



BONALLACK TROPHY AND PATSY HANKINS TROPHY 2020 MATCHES CANCELLED

The European Golf Association (EGA) and Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation (APGC) announce that the Bonallack Trophy and Patsy Hankins Trophy international golf matches, scheduled to be hosted by the Royal Spanish Golf Federation (RFEG) and played at the La Manga Club, Murcia, Spain, from 23-25 April, have been cancelled owing to concerns related to the coronavirus.

The biennial matches bring the best men and lady amateur golfers from the Asia-Pacific region against those from Europe to play for the Bonallack and Patsy Hankins Trophies, respectively, in a tradition stemming from the first men's match in 1998 and ladies' match in 2016. Until now, Europe leads the Bonallack Trophy in matches won 7-3 and Asia-Pacific, the Patsy Hankins Trophy, 2-0. To maintain a true international flavour, no team may field more than two players from any one country.

Consulting with each other consistently since the coronavirus outbreak, the EGA and APGC came to the decision not to go ahead when increasing restrictions in Asia-Pacific made selecting the APGC teams more challenging, and because the broadening of affected areas in both Asia and Europe could have caused concerns for players and their families.

APGC Chairman, Taimur Hassan Amin of Pakistan, voiced his disappointment:

"We were really looking forward to the BT/PHT in Spain, seeing all our friends and enjoying the excitement of the tournament. Unfortunately, the coronavirus has caused a serious disruption not only for our event but throughout the world. I am really sorry to have to see the cancellation of this event but the safety and wellbeing of our players, officials, and the anxiety of the parents, were the reasons that we agreed to let it go for this year. I hope and pray that the World Health Organisation and the concerned authorities worldwide can find a cure or prevention of this viral disease spreading further."

This cancellation follows the postponement of the Women's Asian Amateur Championship and the Queen Sirikit Cup (Asia-Pacific Amateur Ladies' Golf Team Championship).

EGA President, Haukur Örn Birgisson of Iceland, agreed with the APGC Chairman's sentiments:

"We are sad not to be able to welcome our friends from the APGC but must now look towards the next staging. In the meantime, we send our appreciation to the Royal Spanish Golf Federation and to the La Manga Club for their preparatory work to date and for their support in the decision-making process. We look forward to future matches in Spain at the wonderful La Manga Club."

With a change in the scheduling planned, the next matches are due to be played at the end of July 2021, at a venue to be announced.

Having lost both trophies to the Asia-Pacific teams in Qatar in 2018, Europe had two new captains in Peter McEvoy (ENG) and Anna Roscio (ITA) ready to lead their teams in Spain. With much energy having gone into reviewing the players for selection to date, both captains were disappointed at not being able to bring their teams together but are looking forward to 2021.

About the Bonallack Trophy

Form of Play

The Bonallack Trophy is played between two teams of twelve amateur golfers representing Europe and Asia-Pacific. There are three days of play. The first two days comprise five foursomes matches each morning and five four-ball matches each afternoon. On the final day, all twelve team players compete in singles match play. A win counts as one point, a half yields half a point and a lost match returns zero. In the event of a tie, the trophy is retained by the holders.

Sir Michael Bonallack

Sir Michael Bonallack (born 31 December 1934) is an English amateur golfer who was one of the leading administrators in world golf in the late 20th century. He has an exceptional amateur record in golf. He won the British Boys' Championship in 1952 and, remaining an amateur in the era when professional domination of the sport became firmly entrenched, he went on to win The Amateur Championship and the English Amateur Championships five times each and the English Amateur Stroke Play Championships four times. He was a member of nine Walker Cup teams and played in the Eisenhower Trophy seven times. His best



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finish at The Open Championship was eleventh in 1959. He was the leading amateur at The Open in 1968 and 1971. Sir Michael was Secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews from 1983 to 1999 and became Captain of the Royal and Ancient in September 1999. He has also been Chairman of the PGA of Great Britain and Ireland (1976-81), Chairman of the Golf Foundation (1977-82), and President of the English Golf Union (1982). He also had spells as President of the One-Armed Golfers Society, the British and International Greenkeepers Association, and the Professional Golfers Association of Europe and as Chairman of the advisory committee for the Official World Golf Rankings. He received an OBE for services to golf in 1971 and was knighted in 1998. In 1972, he received the Bob Jones Award, the highest honour given by the United States Golf Association in recognition of distinguished sportsmanship in golf. He has received numerous honours from golfing organisations around the world, culminating in his induction into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2000.

About the Patsy Hankins Trophy

Form of Play

The Patsy Hankins Trophy is played between two teams of twelve lady amateur golfers representing Europe and Asia-Pacific. The format is the same as that for the Bonallack Trophy.

Patsy Hankins

Patsy Hankins (1945-2015), was one of the most respected golf administrators New Zealand has produced. Her reputation as a trailblazer in golf administration grew from her long list of achievements and kind and gentle approach. From fostering the

development of the women's game to playing a key role in the amalgamation of men's and women's golf, Patsy was incredibly influential and will leave a long-lasting legacy in the game not only in New Zealand but around the world. Patsy was an accomplished player, representing Bay of Plenty Thames Valley, but it was in administration that she really made her mark.

Patsy progressed to the Board of Women's Golf New Zealand in 2000 and four years later became their Chair. The process of the amalgamation of men's and women's golf was not easy and it took a good two years to finalise the relationship. Patsy was a key figure, always remaining positive and realizing that this would only be good for our game. When this happened and New Zealand Golf Incorporated came into being, Patsy was elected the first President, a reflection of the esteem in which she was held. In 2012, Patsy Hankins was elected Women's Chairman of the International Golf Federation (IGF), a confirmation of her wonderful abilities as a contributor to the game. Her appointment was one of the biggest achievements by a New Zealand golf administrator. Patsy was bestowed one of the greatest honours in golf when she was offered membership at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and was one of seven women who accepted membership to the prestigious club. Only shortly before her passing, Patsy travelled to the home of golf where she became the inaugural Women's Net Medal winner at the Autumn Meeting for members of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

