

Lagoutte defends Finnair Masters, Finland



European Solheim Cup Team trio Bettina Hauert, Gwladys Nocera and Iben Tinning are amongst those competing in the Finnair Masters at Helsinki Golf Club this week.

France's Virginie Lagoutte-Clement defends the title that she won last year at the same venue. Meanwhile, the 126-strong field will also feature ten Finns, including the 2004 OTP Bank Central European Open winner Minea Blomqvist and Riikka Hakkarainen, the 2006 Tenerife Ladies Open champion.

The 28-year-old Lagoutte, from Montpellier, earned her second LET title at last year's event when she finished on ten-under-par. She defeated Sweden's Elin Ohlsson by two-shots after three rounds to claim the €30,000 top prize. Denmark's Lisa Holm Sorensen won the tournament in 2005 after it was cut to two rounds due to bad weather.

This year, competitors from more than 20 countries will battle it out for a share of the €200,000 prize fund as the Ladies European Tour returns to the Finnish capital.

Pettersen confident of Solheim Cup success



Norwegian Suzann Pettersen says there is a confident mood in the European camp ahead of next month's Solheim Cup. With the trans-Atlantic match play tournament just two weeks away, the 26-year-old from Oslo says the 12 European-born players from the Ladies European Tour are relishing the opportunity to shine.

"I think we are going to be underdogs on paper," said Pettersen, who won last week's SAS Masters.

"America has a very strong team but like (American veteran) Julie Inkster said, a piece of paper, you can

just throw it in the bin so it doesn't really matter and I think we have a strong team. We all have a couple of weeks to polish our game."

Pettersen knows many of the US Solheim Cup Team and she is not underestimating the challenge. "They're probably the youngest team they've ever had," she said. "But I think they are going to have a strong team. We need to play well. I think it's going to be a lot of good golf, some tight matches and hopefully blue colours. You really feel like you have 11 team mates. That's an amazing feeling to being on your own the rest of the year. That's what I enjoy the most and playing for each other."

Caption Competition

The LET is offering subscribers to this newsletter the chance to demonstrate their creativity and sense of humour with this caption competition.



Readers should e-mail their (clean) suggestions for the caption to this picture of Sophie Walker, taken at the Wales Ladies Championship of Europe, to letcaption@hotmail.co.uk by no later than midday (GMT) this Saturday. The winning suggestion will be published in the following week's newsletter.

Hudson retains lead in The 18 Finest

England's Rebecca Hudson remains the leader of The 18 Finest by Banque Baring Brothers Sturdza SA.

The 28-year-old from Doncaster leads Germany's Martina Eberl by one stroke following completion of the 13th and 14th holes at last week's SAS Masters in Norway.



Hudson completed the fourth hole in regulation on average, but dropped a shot on the tenth in her final round. She moves to one-under for the competition, ahead of Eberl (par), Australian Nikki Garrett (+1), Italian Diana Luna (+6) and France's Stephanie Arricau (+8). The competition comprises 18 holes taken from nine courses on the 2007 Ladies European Tour circuit.

To take part in **the 18 Finest**, each member will need to play and make the cut at each of the first eight events of **the 18 Finest** unless they use one 'bye'. The bye is an addition to **the 18 Finest** for the 2007 season. Each player will have the opportunity to use **only one** bye during the season. A prize fund of €110,000 will be paid to the top five finishers at the Madrid Ladies Masters in October.

King announces US Solheim Cup Team



The US Team to face Europe in next month's Solheim Cup has been confirmed.

The top ten American-born players earned their place in the team - leaving captain Betsy King with two wild card selections.

Based on the top-10 rankings in the U.S. Solheim Cup points standings the 10 players who automatically qualified

for the U.S. squad, listed in alphabetical order with ranking in parenthesis, are Paula Creamer (1), Natalie Gulbis (7), Pat Hurst (6), Juli Inkster (4), Cristie Kerr (2), Brittany Lincicome (8), Stacy Prammanasudh (5), Morgan Pressel (3), Angela Stanford (9) and Sherri Steinhauer (10). Castrale, who finished 11th in the points standings, and Diaz, who finished 14th, were chosen by King to round out the U.S. Team.

Rolex World Rankings as of 20th August 2007

Rank	Change	Name	Country	Events	Total Points	Average Points
1	0	Lorena Ochoa	MEX	51	970.48	19.03
2	0	Karrie Webb	AUS	48	497.96	10.37
3	0	Annika Sorenstam	SWE	39	396.02	10.15
4	0	Cristie Kerr	USA	52	430.34	8.28
5	1	Suzann Pettersen	NOR	47	347.45	7.39

For further information please see the Rolex Rankings on www.ladieseuropeantour.com



Pettersen leads Volvo Cross Country Challenge

Suzann Pettersen's first place finish at the SAS Masters in Norway was enough to see her soar to the top of the Volvo Cross Country (XC) Challenge order of merit.

The competition has a separate order of merit based on the results from the four tournaments in the Nordic region - the Scandinavian TPC Hosted by Annika, the SAS Masters, the Finnair Masters, and the Nykredit Masters. The top ten then share a prize pool of \$150,000, with Pettersen currently leading the way on 405 points.



