



PRESS RELEASE

Renowned Female Golfers and Moroccan Talents at the 27th edition of the Lalla Meryem Cup

Rabat, February 14, 2024: Under the High Patronage of **His Majesty King Mohammed VI**, the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation and the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association, presided by **His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid**, organize the 27th edition of the Lalla Meryem Cup at the Royal Golf Dar Es Salam in Rabat from February 19th to February 24th, 2024.

The simultaneous occurrence and shared venue with the Hassan II Golf Trophy perpetuates a tradition of gender diversity established in 1993 by **His Late Majesty King Hassan II**, illustrious founder of both competitions.

Since 2010, the Lalla Meryem Cup has been an integral part of the Ladies European Tour (LET) professional circuit. Much like the Hassan II Golf Trophy, this women's tournament has consistently drawn the world's top professional players since its creation. Renowned athletes such as Marie Laure de Lorenzi, Lady Laura Davies, Annika Sorenstam, Sophie Gustafsson, and Suzanne Petersen have all contributed to the international prestige of this esteemed women's competition.

This year's edition will showcase a field of 108 of Europe's finest players, including Thailand's Trichat Cheenglab and India's Diksha Dagar, who hold the first and third positions respectively

in the 2023 LET Ranking. Additionally, the lineup will feature Spain's Nuria Iturrioz, a two-time champion of the event.

Morocco will be represented by five talented participants. On the professional player front, Ines Laklalech, the champion of the 2022 Lacoste Ladies Open de France, and Maha Haddioui, who has twice represented Morocco at the Olympic Games, will be joined by Lina Belmati and Malak Bouraeda. Adding to the Moroccan contingent is Sofia Cherif Essakali, the RMGF's Elite player, whose remarkable achievement last year, making the cut at the tender age of 13, set a new record for precocity.

Year after year, the Lalla Meryem Cup establishes itself as a must-attend event on the global stage. It provides a platform for our players to showcase their skills and offers spectators an opportunity to witness a world-class sporting spectacle.

About the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (FRMG):

Presided by **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:

- Promotion and development of golf practice
- Organization and management of competitions
- Regulation of golf practice
- Training and professionalization of golf-related professions
- Support for professional players
- Management of high-level golfers



About the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH):

Founded on September 4, 2002, the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH), presided 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 on behalf of the FRMG. Its mission extends to elevating Morocco's status as a premier golf destination on the global stage.

Upholding achievements and innovating without distorting are the values that guide ATH in its progression towards excellence.

About the Ladies European Tour (LET):

Founded in 1978, the Ladies European Tour (LET) has played a crucial role in the development and promotion of women's golf across Europe and beyond. The tour inspires players to pursue their passion and unlock their potential through golf. The LET is a diverse and multicultural circuit featuring 316 professional golfers representing 36 countries, where players are encouraged to compete at the highest level.

Since its debut in 1993, the Lalla Meryem Cup has emerged as a vital platform for talented female golfers, offering them the chance to showcase their skills in a distinguished setting and gain widespread recognition.

In 2010, the LET and the Lalla Meryem Cup joined forces, uniting golfers from diverse nationalities worldwide. This partnership has strengthened the bonds between players, fans, and sponsors, grounded in a shared commitment to excellence.

This iconic event remains a crucial milestone in the LET calendar, providing an exceptional sporting spectacle while honoring the shared history between European women's golf and Morocco.