

Press Release

Ahmad Farhan Takes The Lead in Day One of The Maybank Malaysian Open 2015 National Qualifiers

Kuala Lumpur, 18 November 2014: With four coveted spots at the Maybank Malaysian Open up for grabs, there was much on the line for the national hopefuls who converged at the Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club for the two-day National Qualifier which started today.

The opening day of qualifier saw Ahmad Farhan Rasyid flying off the blocks with a solid three-under 69 to take a two-shot lead over Wilson Choo (71).

Trailing closely was Muhd Al-Warith Damian, who notched an even-par 72 while Mohd Rizal Amin and Marcus Low returned with matching 73s to take a share of fourth place. A further stroke adrift was the pair of Mohd Amlı Mohayideen and former nationals S. Sivachandhran and Mohd Iylia Jamil.

Farhan was pleasantly surprised with his day's work, crediting his accurate drives and excellent putting, which yielded an eagle and six birdies, which he traded off with three bogeys and a double bogey.

"I didn't have any inkling that I was going to be in the lead when I started this morning, so I'm really surprised" said the 26-year-old, who started off the 10th hole.

"The West Course is a demanding layout but I birdied my first hole (10th) and that gave me the confidence to get going. I was two-over after ten holes but got into a brilliant run through the second nine, when I managed three birdies and an eagle in succession. At that point, it really began to hit me that I had a golden chance of teeing up at the Maybank Malaysian Open for the first time."

Choo, who has two domestic professional title to his name: "I'm happy with my performance and I'll take that score any day on this tract. I got into a lot of trouble today but pulled off one bunker save after another to keep my hopes alive of qualifying for the national Open for the second-year running," said the Kuala Lumpur native, who mixed two birdies against a single bogey.

Leading first round scores:

69 - Ahmad Farhan Rasyid

71 - Wilson Choo

72 - Muhd Al-Warith Damian

73 - Mohd Rizal Amin, Marcus Low Khai Loon

74 - Mohd Amlı Mohiyadeen, S. Sivachandhran, Mohd Iylia Jamil

75 - Lim Eng Seng, Hilmi Abdul Rahman

76 - Dino Abdillah, Hans Jamil, Mohd Irfan Yusoff, S. Murthy

For tournament updates and details of the event please visit:-

www.maybankmalaysianopen.com

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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)

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. 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 recognised as Number One and Two top golf courses in Malaysia for 2014 by US Golf Digest, 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), Jaguar Land Rover Malaysia (Official Car), DoubleTree (Official Hotel), 100Plus (Official Isotonic Beverage), Crestlink (Official Apparel), Transview Golf (Official Golf Accessories & Equipment), Mal-Tel (Official Radio & Communications), Spritzer (Official Water), Singleton (Official Whisky), Srixon (Official Range Balls), Havana (Official Cigars).

