

## Press Release

### Race to Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 heats up at National Qualifiers

**Kuala Lumpur, Feb 18, 2014:** Kenneth De Silva and Mohd Amlı Mohiyadeen led a tight leaderboard after shooting identical one-over par 73s on the opening day of the National Qualifiers for the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club (KLGCC) today.

They are one stroke ahead of three other golfers, and two in front of another six players after the first round on the West Course.

With only four precious qualifying spots available from this tournament, the 51 Malaysian golfers upped the ante at the challenging KLGCC West Course, which will also host the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 from April 17-20.

Kenneth, who began from the 10th tee, found the going tough in the beginning as he faltered to a three-over after 13 holes.

He, however, shot birdies on the fifth and sixth holes to share the lead with Mohd Amlı.

“It was tough out there, as it always is on this course,” said Kenneth.

“I’m determined to hold on to my position as I had a taste of the Maybank Malaysian Open last year and I want to rub shoulders with the big boys once again.

“Last year, I was selected by GlobalOne as one of their invites to play in the tournament and it was a great experience.

“It helped my game a lot and this year, I hope to be among the four qualifiers.”

Mohd Amlı, meanwhile, shot even par on the back nine before dropping a shot on the way in, despite a fantastic eagle on the par-four eighth hole.

Maybank chairman, Tan Sri Dato’ Megat Zaharuddin Megat Mohd Nor, said: “I anticipate a tough battle on the final day. These are the best golfers in the country and every single one of them will be determined to compete in the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014.

“I’m sure the golfers will leave no stones unturned in their quest of qualifying for this prestigious event and join the other Malaysians who have already made it through.

“Over the years, the Maybank Malaysian Open has evolved into one of the leading events in this part of the world due the excellent teamwork and relationship between Maybank and all the other stake holders involved in the event.”

He added this relationship has gone a long way in ensuring the immense success of the Malaysian Open. The level of excellence the event has attained is the reason world class stars continue to make their way to our shores each year.

Last year, Sasidaran Muthiah, Kemarol Baharin, Mohd Hanafiah Mohd Jamil and P.Gunasegaran claimed the coveted slots by finishing among the top four in the qualifiers.

Kemarol is within striking distance of the leader after shooting a 74, to lie joint second with Tommy Chin and Rahizam Ramli.

Zen Dharmaratne, Lam Kong Long, Chong Chee Ming, Mohamad Irfan Yusoff, Wilson Choo, Jeremiah Kim and Dino Abdillah are a further shot behind.

“It was a tough day as the weather was scorching hot,” said former Malaysian Open Junior champion Jeremiah Kim.

“I’m happy to be in touch with the leaders and will have to stay focus for tomorrow’s final round.

“It is our dream to play in such a prestigious tournament and I hope to be among the top four tomorrow.”

The four qualifiers from this tournament will join Nicholas Fung, R. Nachimuthu, Arie Fauzi, Rizal Amin, Airil Rizman, Sukree Othman, lylia Jamil, Khor Kheng Hwai, Shaifubari Muda, Danny Chia, Shaaban Hussin, Iain Steel, S. Murthy, S. Siva Chandhran, Gavin Kyle Green, Ervin Chang and Solomon Emilio Rosidin, who have already confirmed their places.

Meanwhile, Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) president Tan Sri Dato’ Mohd Anwar Mohd Nor praised the leaders, who had to battle the elements and each other to stay in front.

“The players showed genuine courage in adversity as they did battle to reach the top of the leader board.

“It was an exciting day and I’m anticipating a big showdown tomorrow. May the best men win their tickets to the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014.”



For information on the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014, visit [www.maybankmalaysianopen.com](http://www.maybankmalaysianopen.com) or follow us on Twitter @maybankmsiaopen or #maybankmalaysianopen. Tickets for the event are available now. For information on ticketing, please go to [www.ticketpro.com.my](http://www.ticketpro.com.my)

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### **About Maybank**

#### **About Maybank**

The Maybank Group is South East Asia's fourth largest bank by assets. It has an international network of over 2,200 offices in 20 countries namely Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong SAR & People's Republic of China, Bahrain, Uzbekistan, Myanmar, Laos, Pakistan, India, Saudi Arabia, Great Britain and the United States of America. The Group offers an extensive range of products and services, which includes consumer and corporate banking, investment banking, Islamic banking, stock broking, insurance and takaful and asset management. It has over 47,000 employees serving more than 22 million customers worldwide. ([www.maybank.com](http://www.maybank.com))

### **About the Malaysian Golf Association**

The Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) is the sole governing body of golf in Malaysia that was founded in 1929 by representatives of golf clubs to promote the sport while preserving its traditions and integrity. The non-government organization is run by passionate volunteers who have a love for the game of golf, with the help of a team of management staff. The association's portfolios have increased over the years ranging from conducting 14 state amateur opens, national amateur open, national amateur close, Malaysian Open to processing handicaps through its National Handicap System





to promoting grassroots programs and training of athletes to represent Malaysia in international events.

