

Tanah Merah

COUNTRY CLUB

MARCH / APRIL 2022



Champion Kim Joo-hyung against Tampines' waterfall feature background

FEATURE STORY

REDEVELOPED
TAMPINES PASSES
TEST WITH FLYING
COLOURS

AROUND THE CLUB

ELLIOTT'S VAST
EXPERIENCE WILL RAISE
TMCC'S PROFILE AND
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Tanah Merah Newsmagazine is published bi-monthly by Tanah Merah Country Club, 1 Tanah Merah Coast Road, Singapore 498722.

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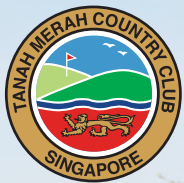
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TEAMWORK DID THE TRICK FOR TMCC'S SUCCESSFUL STAGING OF TSI

By Godfrey Robert

New GM Elliott is inspired and motivated to help bring more events to the Club



Editor Godfrey Robert

Talk golf these days, and it is all about Saudi golf.

The US\$300 million infusion of Saudi money into the Asian Tour has allowed the organisation to stage a lucrative Tour that is the envy of many rivals, not least the European Tour. In fact, golf in the Middle East has been flourishing since the Nineties with Dubai and Abu Dhabi being the main destinations with the help of Troon golf.

And with that came an experienced team of managers, course superintendents and support staff who had come from

the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States. Elliott Gray, the new General Manager of Tanah Merah Country Club is one such official, with loads of experience that have seen him cross continents.

The 52-year-old Scotsman has been involved in golf for 36 years, starting off as an assistant professional at Gullane Golf Club in Scotland. And now that the affable family man has joined premier Club TMCC, the Club is in a position to raise its already high profile further.

Elliott's expertise was evident during January's US\$1 million The Singapore International event at the Tampines course when only days after of his arrival he was hands-on with his contributions in the organising of the marquee event. The affable and humble Elliott says with affection: "I just provided some back-up for the event which was already going underway smoothly."

Elliott took over the GM's job on January 1, 2022, and he was until recently Director of Operations at Golf Saudi, based in Riyadh. Before that, he was Group GM of Arabian Ranches Golf Club and Dubai Hills from 2004 to 2019.

Club President Ho Beng Huat says: "Elliott will bring to TMCC not only a passion for the game of golf, but also more importantly, an excellent understanding of Club management and a track record of working with members and guests in a hospitality-type environment." Elliott is settling here with his Thai wife Pitnadda (nicknamed Eye) whom he met in Dubai where she was working for the airline Emirates. They have two children, Alicia, 12, and Aiden, 9.

On his thoughts on TMCC bringing in major events, Elliott said: "I think the intention is to stage an event of higher profile following the Singapore International and a Ladies Pro Event potentially on the Garden course,

so it is exciting to have these potential events on our calendar.

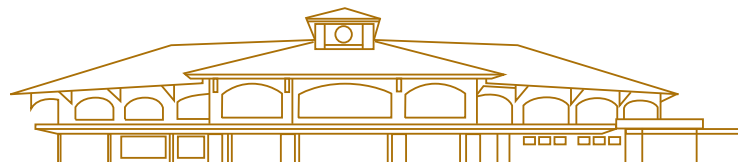
"These events will not be new to TMCC as it has hosted some Class events in the past. I have been involved with the Dubai Desert Classic which is an annual event of the European Tour, Saudi International and numerous high level Amateur Championship events from my time in Scotland, America and South Africa."

Elliott has been a member of the British Professional Golfers Association for approximately 35 years. He enjoys playing the game and is looking forward to getting out on the fairways of TMCC's two beautiful courses, having also played in the Dubai Desert Classic in 1989 and 1990. "The goal is to ensure the team and I can positively impact the experience of all members and their guests coming to both Clubhouses and playing our championship courses and that our objectives are linked to the committees of the Club."

The Singapore International, the first event staged at the Tampines course since the layout was redeveloped three years ago, has provided the incentive for the Club to look for more major events because of the rave reviews received by the Club for its organisation and the preparedness of the course. The course proved to be a difficult one for the professionals because of its length, the terrain and the greens which were undulating on most holes. On top of that the shifting high winds made it tortuous for the golfers to manage their shots.

No doubt, the winning score was only four under, and the cut was at seven over, unusually high for a major event. South Korea's Kim Joo-hyung edged out Thailand's Rattanon Wannasrichan in a gripping sudden-death play-off after both players finished on 284. This was Kim's second win on the Asian Tour, following his triumph in the 2019 Panasonic Open in India. Victory, and the US\$180,000 winner's cheque propelled Kim to above Australian Wade Ormsby on the Asian Tour Order of Merit. He reinforced his position after the SMBC Singapore Open the following week.

Many hardworking hands helped put together The Singapore International, among whom was Adrian Tng, the Club's 42-year-old Course Superintendent. Like Elliott, Tng feels that he played "only a small part in the organisation of the event." So it would be appropriate that "teamwork did the trick", and for that the Club management, the organising committee and all the members should take the plaudits for doing it together.



ELLIOTT'S VAST EXPERIENCE WILL RAISE TMCC'S PROFILE AND REPUTATION

By Godfrey Robert



NEW GM CAN COUNT ON HIS STINTS IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES TO HELP STAGE BIG EVENTS AT THE CLUB



Pictured with Greg Norman, a golf course designer, at the Saudi International

Elliott Gray could not have come to Tanah Merah Country Club at a better time.

For at a time when the Club is looking ahead to staging major events, the affable Elliott's rich experience can be counted upon to take TMCC to new heights.

The 52-year-old Scotsman has been involved in golf for 36 years, starting off as an assistant professional at Gullane Golf Club in Scotland.

And his arrival was significant for within 10 days of his appointment as the General Manager of TMCC, Elliott was thrown in at the deep end with his expertise required at the Tampines course's staging of The Singapore International, a marquee event for the new-look Asian Tour.

Without taking any credit away from the Club personnel who were mainly responsible for the staging of the major event – people such as Club President Ho Beng Huat, Ian Roberts, Sally Chua, Adrian Tng and the backroom staff – Elliott says: "I just provided some back-up for the event which was already going underway smoothly."

Yet it was encouraging to see Elliott hurrying and scurrying between Club and course and hole and hole as a dedicated official ready to "soil his hands".

