

REGAL COLLECTION

Cobra Golf rekindled its old moniker by introducing the KING F6+ and F6 range of clubs at a trade show in Kuala Lumpur, last month.

The new Cobra KING F6+ driver has an all-new Carbon-Trac weighting system that features a sliding weight with five centre of gravity (CG) positions. The carbon fibre shell helps to position weight where it matters, and the 18g weight on the sole helps lower the CG for higher ball flight and more forgiveness.

Cobra's Forged E9 Zone Face technology also comes to play, increasing the sweet spot for more distance on off-centre hits. The Speed Channel trench around the perimeter of the face and toe area aims to create additional discretionary weight to decrease face thickness for faster ball speeds.

The KING F6+ comes in Black, Blue or Grey Turbulence colours, and is available in lofts of 9, 9.5, 10.5, 11.5 and 12 degrees, and three draw settings – 9.5D, 10.5D and 11.5D.

In contrast, the KING F6 Driver has a dual position front-to-back CG system with 10g and 3g flip weights. The lighter weight can be removed all together, offering an added option to maximise CG and spin configuration.

The KING F6 Driver comes in four colours

– Black, White, Orange and Grey, and in MyFly8 Loft Range of 9, 9.5, 9.5D, 10.5, 10.5D, 11.5, 11.5D and 12 degrees. The KING F6 Fairway Woods and Hybrids complete the range. Fairway woods (in Black, White or Orange; 3-4F and 5-6F loft available) come with two CG positions, and 20g and 3g moveable weights. The KING F6 Hybrids are available in 3-4H and 4-5H versions, in Black, White or Orange.

The new head shape is 3g lighter than the previous model, and boast a thin 455 SS face with Speed Channel for maximum ball speed.

The Cobra KING F6 range of driver, fairway and hybrid is also available in a women's line, with bright colour options of Raspberry/Silver, and Silver/Ultramarine Blue.



IT'S IN THE BAG

Toting a bag around to keep your personals just makes sense.

Hence, the advent and rising popularity of the man bag. Braun Buffel's 2015 Fall/Winter Poche collection has something for everyone – duffles large enough for your clothes or laptop,

conventional backpacks, or that clutch for your keys, smartphone and even extra balls when you play golf. Designed in a masculine, fuss-free accent, all bags are crafted in medium grain printed calf leather for that premium feel.

The Braun Buffel Voyage collection, on the other hand, caters to those making longer trips. Handcrafted in Florence, Italy, the line includes a duffel and a briefcase, with clean lines and the distinctive buckle.



NSRCC'S NEW NINE

Don't look now, but amid all this talk about golf courses closing in Singapore, we actually have a new golf course to look forward to. National Service Resort and Country Club's new nine holes opened for play this month, and it looks to be a very interesting layout for all golfers.

Like its neighbour across the road – Tanah Merah Country Club – NSRCC had to give up some of its land for airport expansion works. The bad news was that the planned construction forced the closure of both Army and Air Force nines, as well as their pretty par-three course.

The good news, of course, is that they hired Parslow and Winter Golf Design to work out nine new holes, built on the leftover land.

The new layout is nothing like that of its predecessors. Members and their guests have nine brand new holes to play on, with the only links to its past being the challenge each present, as well as the great playing conditions that NSRCC has come to



be known for.

Elaborate water features come to the fore on the new design, with an elaborate waterfall dominating your view on the par-four fourth hole.

Fairways of Zoysia Matrella meander left and right keeping you on your toes to find the best positions to approach the tricky greens turfed with Seashore Paspalum Platinum turf. Parslow and Winter's sand bunkering can be visual illusions that only repeated play on the course can overcome.

The tight land space for the first four holes may be the cause for some puzzling arrangement of tee boxes and

greens. But once you get to the back half of the course, the holes open up, with views to boot. The 340m par-four seventh is a wonderful little hole that plays slightly uphill to a blind green. But once on, you have the view of the sea as a just reward.

With this nine, NSRCC's Changi location is reduced to an 18-hole golf course.

Although this, combined with the club's 100-per cent usage rate, may prove a challenge to the operations team, there is little doubt that the new design will rank most favourably to anyone teeing it up here.

LEARNING ASPIRATIONS

The Indonesian Ministry of Tourism, through the branding Wonderful Indonesia, is aiming to promote Indonesia as the next destination for the world golfers.

Indonesia has 55 golf courses with Jakarta, Bogor and Batam as the most popular golf tourism destinations.

The Royale Jakarta Golf Club is one of the top golf clubs in Jakarta with 27 holes, played over three beautiful nine-hole layouts.

Designed by American Robert Moore Jr, it is located just 15 minutes from Central Jakarta and accessible through the city toll road, only 700m from the Pondok Gede toll exit.

The Klub Golf Bogor Raya,



The Royale Jakarta Golf Club.



The Klub Golf Bogor Raya.

a Graham Marsh designed course, is set amidst the 400ha integrated resort development of Bogor Lake Side and offers a friendly but challenging game to players of all levels of skill.

Golf here is played in absolute tranquility amidst panoramic views and mountain backdrops.

Also not to be missed is the Damai Indah – Pantai Indah Kapuk Course, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr.

Located less than 30 minutes from Jakarta's international airport, the 6,048m golf course is designed by skilfully integrating the natural beauty of the coastal wetlands to create a layout that is testing and beautiful.

— Eunice Seah

JAMES SHOWS HIS PROWESS

The event is dubbed a platform to bigger things for golfers.

The SICC/DBS Junior International Golf Championship has seen the likes of Singaporean Johnson Poh, a previous winner of the event, eventually turn professional and achieve "bigger things".

Following in his footsteps will be national golfer James Leow. The youngster showed that by winning the Boys' A Division category of the

SICC event last week and also claiming the Lion Cup for the best individual in the competition at the Bukit course.

James shot a final-round 70, to add to his 77 and 71, to win the category by four shots.

He was also a member of Singapore's Nomura Cup team that finished fourth (previous best was sixth in 2013) in Abu Dhabi in October – the best-ever finish by the Republic in the Asia-Pacific tournament. — Godfrey Robert



(From left) SICC deputy chairman Khoo Boon Hui, James Leow and SICC club captain Andrew Lim at the prize-giving ceremony.

photos by Cobra Puma Golf, Braun Buffel, The Royale Jakarta Golf Club, The Klub Golf Bogor Raya, Singapore Island Country Club