### **The European Tour**

The European Tour is committed to celebrating the game of golf from the origins of the professional game, building a proud history of achievement, sportsmanship and integrity as well as showcasing our diverse global talent and rich landscapes. The European Tour's innovative approach enables us to embrace the world, combining championships of tradition with new tournaments in the cities and countries of the future. The European Tour International Schedule, which from 2009 has incorporated The Race to Dubai, is a thriving global brand which, in 2013, will feature a minimum of 45 tournaments spread across all five continents of the world; the European Challenge Tour focuses on the up and coming players of the future; while the European Senior Tour provides a new start for champions celebrating their 50th birthday. The European Tour's corporate identity features the iconic silhouette image of six-time Open Champion Harry Vardon who gives his name to The Harry Vardon Trophy, presented to the player who is crowned European Tour Number One and winner of The Race to Dubai at the end of the season.

### **About the Asian Tour**

In 2013, the Asian Tour will celebrate a momentous milestone with its 10th season. As the official sanctioning body for professional golf in Asia, the Asian Tour leads the development of golf across the region, enhancing the careers of its members while maintaining a commitment to the integrity of the game. The Asian Tour, through its membership of the International Federation of PGA Tours, is the only recognised pan-Asian professional golf tour in Asia. This unique feature positions the Asian Tour at the pinnacle of professional golf in Asia; providing its events with Official World Ranking status. The Asian Tour has offices in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Also, visit us at [www.asiantour.com](http://www.asiantour.com), [www.facebook.com/asiantourgolf](http://www.facebook.com/asiantourgolf), [www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf](http://www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf), [www.youtube.com/theasiantour](http://www.youtube.com/theasiantour) and [www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf](http://www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf)

### **About Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club**

Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club (KLGCC) is a member of Sime Darby Property Bhd and a propriety Club wholly-owned and operated by KLGCC Berhad. The club has won numerous accolades from both local and foreign golfing fraternity, the latest being voted the 'Best Course in Malaysia' for the second time in a row for its championship West Course at the 2013 Asian Golf Monthly Awards, the second runner up for the Best





Championship Course in Asia Pacific and nominated as Top 10 Best in Asia Pacific for Best Clubhouse and Best Pro-Shop categories. At the same time, KLGCC was voted Best Golf Experience for the Best of Malaysia Awards 2013 Travel Awards by The Expatriate Lifestyle Magazine readers. Today, KLGCC is a landmark as the most luxurious golf resort development in Malaysia and KLGCC has in recent years hosted numerous international championships such as the Maybank Malaysian Open, the Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia and CIMB Classic.

### **About GlobalOne**

GlobalOne (Emerald Evolution Holdings Sdn Bhd) is an executive lifestyle sports promoter and we create sports event ownerships.

We specialise in providing the full spectrum in sponsorship event management and have an excellent track record in planning and delivering on PGA European Tour golf events for Malaysia (Maybank Malaysian Open), Singapore (Singapore Masters) and Indonesia (Indonesia Open) since 1999. We have strong relations with sports governing bodies, the media and commercial sponsors and technical partners to deliver on the bottom line.

We assist all our clients to create super-strategic, high-return, best practice sponsorship to provide a strong, unified vision, across departments and stakeholders, of the broad range of marketing and business objectives that can be achieved through this sponsorship. We also form and maintain strong relationship with players managers to source the best players.

GlobalOne currently stages a highly successful and prestigious tournament in Asia – the Maybank Malaysian Open, which is co-sanctioned by the European Tour and the Asian Tour providing the event with Official World Ranking status. Our long term partners include Emirates (Official Airline), Carlsberg (Official Beer & Stout), Ricoh (Official Office Equipment), Astro (Official Satellite TV), Maxis (Official Telecommunications), Finmeccanica (Official Helicopter), DoubleTree (Official Hotel), 100Plus (Official Isotonic Beverage), Crestlink (Official Apparel), Transview (Official Golf Accessories & Equipment), Mal-Tel (Official Radio & Communications), Spritzer (Official Water), Singleton (Official Whisky), Srixon (Official Range Balls), Havana (Official Cigars).