In fact, when I was introduced to him by Joey Chang, TMCC's Marketing Convenor, he had little time for dialogue as he was busy getting immersed in the big event staged at the Tampines course for the first time since its redevelopment almost three years ago.



Elliott with Ernie Els, his friend of 30 years whom he met at the Dubai Desert Classic in 1990



As Gary Player's personal chaperone when Gary visited Saudi Arabia for the Saudi International

But he was calm and collected, going about his business in a professional manner. Not surprising though, for Elliott is a master at this game. He took over the GM's job on January 1, 2022, and he was until recently Director of Operations at Golf Saudi, based in Riyadh. Before that, he was Group GM of Arabian Ranches Golf Club and Dubai Hills from 2004 to 2019.

So as Club President Ho Beng Huat says: "Elliott will bring to TMCC not only a passion for the game of golf, but also more importantly, an excellent understanding of Club management and a track record of working with members and guests in a hospitality-type environment." Mr Ho also paid gratitude to Elliott's predecessor, Kok Min Yee, who left the Club on December 31, 2021. Mr Ho said: "Min Yee joined TMCC in November 2000 as Course Superintendent and he rose through the ranks to become General Manager in September 2012.

"During his tenure, Min Yee worked diligently with the Committee to successfully renew TMCC's land lease with the authorities and to carry out the full redevelopment of both the Tampines and Garden courses. We acknowledge his long service and contributions to the Club and we wish him the very best in his future career."

Elliott is settling here with his Thai wife Pitnadda (nicknamed Eye) whom he met in Dubai where she was working for the airline Emirates. They have two children, Alicia, 12, and Aiden, 9. On his thoughts on TMCC bringing in major events, Elliott said: "I think the intention is to stage an event of higher profile following the Singapore International and a Ladies Pro Event potentially on the Garden course, so it is exciting to have these potential events on our calendar."



Elliott with his family

"These events will not be new to TMCC as it has hosted some Class events in the past. I have been involved with the Dubai Desert Classic which is an annual event of the European Tour, Saudi International and numerous high level Amateur Championship events from my time in Scotland, America and South Africa."

Elliott has been a member of the British Professional Golfers Association for approximately 35 years. He enjoys playing the game and is looking forward to getting out on the fairways of TMCC's two beautiful courses, having also played in the Dubai Desert Classic in 1989 and 1990. Elliott is full of praise for the Club, saying: "Tanah Merah has an array of facilities of a very high standard. It is my goal to create an enhanced offering in the areas we see as opportunities, this to ensure the membership experience is a high priority, there is a team of very loyal associates and management around me, and I have been welcomed with open arms so to speak."

"The goal is to ensure the team and I can positively impact the experience of all members and their guests coming to both Clubhouses and playing our championship courses and that our objectives are linked to the committees of the Club."

REDEVELOPED TAMPINES PASSES TEST WITH FLYING COLOURS

By Godfrey Robert

ORGANISING TEAM AND STAFF RECEIVE THE PLAUDITS FROM ALL IN INAUGURAL MAJOR EVENT

Some may look at it as a big gamble, that eventually paid off.

Tanah Merah Country Club's Tampines course was put to a severe inaugural test for the Asian Tour's US\$1 million Singapore International in January, and it passed with flying colours. But was it a big gamble? No way. For a gamble is about slim chances, fat hopes and with low odds that need a big slice of luck for it to succeed.

In Tampines' case, preparations were done to a tee, with hardly any room for failure. It was like a win-win all the way. And that came about because of the true professionalism, hard work and countless hours that the staff at TMCC devoted to ensure that no stone was left unturned to see the event through with emphatic success.

No doubt the Club's General Committee, Marketing Convenor Joey Chang, ex-Director of Golf Ian Roberts and their entire teams – with the support and understanding of members – ensured that the event went on smoothly over the seven playing days, which included practice rounds, pro-am and the four-day tournament proper.

The Tampines course – redeveloped almost three years ago – was in pristine condition. The challenging layout, made more difficult with shifting strong winds, called out for true championship play.



Kim and his impressive bunker shot



The Singapore International Winner, Mr Kim Joo-hyung

The fairways were well trimmed and perfect, thanks to the decision to not allow buggies prior to the major event. The greens were fabulous and trim, with the stimp meter reading on most days hovering around the 11 foot mark.

And every golfer, even those who did not make the cut, enjoyed their rounds. Singapore's most popular golfer, Mardan Mamat, a professional veteran of almost 30 years, did not make the cut. But he was full of praise for the course, labelling it a golfing paradise.

I played a pro-am round with 2019 SMBC Singapore Open winner Jazz Janewattananond who was making his maiden round on the course. Standing on the tee-box of the 10th tee – our first hole – he was enchanted with the view from the heights of the black tee.

And after his tee shot, his first words were: “What a fabulous course”, a judgment made a little prematurely but endorsed by taking in the view of many holes from the black tee box. He parred the 547-metre hole, and as he picked up his ball from the hole, he remarked: “What a tough hole!”

“It’s a long par-five, not reachable in two. You must be careful with your drive, water on the left and OB on the right. And you must have a good approach to the massive green, with bunkers on the right and water on the left.”

In fact, from the pro-am day, it was just praise after praise, plaudits following plaudits and acclaim ensuing acclaim from the protagonists not only about the course but also the team behind the staging of the inaugural event.

One player said: “Congrats to the team for a great job from the moment we registered till we returned from the game. Staff were helpful, the registration team were very professional. I must say that the course was one of the best I have played on for a long while. It was in excellent condition, and the greens were immaculate. The team delivered a product fit for tournament play.”

The tournament proper produced some exciting play, and the finish was befitting of a major event. South Korean Kim Joo-hyung won after a gripping sudden-death play-off victory over Thailand’s consistent Rattanon Wannasrichan.

The Korean 19-year-old prodigious talent holed a pressure-packed 14-foot birdie putt on the first extra hole on the daunting par-five 18th before Rattanon missed his birdie attempt from eight feet to seal the deal.

Kim and Rattanon, playing together in the final pairing, had finished the tournament tied on four under after Kim closed with a 70 and Rattanon 72, setting the stage for the nail-biting play-off.

Thailand’s amateur star Ratchanon Chantanuwat, aged just 14 years old, was in contention for much of the day, making it a battle of the teenagers, and took sole possession of third when he returned a 69 to finish two shots shy of the play-off.

