juniors with concessional fees so as to bring in more and more players. ‘Tee’ Time

In Conversation with Mr. Benny D’costa, Golf Professional in Bombay Presidency Golf Club (BPGC), Chembur Reveals that Bombay Presidency Golf Club Success Story Contradicts the belief that Golf is Elitist and a Old Man’s Game

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field

IPL ke side effects!!!

Intro: “It came, we saw and hearts were conquered” if we say this about IPL it won't be wrong. Many cricket fans have still not come out of the IPL hangover, let’s see what the young Mumbaikars think is the after effect of IPL.

Bollywood and Cricket always make news in India and the Indian Premier League (IPL) is a culmination of both of them. IPL was the Indian initiative that gave cricket a look of Club football. When Navjot Singh Sidhu compared test cricket with classical music, one-dayers with Hindi film songs and Twenty20 with remixes, God knows…what he believes IPL is like?

If Twenty20 is Bhelputi, then IPL definitely added some extra masala to the flavour of T20 and these masala obviously are promotional songs, cheerleading bashes and bollywood actors in the crowd. “After experiencing this entire glamour sudden switch to the one day looks so plain” says Tej Adarsh, 16, a standard 10th student. If even small percentage of cricket fan believes so then it definitely means ICC will also have to take some steps towards it.

But now when the power packed entertainer has come to an end and the one day matches are back it seems, somewhere the interest of the fans is fading away, which is very evident from the dropped TRPs of the one dayers just after IPL. Prathamesh, a final year student of interior designing, whose exams ran parallel to the IPL, even then he managed to watch all the matches now says “managing three hours a day was easy but now I really wonder how I was managing to see whole one day match before?”

Apart from viewer ship as far as endorsements and ads are concerned, Sameer Kapoor former PR of ESPN explain “T20 cricket format is giving tough time to the one day cricket”. But as a cricket fan Sameer Kapoor says “Advent of new things never effects the older things but in fact it makes the older things more valuable and classic”. This seems really true as the advent of one day game made test matches a classic look.

Sagar Tanna a die hard cricket fan says “This is all about money. The more money will be invested the better game it will be as it will attract more good and famous players from around the world. People naturally are attracted by star players”. That’s the reason behind failure of IPL’s toughest competitor ICL which was evidently not that strong economically to IPL. Comparison and criticism is something that IPL was facing, since it was idolised. But the success of the matches has undoubtedly not only silenced all the criticism and comparisons but also made more fans following and the rest as we say is history.