

**48** HASSAN II  
GOLF TROPHY



LALLA MERYEM  
GOLF CUP

**27**

## 48<sup>th</sup> Hassan II Trophy and 27<sup>th</sup> Lalla Meryem Cup: Third round

**International triumphs and Moroccan excellence: Bronte Law and Ricardo Gonzalez on top; Ines Laklalech and Sofia Cherif Essakali etch their names in history.**

Rabat, February 25, 2024 - Held under the high patronage of **His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Moulay Rachid and Princess Lalla Meryem** presided over the award ceremony for the Hassan II Trophy and the Lalla Meryem Cup, held from February 19 to 24 at the Royal Golf Dar Es Salam.

England's Bronte Law secured victory in the 27<sup>th</sup> edition of the Lalla Meryem Cup, while Argentina's Ricardo González claimed the title in the 48<sup>th</sup> edition of the Hassan II Trophy.

On the Red Course, the competition for the top spot intensified. Argentina's Ricardo Gonzalez emerged victorious, showcasing impeccable control and strategy throughout the tournament. Thomas Bjørn from Denmark secured second place with a score of -9, closely trailed by Mark Hensby from Australia in third place with a score of -7.

Reflecting on his win, Ricardo Gonzalez shared his sentiments: *“Winning this tournament holds immense significance for me, particularly considering the illustrious champions who have triumphed here before. Having my son by my side as a caddie made this victory even more special. It ranks among the most cherished moments of my professional career.”*

In the Lalla Meryem Cup, Bronte Law won with a total score of -13, achieving a remarkable -9 on the final day. Law managed to overcome an 8-point deficit from Maria Fassi, who led the previous day. Her formidable performance and unwavering determination propelled her to the top, solidifying her position as the undisputed champion. Pauline Roussin Bouchard from France secured second place with a score of -10, while Fatima Fernandez Cano from Spain finished in third place with a total score of -9.

Beaming with joy after her win, Bronte Law expressed, *“This victory symbolizes the dedication I poured into the off-season. I faced some challenges last year and worked extensively with my mental coach. It demonstrates that when I give my best and believe in myself, I can still compete at the highest level.”*

Throughout the week, two Moroccan talents stood out with their outstanding performances: Ines Laklalech and Sofia Cherif Essakali. Ines, buoyed by the enthusiastic support of her fans, made history by finishing in joint 7<sup>th</sup> place with a total score of -6, marking the best performance ever achieved by a Moroccan player in this competition. Meanwhile, Sofia, the young prodigy, reaffirmed her status by impressively making the cut in the Lalla Meryem Cup for the second consecutive year, showcasing her determination and exceptional talent at just 14 years old.

Following the tradition of this prestigious event, preceding the professional competitions, players from the PGA Tour Champions and Ladies European Tour partnered with amateurs in the pro-ams.



One highlight worth mentioning is the success of the "Pro-am Hassan II Kids Cup by First Tee," which provided youngsters in the First Tee Morocco program with a unique experience and the opportunity to play alongside legends of the sport.

In this memorable week, golf once again demonstrated its power to inspire and bring people together through its values, creating enduring memories for participants, whether they were professionals, amateurs, or spectators.

For further details and to revisit the highlights of these exceptional tournaments, stay tuned to our official website and immerse yourself in the action: <https://hassan2golftrophy.com/>.

#### **About the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (FRMG):**

Under the esteemed leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid since January 2018, the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (FRMG), established on March 12, 1960, is dedicated to democratizing golf. It adheres to the highest standards of ethics as set by the global golfing community, especially those outlined by the International Golf Federation and the African Golf Confederation. The FRMG's core objectives include:

- Elevating and expanding the reach of golf.
- Skillful orchestration and governance of golfing competitions.
- Regulating golf practice with a firm but fair hand.
- Nurturing talent through training and professional development in the golfing realm.
- Championing professional players.
- Cultivating a new generation of elite golfers.

#### **About the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH):**

Founded on September 4, 2002, the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH), led by His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid, who also presides over the FRMG, is recognized for its public utility in the sports sector.



The ATH is entrusted with the organization of both national and international golf tournaments under the aegis of the FRMG. Its mission extends to elevating Morocco's status as a premier golf destination on the global stage.

Balancing innovation with respect for tradition, the ATH is committed to a journey towards excellence in the world of golf.

### **About the PGA Tour Champions:**

The PGA Tour Champions, previously known as the Senior PGA Tour, is an exclusive circuit of professional golf tournaments designed for players aged 50 and above. This Tour showcases a cadre of players who have not only made their mark in golf history but also continue to enchant audiences with their impeccable skills and unrivaled experience. On the fairways and greens, they create extraordinary moments, vying for highly sought-after titles in a display of timeless talent.

Integral to this circuit is the Hassan II Trophy, a tournament that upholds a revered tradition within the PGA Tour Champions. It presents an unparalleled opportunity for golf enthusiasts from different generations to witness their admired champions in action, forging unforgettable memories and drawing inspiration from their enduring spirit and dedication.

Each event on the PGA Tour Champions is characterized by a congenial and respectful environment. Here, intense competition is balanced with a profound sense of camaraderie among players, epitomizing the spirit of the sport.

These tournaments serve as a testament to the notion that skill and resolve have no age limit. They celebrate the enduring legacy of golf's past legends, who continue to script their stories on the green, much to the delight of golf aficionados worldwide.