For the fourth day in a row, strong winds swept the challenging Tampines course, but Kim handled conditions impressively showing maturity beyond his years. When the 2019 Panasonic Open champion was asked which of his wins was hardest, Kim said: “Has to be this on”.

“Just because it’s a tough golf course you know, all the players played their heart out. I’m just very lucky to be on top. It was a grind today. I think it was a lot harder than the first one but definitely glad I finished on top.”



Joo-hyung (middle) with TMCC Marketing Convenor Mr Joey Chang (left) & Mr Cho Minn Thant, Commissioner & CEO of Asian Tour (right)

The course is such that it can change fortunes within a hole. India’s S Chikkaranga was in the top 10 until he scored a nine on the 178-metre par-three 16th after finding water thrice. And he dropped almost 30 spots.

Crest-fallen no doubt. Chikka pledged he would be back to play the hole again if the opportunity arises. That’s what the Tampines course is all about. Good scores or not, it makes you want to come back and play.

As one local professional who played in the pro-am and is a television commentator wrote in his congratulatory message to the TMCC team: “Well done. The course was amazing, showcased really well on TV. I know the players and staff thoroughly enjoyed the event. Here’s hoping for many more successful events to come.”



GOLF TIPS

BUNKER

MAINTAIN YOUR HEIGHT AS YOU POWER THROUGH YOUR BUNKER SHOTS FOR BETTER RESULTS

Many amateur golfers find it scary playing out of sand hazards. But they don't necessarily need to be so. It's the only shot where you don't even need to contact the ball. Just following some basics can help you get your ball out easily.

THE PROBLEM

One common error I see is that golfers tend to lift their bodies as they swing down at the ball. After taking a decent backswing (Pic 1), they raise their head and body as they swing the club into the sand (Pic 2).

The result is that they either skull the ball way over the green, or hit it fat and leave the ball in the hazard, neither of which is a desired outcome.



CONSISTENCY

By Goh Kun Yang, TMCC Teaching Professional



THE FIX

When trying to hit a proper shot out of a sand hazard, position your ball just inside your left (forward) heel (Pic 3), similar to that for your driver.

Make sure you have sufficient knee bend. Maintain that head and body position in the backswing, and through impact (Pic 4).

Drive the clubhead into the sand behind the ball, follow through to a full finish, and watch the ball float softly out of the hazard and onto the green.





HOLE IN ONE ACHIEVERS

Jonathan Asherson

Hole #7 (200M)
07.01.2022
TMCC Garden Course

Frankie Pek

Hole #4 (130M)
13.01.2022
Sentosa Tanjong Course

Kan Kon Cheong

Hole #11 (126M)
19.01.2022
TMCC Garden Course

Nakamura Yasuhiro

Hole #7 (141M)
23.01.2022
TMCC Garden Course

**David Ong
Hock Khiow**

Hole #6 (137M)
25.01.2022
TMCC Tampines Course

**Lau Wing Cheok**

Hole #4 (196M)
27.01.2022
TMCC Tampines Course

**David Ng Tau Meng**

Hole #4 (176M)
30.01.2022
TMCC Tampines Course





HOLE IN ONE ACHIEVERS

Khoo Ken Hee

Hole #2 (185M)
5-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

**Christina Hee Mong Keow**

Hole #7 (131M)
10-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

Loh Hock Joo Robert

Hole #7 (151M)
12-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

Douglas Lim Jia Qing

Hole #11 (126M)
10-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

**Raymond K Y Boey**

Hole #14 (174M)
11-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

**Chan Boon Seng**

Hole #7 (151M)
23-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course

**Toshio Hirukawa**

Hole #2 (200M)
28-Feb-22
TMCC Garden Course



FEBRUARY

GETTING THE BEST OUT OF BESS

By Godfrey Robert



Bess (centre) with participants and their creations

The Bess in the business.



Bess assisting a participant on her flower arrangement

That was the verdict of four participants after they completed a Chinese New Year Ikebana Workshop at the club on Saturday, Jan 22, 2022. No doubt there was pun intended in the statement because the instructor's name is Bess Tan. Yet amidst the fun of discussing how the extraordinary name came about, the 90-minute session was also about serious business.

For the four participants -- Ms Kyoko Tezuka, Ms Gu YingYing, Ms Gail Low and Ms Sirikit Oh -- paid deep attention to the interesting workshop with the charming Bess. In short, Ikebana is about the intricacies of Japanese flower arrangement. Flowers, as is commonly seen, are a natural floral in Japan, right through the four seasons.



Giving clear instructions to the participants

The name "ikebana" is from "ikeru", which translated means to arrange (flowers), have life and giving life. So through the art, participants "give life to flowers" through arrangement. The pastime of viewing plants and appreciating flowers throughout the four seasons was established in Japan early on through the aristocracy from the Heian period (794 - 1185). With that historical background, the participants focused on the job laid out and enjoyed the session.

The step-by-step guidance under the intense tutelage of Ms Tan, a certified teacher of Ikebana (Sogetsu-Ryu School) proved to be a big eye-opener and education in a special art.

Ms Tan comes with a strong background: having been practising the floral art since 2014. The session was so interesting that time flew by for the participants, who in the end brought their masterpieces home for display.

And it was timely for the Lunar New Year, just days away.

MASTER CHEF NG IS CALLING IT A DAY

He has been very obliging, and Garden View Restaurant staff fondly remember him telling them: “If you want it, I will cook it for you”.

The line is said in Mandarin, but it has been so often heard that it has become universal language. And for Master Chef aka Shifu Ng To Leung, it is no big deal for he finds it easy to do.



Master Chef (far left) with GVR kitchen staff

But soon that will be a thing of the past. The 75-year-old Master Chef Ng is retiring after a long 12 years with the Club and will be retiring on 31 March, 2022 with mixed feelings.

