

# Carballo battles tough conditions to bag lead

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** On a tough day for the afternoon starters, Argentina's Miguel Carballo battled through blustery conditions and an hour's stoppage due to a heavy downpour to return a two-under 68 card and stay one ahead of the field in the inaugural \$75,000 Louis Philippe Cup at the Prestige Golfshire on Wednesday.

The 39-year-old took his two-day total to nine-under 131, one ahead of joint overnight leader Udayan Mane (69) and Om Prakash Chouhan (67) in the Asian Development Tour event. Divyanshu Bajaj (68) was one shot further back in fourth place on seven-under 133.

Honey Baisoya, the PGTI Order of Merit leader, American Casey O'Toole and Thailand's Tommy Mansuwan, who had a hole-in-one on the second, were the big names to miss the cut that came at two-over 142.

In the middle of a fine run in his maiden season in Asia — five top 10s in six starts — Carballo couldn't quite reproduce his first-round heroics (63). But given the trying conditions, the Argentine would have been happy with a 68. The greens that played fast for the better part of the day, slowed down considerably after the rain and made



**STAYING AHEAD:** Miguel Carballo

for tough reading as well. "It was a taxing day for me because of the strong winds and rain later in the evening," said Carballo, 39, twice winner on the Web.com Tour.

**Leading scores (after 36 holes, par-70, Indians unless mentioned): 131:** Miguel Carballo (Arg, 63, 68); **132:** Om Prakash Chouhan (65, 67), Udayan Mane (63, 69); **133:** Divyanshu Bajaj (65, 68); **134:** Rashid Khan (70, 64), Khalin Joshi (66, 68).