



## Karachi Gymkhana Newsletter

December 2019 to April 2020

Dear Esteemed Members,

### QUARTERLY REPORT

I reach out to you at this difficult time as the world and Pakistan reel from the effect of Covid-19. At this time, we pray for the health and wellbeing of our families, countrymen and the world at large. Having been homebound for the last few weeks, we take time to reflect on our activities and the way we have taken our planet and environment for granted, not to mention the lifestyles and value system.

By the time this Newsletter reaches you, your Club would have already played its due and significant role by befittingly contributing and discharging its social responsibility on behalf of Members of Karachi Gymkhana to help the neediest of our society and KG staff at this critical time. I take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to all those members who graciously came forward to be a helping hand for the helpless in this very crucial time. May Allah bless you all for this kind act!

You will recall, when I was first elected in 2016, I inherited a club reeling from corruption, near bankruptcy, an incomplete behemoth Lodges project that had drained hundreds of millions of KG members' money, indiscipline and standards deteriorated to unseen level and nonmembers and fake documentation members abounding. With your support and confidence, we accepted the challenges. Immediately upon assuming the office, as a first step we stopped charging the building levy which members were paying since seven years and then took upon the herculean task of completing the Lodges



project in the very first year. It today contributes sizably to KG's income, which helps us subsidize some food items and provides for better services to our members and also looks after our staff, and yet we save enough to carry out the General Body approved renovations; all this without levying any additional charge on the members, unlike previous projects.

While, in these times of rampant inflation and economic difficulty, we have endeavored to absorb the cost of food, with **notification of lower food prices sent out in March** while at the same time we have also progressed substantially on the up gradation project. The recent lockdown has stopped work and I hope we can start soon, as rising costs and efforts by vested interests to disrupt will damage KG's assets. I endeavor to complete the projects within our term, unlike the umpteen years taken for previous projects, and will try my best to fulfill the commitment of handing over the Club to its members in a befitting manner. Remnants of KG's lost years are doing their best in collaboration with those corrupt members

who were taken to task and punished by the General Body for their crimes to undermine our efforts and that of the General Body and Members at large who have elected us and approved the projects. Despite their politics being rejected by members, they continue causing disruptions and creating hurdles. But we will stay firm and continue with our agenda of rejuvenating the Club and bringing its lost glory back, some of which we have Alhamdulillah been able to achieve.

As you are aware, due to the lockdown, the Club has remained closed since second week of March although the slowdown had started in February. Despite this, in the short span of 6/7 weeks since we assumed office for the present term, we have been able to significantly undertake a number of works and in most cases by utilizing our in-house facilities, details of which are as under:-

- Squash Court bathrooms have been completely renovated.
- Solar Power is now installed and fully operational resulting in substantial saving of our power bill.
- Snooker Room has been renovated.
- Cigar lounge has been inaugurated.
- Children's play area refurbishment has commenced.
- Both the main and children's library have been renovated.



Cigar Lounge



Cigar Lounge



Snooker Room



Dressing Room



Solar Panel System



Library



- Complete extensive maintenance and disinfection of the entire club and lodges has been done.
- As soon as the lockdown eases, car parking project which had already been initiated, would restart.

In addition to the above, Members would be pleased to learn that for the first time in 25 years, we won the first prize in the garden competition. My felicitations to our Garden Team for their efforts. All preparations have been made to restart the fine dining as soon as the lockdown finishes. The daily breakfast would have a new look and new exquisite items would be added to the Bakery as we have hired a new consultant for it. We pray that normalcy returns soon, so that members can start using these facilities again and benefit from the privilege of KG's membership that we are so fortunate to have!

On the financial side, this lockdown is taking its toll as well due to which our monthly operational loss is approximately Rs.1.78 Million. In addition to this, we are losing Rs.4.0 Million per month on lodges, which too is completely closed. During these testing times, we are paying all our staff their full salary and benefits. Despite these financial strains, we have been able to achieve all the items listed above.