He is a very popular figure at the Club, almost an institution, and he has made many friends. He will certainly miss them, and they him, but the septuagenarian

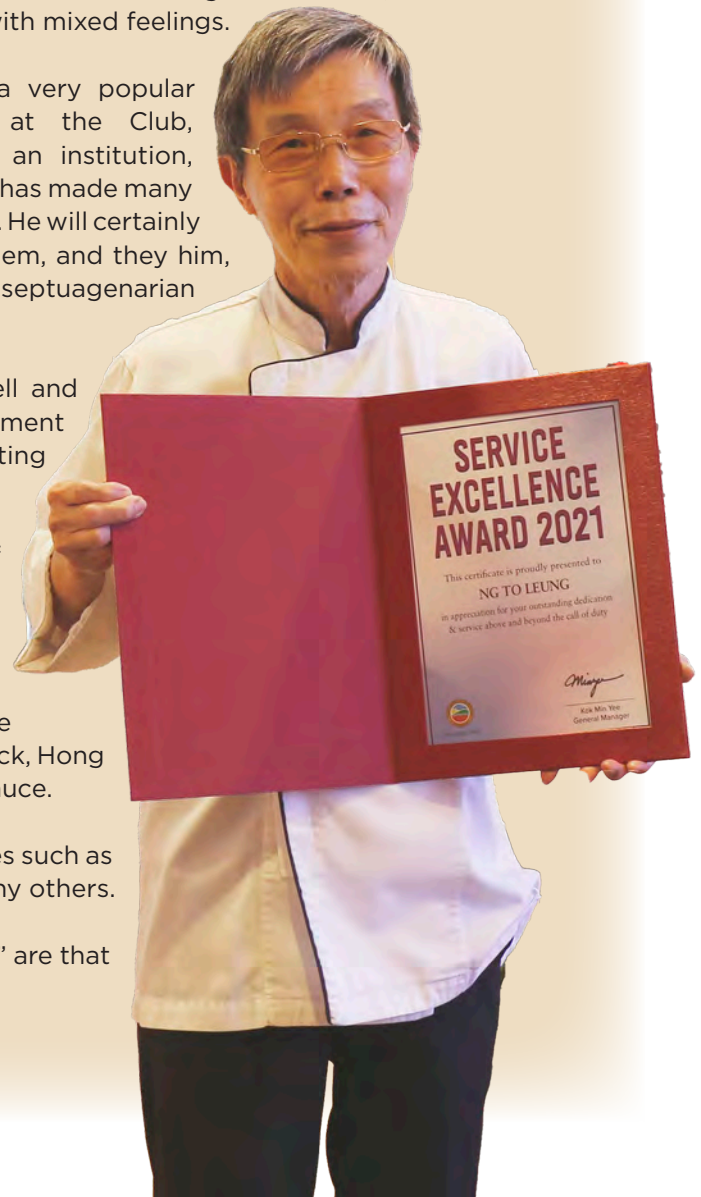
believes that all good things must end sometime.

For years he had ensured that food is prepared well and served according to the standard set by the management and in line with the changing Standard Operating Procedures.

He has been responsible for the high standard of food served at the Garden View Restaurant and his reliability has never been in doubt. To ensure the high standard, he often invites staff for food tasting and pays attention to their feedback. He has many signature dishes well-loved by members, namely the Hong Kong barbecue roast duck, traditional Peking Duck, Hong Kong roast pig and the baked cod fish with teriyaki sauce.

There have also often been requests for his other dishes such as stew, oxtail, beef brisket, abalone, goose web and many others.

And the feedback from members about his “creations” are that they are “first class”. In short, just delectable.





Click Here to
Watch Video!



By Chef Alvin Teo Edited by Tan Ju Kuang

San Lou HOR FUN

**This popular noodle dish is quick and easy to make.
Chef Alvin Teo shows us how.**

Fried hor fun or flat rice noodles is probably one of the more popular items on the TMCC Club menu. While it's relatively easy to cook, the nuances of that invaluable "wok hey" flavour differentiates the acceptable from the great.

The term "san lou" literally means "three toss", which probably refers to the way the noodles and ingredients are worked in the wok when cooking. If there were secrets to the dish, it would be the type of wok used to fry the noodles, the high temperature of the heat, and the stock used to make the sauce.

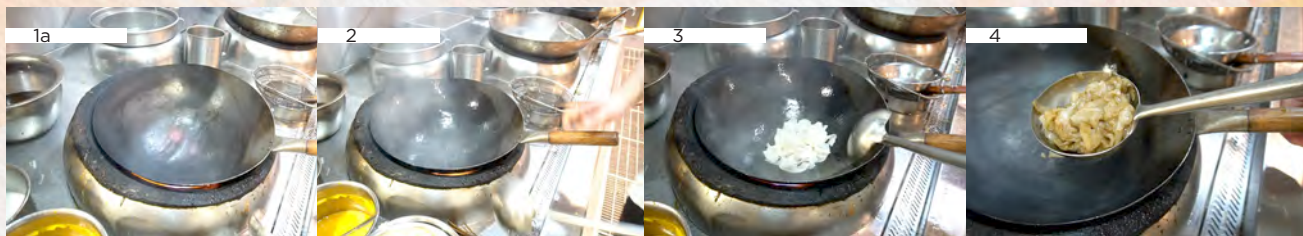
Ingredients (Pic 1)

1 stalk, chopped into 2cm pieces
100g sliced fish, any white fish like snapper or sea bream
½ bowl bean sprouts
150g hor fun (kway teow)
1 tbsp minced garlic
1 tbsp oyster sauce
1 tbsp fish sauce
1 tbsp sesame oil
¾ cup chicken stock
2 tsp rice flour dissolved in 4 – 5
tbsp water (or more in the same
proportion if desired)



Method

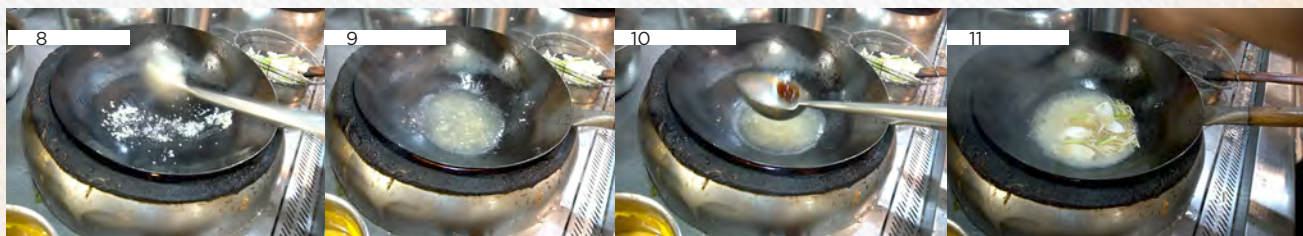
1. Heat wok on high heat (1a); add oil and heat till smoking (2); fry the hor fun till it browns (3, 4); remove from the wok



