



**TROPHÉE
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Press release

49th edition of the Hassan II Trophy and the 28th Lalla Meryem Cup to take place from February 3 to 8 at Royal Golf Dar Es Salam

Rabat, January 13, 2025: Under the High Patronage of **His Majesty King Mohammed VI**, the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation and the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association, both presided over by **His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid**, proudly announce the 49th edition of the Hassan II Golf Trophy and the 28th edition of the Lalla Meryem Cup. These prestigious tournaments will unfold from February 3 to 8, 2025, at the Royal Golf Dar Es Salam in Rabat.

The simultaneous staging of these two marquee events on a single site continues the tradition of inclusion and unity first introduced in 1993 by the late **His Majesty King Hassan II**, the visionary founder of both competitions.

The Hassan II Trophy, held on the iconic Red Course, marks its third consecutive year as a pivotal event on the PGA Tour Champions. This year, 66 golf legends, including Ernie Els, Colin Montgomerie, Tom Lehman et Jose Maria Olazabal, will grace the fairways, delivering a display of masterful competition under the theme "Return of the Champions." In 2024, the tournament witnessed a fierce contest for the top position, with Argentina's Ricardo Gonzalez emerging triumphant, showcasing



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exceptional consistency throughout. Denmark's Thomas Bjørn claimed second place with a score of -9, while Australia's Mark Hensby rounded out the podium with -7.

The Lalla Meryem Cup, hosted on the Blue Course, will once again bring together the elite of women's golf, launching the annual calendar of the Ladies European Tour (LET). Among the 108 competitors, Morocco will proudly be represented by a team of 5 players, including Ines Laklalech, Maha Haddioui, and the reigning African Amateur Champion, Sofia Cherif Essakali. In 2024, British golfer Bronte Law dominated the competition, finishing at -13, followed by France's Pauline Roussin Bouchard (-10) and Spain's Fatima Fernandez Cano (-9). Of note, Ines Laklalech delivered the highest-ranking performance ever by a Moroccan golfer, tying for 7th place with a score of -6. The remarkable Sofia Cherif Essakali, just 14 years old, also shone brightly, making the cut for the second consecutive year and showcasing her prodigious talent.

Adding to the excitement, the Green Course will host the "Pro-Am Hassan II Kids Cup by First Tee," spotlighting 18 young Moroccan golfers in a friendly yet educational competition alongside PGA Tour Champions and LET professionals. This initiative aims to inspire and cultivate the next generation of golfing talent.

True to tradition, the Royal Golf Dar Es Salam will welcome the public throughout the event, offering an immersive experience complete with dynamic activities, diverse dining options, and interactive zones designed to introduce golf to visitors in a convivial and family-friendly atmosphere.



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Far more than a tournament, these dual events represent a true celebration of golf and sportsmanship within the Kingdom.

Organized annually by the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation and the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association, this remarkable event serves as an international showcase for Morocco.

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About the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (RMGF):

Chaired by **His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid** since January 2018, the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (RMGF) was founded on March 12, 1960. Its mission is to make golf accessible to everyone in all its forms while adhering to the ethical guidelines set forth by international sports organizations, including the International Golf Federation and the African Golf Confederation.

The RMGF's core missions include:

- Promoting and expanding the practice of golf
- Organizing and managing tournaments
- Regulating golfing standards and practices
- Training and professionalizing careers in golf
- Supporting professional players
- Overseeing elite golfers at the national level

About the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH):

Established on September 4, 2002, the Hassan II Golf Trophy Association (ATH) is a public-benefit sports organization led by



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His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid, who also serves as President of the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation.

The ATH is dedicated to organizing national and international golf tournaments on behalf of the FRMG and promoting Morocco as a premier global golfing destination.

Guided by a philosophy of respecting tradition while fostering innovation, the ATH continuously strives for excellence in all its endeavors.

About the PGA Tour Champions:

The PGA Tour Champions, also known as the Senior PGA Tour, is a distinguished series of professional golf tournaments exclusively for players aged 50 and above.

This tour gathers some of the most iconic figures in golf history, whose refined skills and wealth of experience continue to captivate audiences worldwide. The fairways and greens of these tournaments set the stage for unforgettable moments as these legends compete for coveted titles.

The Hassan II Trophy preserves its prestigious heritage as part of the PGA Tour Champions, offering fans of all ages a rare opportunity to witness their golfing heroes in action, create lasting memories, and draw inspiration from their enduring dedication to the sport.

Each PGA Tour Champions event is infused with a unique atmosphere of camaraderie and respect, where fierce competition is matched by the deep bonds shared among players.



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The tour is a powerful testament that talent and determination transcend age, with the legends of the past continuing to write their stories on the greens for the delight of golf enthusiasts around the globe.

About the Ladies European Tour:

Since its inception in 1978, the Ladies European Tour (LET) has played an instrumental role in advancing and promoting women's golf across Europe and beyond. The tour serves as a platform for athletes to pursue their passion and achieve their potential through the sport.

The LET boasts a diverse and multicultural roster of 316 professional golfers representing 36 countries, united in their drive to compete at the highest level.

Since its establishment in 1993, the Lalla Meryem Cup has served as a stepping stone for talented female golfers, offering them the chance to compete on a prestigious stage and gain international recognition.

In 2010, the partnership between the LET and the Lalla Meryem Cup strengthened ties among players, fans, and sponsors, fostering shared values of excellence.

As a pivotal event on the LET calendar, the Lalla Meryem Cup delivers an exceptional sporting spectacle while celebrating the enduring connection between European women's golf and Morocco.



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