Alhamdulillah, I consider myself blessed. With the blessings of the Almighty and unstinted support of such a large section of our members, I have the honor to have been elected for the 4th term in office with the highest vote margin in many decades. This privilege carries a greater responsibility on my shoulders to perform and come up to the expectations of our members. On my part, I am doing my best and would take this opportunity to also request all the members of the Managing Committee to shun petty politics and let us all work together as one team for the benefit of our club and its members.



This newsletter also carries report on the sporting and library activities during this quarter. On behalf of the Managing Committee and myself, we pray for the health and safety of all our members and our loved ones, and pray that Pakistan soon comes out of this difficult period. God bless and Pakistan Zindabad.

FAWAD SALIM MALIK  
PRESIDENT

## LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

For all practical purposes, the Club activities was on a go-slow since mid-February due to the precautions initiated for Covid-19. Despite this, the ever agile Library and Literary Committee undertook various events in the first six weeks since the new committee under the leadership of Mr. Fawad Salim Malik assumed its responsibilities. During this period, the following events were held under the auspices of this committee:-

1. An evening to honor Syed Ahmed Shah took place on 9th January.
2. Robotics Programming for children was held on 18th January.
3. A Musical evening with Sanwal Esakhelvi was held on 19th January.
4. Medical Lecture took place on 23rd January.
5. An Evening eulogizing the works of Late Jamil Jalibi was held on 17th February.
6. An awareness IT session on Citizen Developer took place on 21st February.
7. An evening for late Ahmed Bashir was held on 26th February.
8. Immediately prior to the lockdown, an awareness session on Mental Health took place on 11th March.



## ENTERTAINMENT

There was a great demand from a section of our members to organize a musical show with English Numbers. Acceding to their wishes, a program with renowned singer TARIQ TEE-M MIRZA from USA was held on 5th January 2020, which was not only attended by a large section of our members, but was greatly appreciated too.

Like every year, VALENTINE BALL was held on 15th February 2020, which too was a great success.

An evening with Ghazal Singer SHAKILA KHORASANI was held on 21st February 2020, which was not only liked and appreciated by the members, but was also participated in large numbers.





## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

Being a Premier Sporting Club of the country, the following activities in relation to Sports were also held in the short span of 8 weeks:-

1. Legendry Cricketer Match on 25th December 2019
2. Sports Week was held from 23rd to 30th December 2019 (Squash, Badminton, Table Tennis, Tennis & Snooker) in which exhibition matches of these games were played by renowned players.
3. Ten Sports media team made a documentary on Cricket at Karachi Gymkhana along with Mr. Danny Morrison & Mr. Russell Arnold on 20th December 2019.
4. A Journalist Team Cricket Match was held on 23rd February 2020
5. Karachi Kings Team (PSL) practice session took on 25th February 2020.
6. Legend Squash player Mr. Jahangir Khan visited Karachi Gymkhana Squash Courts on 26th March 2020
7. Pakistan Test Team Captain Mr. Azhar Ali visited the club on 4th March 2020 and freely interacted with members.
8. Badminton star Ms. Palwasha visited Karachi Gymkhana on 22nd January 2020.
9. Badminton star Ms. Mahoor Shahzad visited Karachi Gymkhana on 9th March 2020.

- During this short period, Squash Court Dressing Rooms were fully refurbished.
- In addition to this, Billiards Room also has a new classical look wherein wood paneling has been done along with new wooden doors and polishing of the existing wooden





## COVID-19

President Mr. Fawad Salim Malik would like to express special gratitude on behalf of himself and the management of the club to all members for very graciously coming forward by contributing to Karachi Gymkhana COVID-19 Fund. It was very heartbreaking that some unscrupulous elements of the club tried to politicize on this account but Alhamdulillah, the member's maturity prevailed over these petty issues. The amount so collected

from the members, has been utilized in the following manner:-

1. Ration was distributed amongst the needy staff members of the Club on 5th May 2020.
2. A handsome contribution is being donated to the Indus Hospital
3. Contribution is also being made to The Citizens Foundation which is distributing Ration in a very methodical way to the needy and poor.



**MAY ALLAH ACCEPT OUR OFFERINGS  
IN THIS BLESSED AND HOLY MONTH.**