2. Heat some water in the wok (5); blanch the fish, scallions and bean sprouts for about 1 – 2 minutes (6); remove from heat (7)



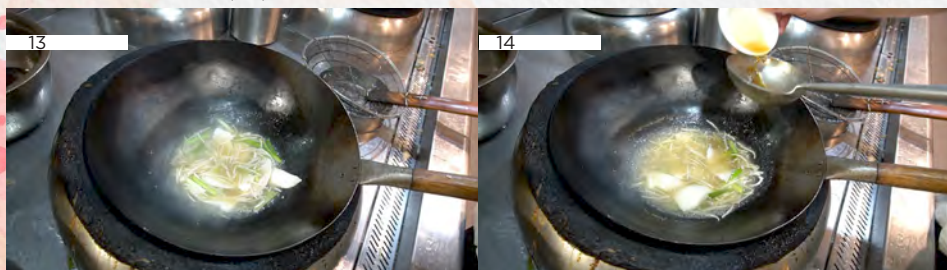
3. in a dry wok; heat some oil; fry the minced garlic till softened (8); add the chicken stock (9); add the fish sauce and then the oyster sauce (10); when it is boiling, add the fish, scallion and bean sprouts (11);



4. Add 4 – 5 tbsp of rice flour/water, vary amount to desired thickness (12)



5. Cook the mixture till the sauce thickens (13); just before removing, add the sesame oil (14)



6. Pour sauce over the hor fun; garnish with coriander leaves and serve hot

GLOBAL

Edited By Tan Ju Kuang

DUO

Yoon Kim and his wife Nina have traversed the world chalking up experiences far and wide. The dynamic and golf-keen pair share their thoughts on how their international backgrounds have shaped their personalities.



After a good game of golf

Both of you were born in Korea but grew up in Brazil. What were your experiences like growing up in an environment so foreign to your birthplace?

YK: Both countries are very different in many aspects. Geographically, they are on opposite ends of the globe. They are also very different culturally. After the war, Korea saw fast economic development and strong competition, which made the people dynamic and competitive. Brazil, on the other hand, is a large country with abundant resources with huge social discrepancies, where the people are relatively easy-going.

Living in different environments requires a need to adapt to different cultures. This has made us much more open-minded, flexible, resilient and tolerant. At the same time, it has also made us stronger as a family and depend more on each other, especially in times of challenges. We've also become more flexible in adapting to new situations, and with new friends. We cherish the friends we've made in the different countries where we've lived.

Nina: I was very young when our family left Korea. South Korea was in tension with the North, so many families migrated to other countries. It was difficult adapting to living in a country where you don't know the language. But we learned to respect and understand the culture in Brazil, which made it easier for us to adapt. We consider ourselves from culturally mixed backgrounds, and this shows in the way we feel about our daily lives, and the way we think and act. Having this background helped us to become more flexible and have a broader perspective in life. The disadvantage is that you become someone without the identity from one country.

How many countries have you lived and worked, and how many languages do you speak?

YK: We have lived in more than seven countries (Korea, Brazil, USA, Germany, Singapore, Japan and Vietnam) and moved our home more than 10 times. It has been a great experience and we always learn something new. One thing that we always appreciate is good people and nice friendships. Picking up different languages is one of the assets of this journey. I speak Korean, Brazilian Portuguese, English and Spanish, and I am always proud that my daughter speaks Mandarin.

How did you end up in Singapore?

YK: I came to Singapore on an assignment in 2012. We didn't know much about the place then, and my only experiences were from a few business trips here. But we loved it here so much that we decided to stay here for good and are trying to make Singapore a base for our family.



The happy couple

Nina, how did you decide to be a fashion designer?

Nina: My family had a chain of clothing retail stores. In order to help and continue the business I decided to go into fashion design and develop in this area. I've had 11 years of experience in companies related to fashion, from pret-a-porter to jeans wear, etc. I also used to organise and promote fashion shows.

I worked nine years in the import and export of accessories as a Director of Product Development, and dealt with a variety of bags and luggage items. I also have some experience working with licensed products from the likes of Disney, Universal Studios, Hello Kitty and a variety of sports brands.

Yoon Kim, please tell us about your work at Schneider?

YK: I've been at Schneider for over five years as Cluster President. The Fortune 500 company has a French origin, and is part of CAC 40. We are in Energy Management and Industrial Automation. Singapore is our HQ for and we have more than 1,400 employees in our Kallang office. Our business is extremely relevant, especially with regard to the Singapore Green Plan 2030. The world needs to be more environmentally friendly. We are at the core of the sustainability solutions utilising digital and software technologies to enable decarbonisation for corporate, government, building, infra-structure, community and individuals.

When did you start playing golf?

YK: I started in Brazil with a few close friends but only really fell in love with it when I was in Korea. It was a very good way to mingle with business partners and customers. Golf is a sport that allows you to connect with people faster, as well as to understand each other's temperament.

One of the greatest experiences I had was when we first played with our family during a holiday. It was wonderful to have the family together enjoying the game. After that first time we always choose holiday destinations where there is a golf course close by.

Nina: I started playing 10 years ago when I arrived in Singapore. I fell in love with the environment and people I met at the golf clubs. I participated in several golf tournaments and my best experience was participating in the Audi Golf tournament in 2017 when my partner and I won. This gave us the opportunity to represent Singapore at the Audi quattro Mundi in Mexico.

This tournament in Mexico was a unique experience, and was organised like a professional tournament. It was exceptional and unforgettable. Another exciting experience I've had was being able to play in the league team for golf clubs.

How did you decide on becoming members at Tanah Merah CC?

YK: I played several times in TMCC but never thought of buying a membership. But one of my "kakis" invited me to join and I had a few golf sessions with different business partners coincidentally in a short period of time. Every time I visited the Club, I felt comfortable and welcomed. The service team was very gentle and polite - from those in the locker room to the F&B outlets, and the course marshals. The trigger was when my wife wanted to be a member.



Nina at the Audi quattro Cup 2017 in Mexico

Nina: We were invited to play in Tampines and we fell in love with the course, the Clubhouse and Club atmosphere. All the people who work at TMCC welcomed us with smiles. We were delighted with the reception we received. But the biggest influence was knowing that we have dear friends who are members. That was the deal-clincher.

What are some of the best things of being a member at TMCC?

