



PRESS RELEASE

CHIA AND FUNG READY TO RAISE LOCAL CHEERS AT MAYBANK CHAMPIONSHIP MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur, February 5: Local standouts Danny Chia and Nicholas Fung hope to produce more cheers for the crowds when they challenge for the inaugural Maybank Championship Malaysia title which starts in a fortnight.

The Malaysian duo were the star performers for Team Asia at the recent EurAsia Cup last month and they intend to repeat their heroics at the Maybank event sanctioned by the Asian Tour and European Tour at Royal Selangor Golf Club from February 18 to 21.

Chia and Fung will be among elite company at the Maybank Championship Malaysia which headliners include Thai stars Thongchai Jaidee and Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Englishmen Danny Willett and Matthew Fitzpatrick, who were part of the triumphant Team Europe at the EurAsia Cup.

EurAsia Cup captains Darren Clarke of Northern Ireland and Jeev Milkha Singh of India, and Younghan Song of Korea, who beat world number one Jordan Spieth at the Singapore Open on Monday, will also feature in the lucrative US\$3 million event.

Chia ended a 13-year-old title drought on the Asian Tour last year which helped him finish eighth on the Order of Merit, earning him a spot in the EurAsia Cup where he and Fung produced battling half points in the Foursomes and Fourball matches.

After representing Team Asia, Chia is now focussed on flying the Malaysian flag high at the Maybank Championship Malaysia.

“I’m very excited because it is a new event for Maybank and I’m really looking forward to playing at Royal Selangor. I’ve not played many times in a competition at Royal Selangor but I always trained there during my amateur days. I’ve always like that golf course,” said Chia.

“I played at Royal Selangor last month and the course is in good shape. It is a very interesting course. I always want to do well in tournaments in Malaysia. It is always nice when you have local fans cheering you just like when we played at the EurAsia Cup,” he added.

After finishing second on two occasions on the Asian Tour, Fung is eager to cross the finish line in style and follow in the footsteps of his mentor Chia.

“Most Malaysian golfers hope to enjoy the success Danny has on the Asian Tour. We always look forward to playing on home soil and doing well. It is my dream to win in Malaysia but it won't be easy. The experience at the EurAsia Cup will certainly boost my career,” said Fung.

“Playing in the team event and alongside Danny has taught me to stay patient and move on to the next hole if things go your way. It will be an interesting challenge at the Maybank Championship Malaysia and I look forward to a good result for the fans,” added the bespectacled Sabahan.

About Maybank – Humanising Financial Services

Maybank is among Asia's leading banking groups and South East Asia's fourth largest bank by assets. The Maybank Group has an international network of 2,400 offices in 20 countries namely Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Hong Kong SAR & People's Republic of China, Bahrain, Uzbekistan, Myanmar, Laos, Pakistan, India, Saudi Arabia, Mauritius, 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 46,000 employees serving more than 22 million customers worldwide. (www.maybank.com)

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 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 has staged a highly successful and prestigious tournament in Asia – the Maybank Malaysian Open, (2006 – 2015) which is co-sanctioned by the European Tour and the Asian Tour providing the event with Official World Ranking status.

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. Visit us at www.asiantour.com, www.facebook.com/asiantourgolf www.twitter.com/asiantourgolf, www.youtube.com/theasiantour and www.weibo.com/asiantourgolf.

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 2016, will span 45 tournaments in 26 countries across five continents ; 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.