



**PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

## **Gavin Green Back on Home Turf**

### **Rising Star Returns Home to compete in Maybank Malaysian Open 2013**

**Kuala Lumpur, 11 March 2013** - At nineteen years of age, Gavin Green is one of Malaysia's rising golf stars. Having already proven his prowess with several impressive wins on the amateur circuit, Gavin hopes to turn in a strong performance in this year's Maybank Malaysian Open which will be held at Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club from March 21 to 24.

Gavin, who has not yet turned professional but hopes to do so in the next few years, has already had great success on the amateur circuit. He is one of the youngest players ever to compete in an Asian Tour event, competing at the Iskandar Johor Open at the tender age of 13. Since then, his game has gone from strength to strength, winning and placing in competitions throughout Malaysia and the US. This culminated last year in Gavin winning the 2012 Malaysian Amateur Open – the first Malaysian to do so in 15 years.

Gavin, who says he realised he wanted to take up golf seriously when he was in his mid teens, divides his time between training and continuing his studies at the University of New Mexico, USA, where he is studying for a degree in Business. He plays for his University's golf team, The Lobos, and is statistically the best putter on the team, and one of the top players in US Collegiate golf. University of New Mexico Head Golf Coach, Glen Millican, had this to say of the young star, "Gavin was very impressive from the first shot I saw him hit at Torrey Pines. Since then, his game has become more consistent and efficient. He has great distance and is able to hit any shot needed. His work ethic and desire to play well lead him to being as ready as he can be each time he arrives at a tournament."





Speaking of competing in the upcoming Maybank Malaysian Open, Gavin said, “I am very excited. I get to come home for one of the best tournaments around and play on the same field as the World’s best and the former Masters’ champion. It is a great field and it is being played on an excellent golf course. I am looking forward to it.”

He has been keeping up with his training schedule in the run up to the Open, and will play in The Southern Highlands Collegiate Masters in Las Vegas and the National Invitational in Tucson, Arizona before returning home to Malaysia on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March – just two days before the competition begins. He nevertheless hopes to get over the jet-lag and to get a practice round in before the tournament starts, to keep himself in top form. When asked what he thought about Gavin’s chances at the Maybank Malaysian Open, his coach Glen Millican replied, “Gavin has proven many times that if he plays his own game as well as he can each day, he is capable of playing well anywhere. When he plays well, he usually ends up in a pretty good position at the end of any tournament he plays in.”

Gavin will be joining some of the biggest names in golf at the Maybank Malaysian Open, including former World Number 1 Luke Donald, **three-time Major Champion Padraig Harrington, 2011 Masters Champion Charl Schwartzel and 2011 Maybank Malaysian Open winner Matteo Manassero.** Speaking of the stiff competition, Gavin said, “I think that I am just lucky to be able to play in the same field as such golfing greats. I am sure I will learn a lot from them.”

Gavin’s parents will be cheering him on at the tournament, as will his younger brother Galven – another keen golfer, and with talent similar to his older brother’s; Galven won the Callaway Junior World Golf Championship in San Diego, USA in 2006. Gavin’s father, Gary Green, and mother Vivienne Beh Lee Khoo, both support his decision to continue his training while at University, saying, “We are very proud that he made up his mind that this is the path that he wants to take and we will support him as best as we can. We are blessed that he got into a school like UNM where there is a great golf team with great coaches and a wonderful environment.”





Aside from hoping to do well in the Maybank Malaysian Open, Gavin hopes to qualify for the US Open this year, having narrowly missed out on it last year. He also wants to win a few more tournaments before he turns professional. Having done so well in the Malaysian Amateur Open last year, hopefully the magic of being on home turf persists, and Gavin can begin his journey to the Pro Tours with a strong performance at the Maybank Malaysian Open 2013.

**Gavin is one of the six amateurs that have been specially selected to be part of the Maybank Malaysian Open 2013. Selected based on their outstanding performance, other amateurs specially picked to be part of the prestigious event this year are Arie Ahmad Fauzi, Low Khai Jei, Abel Tham, Mohammad Afif Mohd Radzi and Solomon Emilio Rosidin.**

The 2013 Maybank Malaysian Open will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club. The tournament runs from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of March, with related events taking place from the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. For information, 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).

***Additional Info:***

*Gavin's parents are Gary Richard Green, 45, Executive Assistant Manager F&B, Putrajaya Marriott Hotel and Vivienne Beh Lee Khoon, 45, Head of Communications, Etiqa Insurance & Takaful. His brother is Galven Kendall Green - 13 years old, student at Sri KDU International School.*

*Gavin has two coaches – Glen Millican and Tony Maloney. Glen is the Head Coach at the University of New Mexico - based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Gavin is a member of the Lobos golf team. Should you require more information on Glen, please follow this link: [http://www.golobos.com/sports/m-golf/mtt/millican\\_glen00.html](http://www.golobos.com/sports/m-golf/mtt/millican_glen00.html). Tony Maloney is Gavin's swing coach and has been training Gavin since Gavin was 7. He also teaches Galven. Tony Maloney is based in Saujana Golf & Country Club, Subang, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.*





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**About Maybank**

The Maybank Group is Malaysia's regional financial services leader with 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, Myanmar, Laos, Bahrain, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, India, Saudi Arabia, Great Britain and the United States of America.

The Group offers an extensive range of products and services, which includes commercial banking, investment banking, Islamic banking, stock broking, insurance and takaful and asset management. It has over 46,000 employees serving 22 million customers worldwide.

**About the Malaysian Golf Association**

Founded in 1929, the Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) as the sole governing body of golf in Malaysia has been entrusted to promote the game while preserving its traditions and integrity.

It's a non-government organization that runs by volunteers who are passionate about the game 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 the athletes to represent Malaysia in the international events.

We take our responsibilities seriously in promoting the game in Malaysia while simultaneously upholding the Rules of Golf as prescribed by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews (R&A).

**About the Asian Tour**

In 2013, the Asian Tour will celebrate a momentous milestone with its 10<sup>th</sup> 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. Tour Partners include Abacus (Official Apparel Partner), BlackBerry (Official Communications Partner), Canon (Official Imaging Partner), Inetol Headwear (Official Headwear Supplier), Singha Beer (Official Beer), Srixon (Official Ball),





Starwood Hotels and Resorts (Official Hotels and Resorts) and Rolex (Official Timekeeper). 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](https://www.facebook.com/asiantourgolf), [www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf](https://www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf), [www.youtube.com/theasiantour](https://www.youtube.com/theasiantour) and [www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf](http://www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf)

### **About 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 2012, will feature a minimum of 46 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 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 Malaysia's Golf Club of the Year in Par Golf Awards 2011, No.1 Golf Course in Malaysia and Best Clubhouse in Asia Pacific by Asian Golf Monthly Awards 2011 and HAPA Golf Course of the Year by the prestigious Hospitality Asia Platinum Awards Regional Series 2011 – 2013. Today, it has become 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 is an executive lifestyle sports marketing consultancy. We have in the past created partnerships in golf, motor racing, sailing, tennis, rugby, skiing, athletics, basketball, cycling and skiing. Today, as an event promoter, GlobalOne's primary focus and area of sports rights ownership is professional golf.

GlobalOne currently stages two highly successful tournaments in Asia – the Maybank Malaysian Open, which is co-sanctioned by the European tour and the Asian Tour and the Enjoy Jakarta Astro Indonesia Open.