YK: It is about meeting nice people and being able to exchange experiences. Besides enjoying a good golf game, we love the healthy aspect of walking the Garden course.

Nina: Being a member of a club that has two courses that have totally different characteristics is wonderful. When I play at Garden, the course is so beautiful that just walking through makes me feel good - especially holes 13 to 14. And the view is so beautiful. The Tampines course, from the first hole to the last, is very challenging. The greens are hard to read and even though I play every day, I never get bored. Although I'm a new member, people who work in the Club call me by my name. It's sometimes surprising, but it makes me feel happy.

What areas of the Club do you think needs improvement and what do you think can be done?

YK: Nothing comes to my mind. Maybe improving the safety of golfers at Garden where some of the areas can do with more or higher safety nets.

Nina: More social events or tournaments for members when the pandemic allows.

ADRIAN ALWAYS FEELS

at home AT TMCC

By Godfrey Robert

Club's Course Superintendent is happy with his contributions for The Singapore International.

Adrian Tng always aims for perfection.

In the midst of rave reviews about Tanah Merah Country Club's Tampines course after the staging of the Asian Tour's US\$1 million The Singapore International, when asked to rate the organisation of the event, Tng says: "7.5 out of 10."

That is a high score in the eyes of many analysts amid the COVID-19 pandemic, but Adrian sees small areas in which things could have been better.

But the fact that he could not be more specific is an indication that he believes in "making the good, better," and turning the "better into best".

The 42-year-old Course Superintendent was all praise for people responsible for staging a grand event and feels that he had played "only a small part" in it. Still, in the light of some rush to stage the event, he says "the course could have been better prepared and the greens could have been less difficult".

And he agrees that once the course, that was redeveloped only three years ago, settles and the trees grow, the harshness of the winds could be tamer, leading to a more pleasant outing for the professionals.

Adrian was pleased that the off-course organisation was superb – with the safe management measures and ease with which the players went about their business – but the realist in him says that there may be areas, namely cleaner walkways and improved tee-boxes, in which some fine-tuning would have helped.



Having been with the Club for 10 years and with a strong landscaping background, Adrian is fully equipped with knowledge on how to provide the best experience for golfers on a course that previously had staged several major events like the HSBC Women's Champions and the Lexus Cup.

His knowledge of turf management as a horticulturist and arborist was put to the test at The Singapore International, and ex-Director of Golf Ian Roberts credits him for "making a lot of things possible".

Ian points to his involvement in the redevelopment project from the start, working closely with course designer Phil Jacobs, then General Manager Kok Min Yee and Site Manager Col (retd) Gurucharan Singh, as a major plus in the event's organisation.

The shy and affable Tng, however, maintains that he is only a small cog in the wheel as he learnt lessons from the dynamic trio while he put his own knowledge into practice.

Adrian, whose wife is an accountant and is a father of a four-year-old boy, believes that the new Tampines – save for the layout of the par-five 10th hole – is different from the old course because the lakes have been dug deeper and enlarged and a couple of par-fours are longer (beyond 400 metres from the blue tee).



Adrian and a colleague ensuring the course is kept in tip top condition

He says that at the Tampines course, the par-three hole 4, par-five 10th and, surprisingly, the par-three 14th are the toughest holes. He explains: "4 has a big undulating green, 10 a difficult approach and 14 gives a visual take as being easy, but the green can deceive you with its ups and downs."

**He believes in
"making the
good, better," and
turning the "better
into best".**

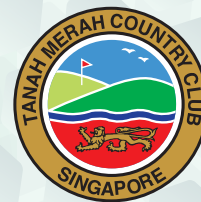
As for the Garden course, Adrian is confident that despite its reduced length because of land lost to airport expansion and road widening, it can stage a major women's event because the layout is still very challenging.

Tng, who during his younger days had dabbled in many sport, does not play golf because of a slip disc problem. But he is well versed with the game and keeps an update because the knowledge will come in handy for his job.

The friendly Adrian commutes from Boon Lay to the Changi Club in 40 minutes, but he is up at 5.15am for the job starts at 6.30am on his work days. "It's an enjoyable drive, made better by the staff and colleagues at the Club who make me feel at home," he stresses.

Justin Tang

CERTIFIED JUNIOR GOLF COACH



8188 1701



justin@elitegolfswing.com



Whatsapp



Email



Instagram

- MG Purestrike Golf Academy, in Destin, Florida USA
- Kinesiology and Biomechanics of Golf
(KMG - Level 4 certified in Spine Mechanics and Qualitative Biomechanics in Golf)

Justin Tang has been trained extensively in The Golfing Machine and Mac O'Grady's MORAD system since 2005.

He is a Brookbush Institute Human Movement Specialist and a Kelvin Miyahira Level 4 certified instructor in Spine Mechanics and Qualitative Biomechanics in Golf.

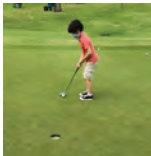
A specialist in junior golf development since 2005, he has a wealth of experience in teaching juniors. He is passionate about introducing the game to TMCC juniors, nurturing their technique and a life-long love for the game. Over the years, some of his juniors have gone on to compete at the collegiate and national level.

Using the American Development Model, his holistic approach balances the mental, physical and technical aspects of the game to meet every TMCC junior's unique needs.

He continues to seek out the brightest coaching minds in the USA and Australia to further refine his system which is based on anatomy and psychology for rapid improvement.

FUNDamentals

Boys: 6-9
Girls: 6-8



Learn to Play

Boys: 9-12
Girls: 8-11



Play to Improve

Boys: 12-16
Girls: 11-15



Play to Compete

Boys: 16-23
Girls: 15-21



Play for LIFE





JONATHAN IS A DESERVING WINNER

By Godfrey Robert

Talk pool, and inevitably the name Aloysius Yapp comes to mind.

In a game which picked up steam over the last 20 years, Singapore is today recognised as a strong global power.

Thanks to Yapp, 25, a local professional who won the world junior champion title in 2014 and is currently ranked No. 2 in the world.

The multi-South-east Asian Games medal winner since 2015 and runner-up in the 2021 US Open Pool Championship in the nine-ball version of the cue sports, was once the world's No. 1 ranked player.

The popularity of the sport spread and Tanah Merah Country Club was not left out of the reckoning.

The Club staged an 8-Ball Pool Competition, based on Round-Robin format, best of 3, on February 13. Five members (four males and one female) competed in the event.

