

Friday January 8, 2010

Berenberg Bank Masters set for lucrative prize fund

The inaugural Berenberg Bank Masters, as well as helping the European Senior Tour continue to break new ground, will carry a prize fund of €500,000, making it one of the most lucrative tournaments on the 2010 European Senior Tour schedule.

Played over one of the world's premier golfing destinations, The Links at Fancourt from March 26-28, 2010, the Berenberg Bank Masters is set to attract one of the strongest fields of the new season as the Senior Tour visits South Africa for the first time in its history.

The €500,000 prize fund means the event will also play a significant role in deciding the outcome of the Senior Tour Order of Merit, which was won by Scotland's Sam Torrance in 2009, with fellow former Ryder Cup Captain Ian Woosnam, of Wales, a close runner-up.

Changes to The Links at Fancourt have been completed, including the resurfacing of all 18 greens and resculpturing of 27 bunkers, with several Senior Tour players witnessing the alterations at first hand in the Gary Player Invitational before Christmas.

Player, the nine-time Major Champion and nine-time Senior Major Champion, designed the spectacular course and will be part of the field for the Berenberg Bank Masters, which is sponsored by Germany's oldest private bank.

The tournament will see the Senior Tour continue the pioneering trend it exhibited with its maiden voyage to Mauritius for the season-opening Mauritius Commercial Bank Open in December, which was won by Kevin Spurgeon of England.

Andy Stubbs, Managing Director of the European Senior Tour, said: "The European Senior Tour is extremely grateful to Berenberg Bank for the wonderful prize money of offer in this inaugural event and to Dr. Hans-Walter Peters for his personal support.

"The prize fund and the superb Gary Player-designed course will ensure the leading players are part of the field for what promises to be a magnificent tournament in March."

Dr. Hans-Walter Peters, Chairman of the 1590-founded Berenberg Bank, said: "The €500,000 prize fund should help us attract some of the leading Senior Tour players whom the guests of Berenberg Bank are looking forward to playing alongside in the Pro-Am and watching in action throughout the week."

The Berenberg Bank Masters is co-sanctioned by the Senior Tour and the Sunshine Tour.

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