



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ASIA'S BEST SET FOR BATTLE AT THE WORLD CLASSIC CHAMPIONSHIP AT LAGUNA NATIONAL**

Singapore, September 25: The World Classic Championship at Laguna National is set to welcome the region's finest golfers when they tee up at the US\$750,000 event at the Laguna National Golf and Country Club from November 12-15.

The World Classic Championship is the first event to be sanctioned by the Asian Tour in Singapore this year and promises to provide fans in the Lion City with another unique opportunity to watch the Tour's heavyweights in action.

Staged at the demanding World Classic course at the Laguna National Golf and Country Club, the newest event on the Asian Tour marks a return of top level professional golf to the club since it last hosted The Championship last year.

Peter Kwee, Chairman and President of Laguna National Golf and Country Club said, "We have always valued our relationship with the Asian Tour and IMG dating back many years, and are pleased to pledge our support for the recently announced championship.

"While we are currently undergoing extensive expansion and upgrading plans at Laguna National which include a five-star branded resort hotel and full upgrading of the clubhouse and country club, we felt it was our duty to step up and grow this event for the future with the Asian Tour and IMG.

"Nurturing and hosting such championships has always played a significant part of our long-term commitment towards the growth of the Club."

Asian Tour CEO Mike Kerr welcomed the addition of the World Classic Championship onto the Tour's Schedule and applauded the commitment from the key stakeholders in making the event possible.

"It's fantastic that our players will have another opportunity to return to Singapore to compete at the World Classic Championship at Laguna National.

"We are grateful to our partners IMG and the management at Laguna National Golf and Country Club for their commitment and support towards this event," said Kerr.

Grant Slack, Senior Vice President IMG Golf, commented, "IMG is committed to the growth of Golf in Asia Pacific and delighted to be working with the team at Laguna National Golf and Country Club to stage the World Classic Championship in Singapore."

"It is a very exciting time in the world of professional golf with the recent announcement from the Asian and European Tours regarding their strategic initiative and the inaugural World Classic Championship at Laguna National will be an important full field Asian Tour event on the schedule."

For the local galleries, the Laguna National Golf and Country Club will be best remembered as the scene for Singapore's MardanMamat's famous victory at the 2006 Singapore Masters.

The 47-year-old veteran has since gone on to claim his fifth Asian Tour title in Bangladesh this year and is touted as one of favourites for the World Classic Championship.

"I like Laguna National Golf and Country Club. After all, I made history there and it holds many fond memories for me. It's always nice to play at home in front of your friends, fans and family.

"The World Classic course is a very challenging golf course and it is going to be a good test for all the players. Fingers crossed, I can produce my 'A' game and contend for the championship," said Mardan.

An elite field of 144 players will battle it out for the lion's share of a US\$750,000 prize fund, while television highlights of the spectacular Laguna National Golf and Country Club will be beamed around the world by Asian Tour Media.

Ends.

### **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 FENIX Golf (Official Apparel Supplier), Fuji Xerox (Official Office Solutions Partner), Hilton Worldwide (Official Hotel Partner), Inetol Headwear (Official Headwear Sponsor), Oakley (Official Eyewear and Footwear Sponsor), Srixon (Official Ball), Titleist (Official Web Partner) and Rolex (Official Timekeeper). Sentosa, Singapore is the Home of the Asian Tour which also has an office in Kuala Lumpur. 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](https://www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf).

### **About Laguna National Golf & Country Club**

A prominent golf club in the local and regional golf scene since its inauguration in 1993, Laguna National is one of Singapore's premier golf and country clubs, boasting two

eighteen-hole championship courses that have won prestigious accolades and hosted international championships including the European Tour's Singapore Masters, Korean LPGA-ADT Caps Tour Championship and European and Asian Tour co-sanctioned event, The Championship at Laguna National.

A multi-million dollar facelift is underway to develop a state-of-the-art union of a world-class golf club and a 208-room and villa branded hotel with full facilities including a spa, a driving range, a fitness centre, as well as Member-exclusive areas with private locker rooms, Members' lounges and country club facilities.

Strategically located in proximity to the airport, beach, malls and with a multimillion private clubhouse and hotel underway, golfers will find the world at their fingertips, here at Laguna National Golf & Country Club.

Also, visit us at [www.lagunanational.com](http://www.lagunanational.com), [www.facebook.com/lagunagolf](https://www.facebook.com/lagunagolf) and <https://www.youtube.com/lagunanational/videos>

### **About The World Classic Course**

Designed and built by Dye Designs, World Classic—touted as Asia's Toughest Test, draws inspiration from many of the world's best known holes and course designs. Golfers will inevitably find themselves facing similar shots to those played on the famous links courses of the British Isles, or the championship layouts found along coastal North America. The course is rated 165 on the Slope Rating System and 76.9 from the championship tees.

This course offers different challenges every time out requiring golfers to exhibit carefully planned club selection and determine if the risk/ reward is right for their game that day. Thoughtfully placed tee shots set up highly challenging approach angles to generous greens, which often feature three or more tiers. Where you hit your ball on the World Classic greens is just as important as how far you hit your tee shot.

We hope you will enjoy Asia's Toughest Test of golf at the World Classic Championship at Laguna National!