

Press Release

Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 'Oos-ing' with class

Major champion Louis Oosthuizen returns for another crack at title

Kuala Lumpur, February 27, 2014: South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen, who won the Maybank Malaysia Open crown in 2012 by three strokes, is returning for this year's event.

The 31-year-old from Mossel Bay, who posted four sub-70 rounds en route to defeating Scotland's Stephen Gallacher two years ago, is coming off an injury plagued season and is limiting the number of tournaments he will play in this season.

The 2010 Open champion, however, is unable to resist the lure of the Maybank Malaysian Open and is title sponsor Maybank's second confirmed Star Player.

Former world number one Lee Westwood of England, who won the Malaysian Open in 1997, was announced as the bank's first Star Player earlier this month.

Oosthuizen is an inspired choice as, despite being hampered by a myriad of injuries in 2013, he opened the 2014 season by successfully defending the prestigious Volvo Golf Championship last month on home soil.

This victory means Oosthuizen now holds the record among active golfers for the most consecutive seasons with at least one victory on the European Tour. His streak began in 2010.

The rising status and prestige of the Maybank Malaysian Open in recent years has been due to several factors, key among them is the excellent teamwork and relationship Maybank has with all the stakeholders involved in the event. This close-knit 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.



This year, the Maybank Malaysian Open is from April 17-20 at Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club (KLGCC) and offers a prize purse of US\$2.75 million

Maybank Chairman, Tan Sri Dato' Megat Zaharuddin Megat Mohd Nor, was obviously delighted to announce the return of Oosthuizen, who nearly won a second Major at the 2012 Masters.

"I'm delighted to announce Oosthuizen will be playing in this year's Maybank Malaysian Open as he is widely regarded as one of the finest players on the European Tour," said Tan Sri Megat Zaharuddin.

"Who can forget the way he admirably bounced back from a heart-breaking playoff defeat at the 2012 Masters to win the Maybank Malaysian Open that year.

"The true test of champions is how they react after a loss and Oosthuizen showed a lot of class to delight his Malaysian fans when he overcame an emotional defeat and jetlag to win at KLGCC.

"With Westwood also in the fray, we now have two former champions ready to do battle in Malaysia."

Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) president Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Anwar Mohd Nor said having Oosthuizen and Westwood at the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 will be a big boost for the tournament.

"What a great start to the build up to the Maybank Malaysian Open 2014 with two former champions, one of whom is a Major winner, while another is a former world number one.

"I would like to congratulate Maybank for their hard work in getting these two stars to come to Malaysia."

The Maybank Malaysian Open was the first tournament in Asia to be co-sanctioned by The European and Asian Tours in 1999, the year Gerry Norquist took home the title.

More details and information on the 2014 Maybank Malaysian will be announced at a later date. Keep abreast with the latest news at www.maybankmalaysianopen.com and connect with us via Facebook at www.facebook.com/maybankmalaysianopen or Twitter at www.twitter.com/maybankmsiaopen





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About Maybank

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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)

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

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. Tour Partners include Abacus (Official Apparel Partner), Inetol Headwear (Official Headwear Sponsor), Oakley (Official Eyewear and Footwear Sponsor), Saxo Capital Markets (Official Statistics Partner), Singha Beer (Official Beer), Srixon (Official Ball), Subway (Official Quick Service Restaurant) and Rolex (Official Timekeeper). The Asian Tour has offices in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Also, visit us at www.asiantour.com, www.facebook.com/asiantourgolf, www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf, www.youtube.com/theasiantour and 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 and the Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia.

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).

