

Ahmedabad power to title

BENGALURU Sri Lankan Mithun Perera shot a five-under 67 to ensure Navratna Ahmedabad retained the Louis Philippe Cup at the Karnataka Golf Association course on Saturday. It was Navratna Ahmedabad's third Louis Philippe Cup title in four years of the tournament.

Perera's teammate and compatriot Anura Rohana, who made a crucial 10-foot birdie on 18th when the team needed it most, provided able support as he signed a card of one-under 71. Shankar Das, the third player of the Navratna Ahmedabad team, turned in a disappointing final round of three-over 75. But it did not matter as only the scores of the best two players contribute to the team total.

Navratna Ahmedabad finished with a three-day total of 13-under 419 and tied with TAKE Chennai, but Ahmedabad's final day score of six-under 138 gave them victory. TAKE Chennai, who went into the final round with a five-shot cushion, had a disappointing day as all three players were unable to shoot low numbers.

Perera, who also led Navratna Ahmedabad to victory



Navratna Ahmedabad's Mithun Perera, Shankar Das and Anura Rohana with the trophy at the KGA course on Saturday

in 2012 and 2013 said: "I had a bad start with a bogey on the third. I didn't think we could win. When Shankar gave me a sign on 11th hole that he is not doing too well, I began firing birdies. I was very confident of doing it again."

Bengaluru's Khalin Joshi carded a two-under 70 while both his TAKE Chennai teammates S Chikkarangappa and SSP Chawrasia shot one-over 73. Khalin, though, became the individual strokeplay winner with a 54-hole total of 12-under par, while Om Prakash Chouhan of Dev-Ellora Pune

was individual runner-up at five-under par.

Pune, who were fifth at the end of Day Two, climbed to third after Sanjay Kumar shot a fabulous round of four-under 68 and Om Prakash Chouhan submitted a scorecard of three-under 69. Bangladesh's Siddikur couldn't do much on the final day for the Pune team as he shot six-over 78.

Zion Hills Bengaluru finished fourth at 10-under 422 while Gaganjeet Bhullar's Jaypee Greens Greater Noida and Laqshya Mumbai shared the fifth place.

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