

AINE RATCLIFFE





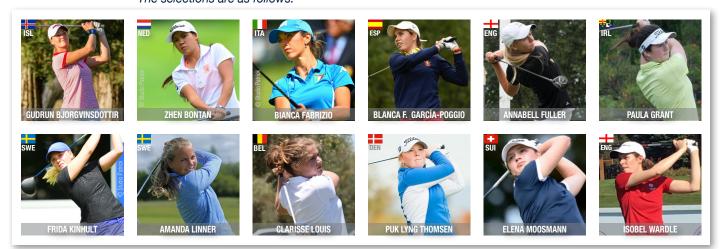
## Bonallack & Patsy Hankins Trophies Doha GC, Qatar

8-10 March 2018



## PATSY HANKINS TROPHY TEAM EUROPE SELECTIONS

The 2018 Patsy Hankins Trophy Selection Committee, led by non-playing Captain, Elaine Ratcliffe, is pleased to announce the 12 talented players who have been selected to represent the European team. The players have been selected based on their World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) and high-level golfing performances, with particular attention placed on match play performance. The selections are as follows:



Gudrun Bjorgvinsdottir's strongest result in 2017 came at the European Ladies' Amateur Championship, where she finished in fourth-place. The Icelandic player also claimed three top-10s in NCAA events during her time in the Fresno State Women's Golf Team.

Zhen Bontan finished as runner-up in the 2017 Italian International Ladies' Championship, where she lost in a play-off to compatriot, Romy Meekers. The Dutch pair then won the 2017 European Ladies' Club Trophy together representing U.G.C de Pan. Bontan also finished fifth in the European Ladies' Amateur Championship last year, which she led at the halfway stage.

Bianca Fabrizio, Italy, is one of three players this year who featured in the European Patsy Hankins Trophy team in 2016. She scored 3½ points out of a possible five in the first edition of the match. Fabrizio's best result in 2017 was a victory at the Italian Ladies' Stroke Play Championship (Isa Goldschmid Trophy).

Blanca Fernandez Garcia-Poggio finished third in the 2017 World Junior Girls Championship. The Spaniard also finished as runner-up in the Spanish International Stroke Play Championship the same year, and helped the Continent of Europe win the Junior Vagliano Trophy match against Great Britain & Ireland.

English player, Annabell Fuller, finished as runner-up in this year's Portuguese International Amateur Championship. In 2017, she claimed a silver medal in the 2017 ANNIKA Invitational Europe and finished third in the European Nations Cup (Copa Sotogrande).

Irish player, Paula Grant, finished third in last month's Abierto Sudamericano Amateur. Last year, she finished top of the stroke play qualification rounds for the Ladies' British Open Amateur Championship, and made it to the quarter-finals. One of Grant's best results in the last two years was a victory in the 2017 Irish Women's Close Championship.

Frida Kinhult will represent Europe for a fifth time when she tees it up at Doha Golf Club in March. She has previously represented Europe in the Junior Ryder Cup and Junior Solheim Cup matches, represented the Continent of Europe in the Junior Vagliano Trophy, and she featured in the first edition of















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the Patsy Hankins Trophy. In 2017, Kinhult won the Spanish Ladies' Amateur Championship and the European Girls' Team Championship with Sweden. She is currently the third-highest ranked European player in the WAGR, in 11<sup>th</sup> position.

Amanda Linner, the second Swedish player in the team, won the ANNIKA Invitational Europe and finished as runner-up in the ANNIKA invitational U.S last year. She also represented Europe in the Junior Solheim Cup and the Continent of Europe at the Junior Vagliano Trophy in 2017, where she won all four of her matches.

Clarisse Louis, Belgium, won the 2016 Internationaux de France U21 (Trophée Esmond). Last year, she reached the quarter-finals of the Girls' British Open Amateur Championship, and finished as runner-up in the International Juniors of Belgium championship.

In 2017, Swiss player, Elena Moosmann, reached the semi-finals of the Girls' British Open Amateur Championship and finished in the top-5 of the Internationaux de France (Trophée Cécile de Rothschild). She also dominated amateur golf in her home country, winning four of the country's amateur titles, including the Swiss National Match Play Championship.

Puk Lyng Thomsen, the third player in the team that represented Europe in the first edition of the match, is currently ranked fifth in the European Amateur Golf Rankings. She finished tied for fifth place in the Portuguese International Amateur last month. In 2017, Lyng Thomsen won the Internationaux de France (Trophée Cecile de Rothschild) and helped the Continent of Europe to victory in the Vagliano Trophy.

Isobel Wardle, England, beat fellow teammate, Annabell Fuller, in a playoff to claim the Portuguese International Amateur Championship earlier this year. In 2017, she won both the English Girls' and Women's Open Amateur Stroke Play Championships. In 2016, Wardle finished as runner-up in the Girls' British Open Amateur Championship. Elaine Ratcliffe, who is captaining the team for the second successive time, said,

I am absolutely delighted to be asked to Captain the Patsy Hankins Trophy again. We had a tremendous match two years ago that was fought in a great spirit with both teams battling to the end. On the last day, the European team fought so hard and we nearly got passed the post but the Asia-Pacific team dug deep and got the points they needed. It was a match played in the spirit that epitomised Patsy Hankins, and it was a great honour having her family there.

This year we have a great team once again, which includes Frida, Puk, and Bianca (Fabrizio) who all played brilliantly in the match in 2016. The team also has numerous winners of European national events in 2017, and both the winner and runner up of the 2018 Portuguese Amateur, with most girls having played well already this season. I am sure It will be a close match again, but this year we are looking for a different result!