After a gruelling battle, Jonathan Ng (N6566) won most number of rounds and was the declared the champion.

The athletic Ng was in tremendous form and the glittering trophy was rightfully in his possession.



Champion Mr Jonathan Ng with his trophy



BUTT POWER

What's the secret to longer drives and faster run times? You're sitting on it.

By Bharatt, TMCC Gym Instructor

We all want to hit the ball further, or run faster. Contrary to what you may think, it's not all about bigger biceps, or thicker thighs. It's in the glutes.

The glutes consist of three sets of gluteal muscles that start from the pelvis and connects to the thigh bone – gluteus minimus, gluteus medius, and gluteus maximus.

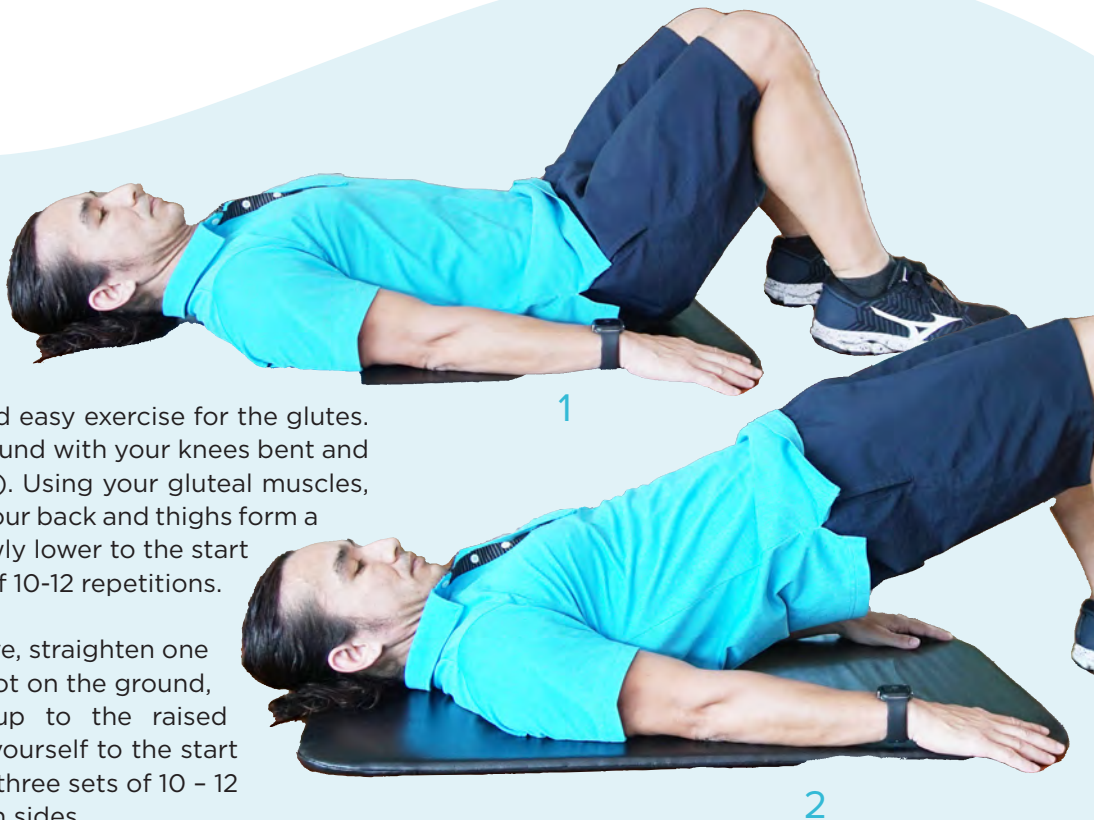
Strong gluteus can offer you more power in a variety of sports movements, but one of the key advantages of having a formidable buttock is that it also prevents you from injury. Combining strong gluteal muscles with a strong core can lead to better balance, and overall stability.

The great thing is that you don't need to hit the gym, or even use weights to strengthen the glutes. There are many wonderful body weight exercises you can do instead.

Bridges

The bridge is a great and easy exercise for the glutes. Start by lying on the ground with your knees bent and arms by your side (Pic 1). Using your gluteal muscles, push your pelvis up till your back and thighs form a straight line (Pic 2). Slowly lower to the start position. Do three sets of 10-12 repetitions.

For a more isolative move, straighten one leg out and using the foot on the ground, slowly push yourself up to the raised position (Pic 3). Lower yourself to the start position and repeat. Do three sets of 10 – 12 repetitions each for both sides.





4



4a



5



5a

Reverse Lunge

Stand with feet shoulder-width apart (Pic 6). Move one leg back with the ball of the feet on the ground (Pic 7). Lower the back leg till the knee almost touches the ground (Pic 8). The thigh of the lowered leg should be vertical, and that of the front leg should be parallel to the ground. Using the glutes, raise yourself back up (Pic 9). For more resistance, you can hold onto small dumbbells when doing this exercise. Do three sets of 10 - 12 repetitions for each leg.



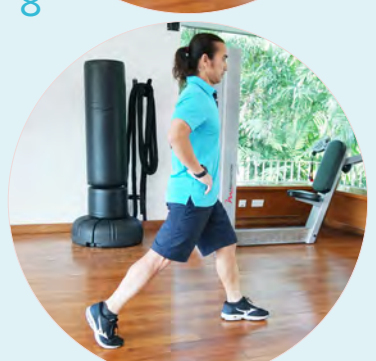
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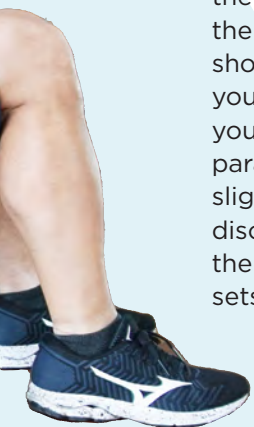
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9

Squats

Few exercises are as simple and effective as the squat to strengthen the buttocks. Start with your feet about shoulder-width apart (Pic 4, 4a). Lower your buttocks by bending at the knees, focusing on using the glutes (Pic 5, 5a). There should be minimal strain on your knees. You may lower yourself till your thighs are parallel to the ground, or slightly deeper if there is no discomfort. Slowly return to the start position. Do three sets of 10 - 12 repetitions.



Pic11

Step-up

Start with one foot on a raised platform (Pic 10). You can use a step at home if you like. Push yourself up with the foot on the raised level, keeping all your weight on that foot at the top (Pic 11). Slowly lower yourself down to the start position. Do three sets of 10 - 12 repetitions for each leg.



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golf@saujana.com.my

Reciprocal Member is required to produce:

• Letter of Introduction • Membership Card • Passport to verify their identity and to show that they are not residents of the same Country as the Host Club (Japan) • Handicap Certificate

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JAPAN

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reservations@montgomerielinks.com



FAST FACTS

TAMPINES COURSE:

18-hole Buggy Course

- Redesigned by: Phil Jacobs (2017)
- Total Yardage: 6,887metres (Par 72)
- Course Rating: 76.1
- Fairways & Roughs: Zoysia matrella
- Greens: Paspalum platinum TE

GARDEN COURSE:

18-Hole Buggy / Walking Course

- Redesigned by : Robert Trent Jones II (2020)
- Total distance : 5706 metres (Par 71)
- Course rating : 70.3
- Fairways & Rough : Zoysia matrella
- Green : Paspalum platinum TE

Caddie Services (with buggy)	18-Hole	9-Hole
Twin-share (1 caddie to 2 golfers)	\$70.00	\$35.00
Single golfer	\$50.00	\$25.00

***Cash payment required for caddie services**
All rates are in Singapore dollars and GST is not applicable.

GOLF OFFICES OPERATING HOURS

TAMPINES COURSE

Mondays	Closed
Other Days	7.00am till 7.30pm

GARDEN COURSE

Tuesdays and Thursdays	9.30am to 7.30pm
Other Days	7.00am to 7.30pm

PROSHOP OPERATING HOURS

TAMPINES COURSE

Monday	Closed
Other days	7.00am to 7.00pm

GARDEN COURSE

Tuesday & Thursday	11.30am to 7.00pm
Other days	7.00am to 7.00pm

For enquiries, kindly call:

- Tampines Golf Office 6513 7818 & 6513 7819
- Tampines Proshop 6592 4808
- Garden Golf Office 6545 1731 & 6592 0343
- Garden Proshop 6592 0371



GARDEN VIEW RESTAURANT (GVR)

Situated in the main clubhouse of Garden Course, it can accommodate 130 persons in a comfortable air-con, elegant setting. With a panoramic view of the golf course, the Garden View Restaurant offers attentive service, and warm ambience.

Operating Hours:

Daily

Lunch : 12.00pm to 3.00pm (Last Order – 2.30pm) • Dinner : 6.30pm to 10.00pm (Last Order – 9.30pm)

Closed on Mondays except on Public Holidays

Tel: 6545 2891 / 6592 0388.

GARDEN BANQUET ROOM (GBR)

Whatever the need, weddings, birthdays, product launches, golf prize-presentation etc, GBR can cater up to 250 diners with its balcony overlooking the serene surroundings of the Garden Course.

Tel: 6592 0386 / 6592 0385

GARDEN LOUNGE (GL)

The lounge is situated adjacent to Garden View Restaurant and members can enjoy the magnificent view of the Garden Course.

**Due to COVID-19 Restrictions, we regret to inform you the Garden Lounge is currently not available for usage.*

Operating Hours:

Sundays to Thursdays 3.00pm to 10.00pm (Last Order – 9.30pm)

Fridays & Saturdays 3.00pm to 12.00am (Last Order – 11.30pm)

Closed on Mondays except on Public Holidays

Tel: 6592 0319

GARDEN EVENTS ROOM (GER)

The Garden Events Room caters for up to 100 persons for sit-down dinners and has parquet flooring for dancing. The room is also a popular venue for the club's social activities.

Tel: 6592 0386 / 6592 0385.

POOLSIDE CAFETERIA

With a prime vantage point overlooking the swimming pool at the Sports Complex, this poolside retreat is the perfect place for refreshing the spirit after a day of fun in the sun. Famous for its local fare served up with a warm smile.

Operating Hours:

Tuesdays to Fridays	12.00pm to 8.00pm (Last Order – 7.30pm)
Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays	8.00am to 8.00pm (Last Order – 7.30pm)
Closed on Mondays	

POOLSIDE COVERED TERRACE (PCT)

Overlooking the best view of both worlds, a panoramic view of Garden Course and the calm water of mesmerising pool amidst beautiful landscape, the Poolside Covered Terrace is a good venue for barbecue or social gatherings and can hold 30 tables with buffet tables placed on the pool deck.

For bookings of rooms for private functions, please call F&B office at Tel: 6592 0386 / 6592 0385.

TAMPINES GOLFERS' LOUNGE & TERRACE

Tampines Golfers' Lounge (air-conditioned) adjacent to the non-airconditioned Golfers' Terrace for dining.

Operating Hours:

Monday (Except on Public Holidays)	Closed
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays	7.00am to 8.00pm
Friday to Sunday & Eve of PH	7.00am to 9.00pm

Garden Golfers' Terrace

Opening Hours:

Mondays & Wednesdays	7.00am to 8.00pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays	11.00am to 8.00pm
Fridays to Sundays & PH	7.00am to 10.00pm
Eve of PH	7.00am to 10.00pm





GARDEN VIEW WING

1st STOREY

Heliconia Room

Need to hold board meetings, workshops, seminars etc? Book the Heliconia Room with seating capacity from 30 to 60 persons, offering various set-ups.

Ixora Room

Cooking and baking are such an enjoyment with a stylish kitchen studio. The room can also be used to conduct talks ranging from beauty to personal enrichment up to 40 persons. So look out for the various activities that we have in store for you printed in the bi-monthly newsmagazine.

2nd STOREY

Lotus Room

Dining in privacy is guaranteed here, with a seating capacity for 20 persons.

Hibiscus Room

More spacious than the Lotus Room, you may organise your gathering and dine in private here. Seating capacity is 30 to 60 persons. Lunch - \$500 minimum spending (on food and non-alcoholic beverages); Dinner - \$700 minimum spending (at least minimum \$600 on food)

Operating Hours:

Sundays, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays

Karaoke Lounge

Belt out your best hit songs at the self-operated Karaoke Lounge, with a seating capacity for 20 persons.

**Due to COVID-19 Restrictions, we regret to inform you the Karaoke Lounge is currently not available for usage.*



Tampines Course during The Singapore International