Scotland's Catriona Matthew lies in second on 300 points after winning the first event on the Volvo XC Challenge - the Scandinavian TPC Hosted by Annika in Sweden two weeks ago. Australian Nikki Garrett lies in third after her second-place finish in Norway, while Sweden's Sophie Gustafson is in fourth. Italian Diana Luna and German Anja Monke also join the top ten in tied-fifth.

The Finnair Masters, which begins on August 31, will provide players with another chance to climb the Volvo XC Challenge order of merit before the final contributing event, the Nykredit Masters in Denmark, in two weeks' time.



NEW STAR MONEYLIST 2007

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	€	Played
1	Maria Hjorth	192,657.54	6
2	Bettina Hauert	183,458.10	14
3	Trish Johnson	179,785.25	14
4	Gwladys Nocera	151,042.97	16
5	Catriona Matthew	147,797.28	3
6	Linda Wessberg	144,222.05	9
7	Nikki Garrett	133,368.82	15
8	Joanne Mills	131,585.87	15
9	Becky Brewerton	122,232.60	14
10	Sophie Gustafson	116,941.47	3



THE 2007 SOLHEIM CUP STANDINGS

Following the S4/C Wales Ladies Championship

#	Name	Pts;	Played
1	Gwladys Nocera	244.00	31
2	Trish Johnson	141.15	29
3	Bettina Hauert	129.00	30
4	Laura Davies	125.00	16
5	Becky Brewerton	115.25	29



RYDER CUP WALES ROOKIE OF THE YEAR 2007

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	€	Played
1	Louise Stahle	70,464.66	10
2	Jade Schaeffer	37,216.85	11
3	Amy Yang	32,820.47	8
4	Anna Rossi	22,798.25	10
5	Kiran Matharu	18,190.25	10



Stroke Averages

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	Avg	Rounds
1	Catriona Matthew	72.08	12
2	Suzann Pettersen	72.13	15
3	Gwladys Nocera	72.18	55
4	Becky Brewerton	72.20	46
5=	Sarah Kemp	72.32	41
5=	Linda Wessberg	72.32	34



Total Number of Eagles

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	Eagles	Rounds
1=	Nikki Garrett	7	48
1=	Karen Lunn	7	47
1=	Bettina Hauert	7	45
4=	Virginie Lagoutte-Clement	6	56
4=	Rebecca Coakley	6	52
4=	Sarah Kemp	6	41



Total Number of Holes in One

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	Total	Rounds
1=	Virginie Lagoutte-Clement	1	56
1=	Rebecca Coakley	1	52
1=	Lisa Hall	1	47
1=	Sarah Kemp	1	41
1=	Georgina Simpson	1	39
1=	Elisabeth Esterl	1	38
1=	Anna Rossi	1	34
1=	Cassandra Kirkland	1	32
1=	Ellen Smets	1	31



Total Strokes above/below Par

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	-Par+	Rounds
1	Catriona Matthew	-3	12
2	Suzann Pettersen	-2	15



Total Number of Birdies

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	Birdies	Rounds
1	Gwladys Nocera	170	55
2	Virginie Lagoutte-Clement	157	56
3	Becky Brewerton	156	46
4	Trish Johnson	154	47
5	Rebecca Hudson	152	52



Average Number of Birdies per Round

following the SAS Masters

#	Name	Avg	Rounds
1	Mhairi McKay	3.75	4
2	Linda Wessberg	3.56	34
3	Suzann Pettersen	3.53	15
4	Catriona Matthew	3.50	12
5	Laura Davies	3.47	17

Sponsors





Rebecca Hudson

England



Tournament Leader

Key

- Hole(s) 1 & 2: Tenerife Ladies Open (03-05-07), Golf del Sur Tenerife (hole(s) 4 & 7)
- Hole(s) 3 & 4: Open de Espana Femenino (10-05-07), CC Mediterraneo (hole(s) 12 & 13)
- Hole(s) 5 & 6: BMW Ladies Italian Open (23-05-07), Sheraton Golf Parco de' Medici (hole(s) 13 & 16)
- Hole(s) 7 & 8: Vedioirbis Open de France (21-06-07), Le Golf d'Arras (hole(s) 10 & 13)
- Hole(s) 9 & 10: Golf Punk Ladies English Open (05-07-07), Chart Hills (hole(s) 2 & 17)
- Hole(s) 11 & 12: S4/C Wales Ladies Championship (16-08-07), Machynys Peninsula GC (hole(s) 4 & 16)
- Hole(s) 13 & 14: SAS Masters (24-08-07), Losby Golf Club (hole(s) 4 & 10)
- Hole(s) 15 & 16: Nykredit Masters (06-09-07), Helsingor Golf Club (hole(s) 8 & 12)
- Hole(s) 17 & 18: Madrid Ladies Masters (04-10-07), Casino Club de Golf Retamares (hole(s) 17 & 18)

Pos.	Score	Player	HOLE: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18																			
			Actual:	4	7	12	13	13	16	10	13	2	17	4	16	4	10	8	12	17	18	
			Length:	274	369	170	515	365	357	140	450	364	147	371	374	379	188	435	350	164	470	
			Par:	4	4	3	5	4	4	3	5	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	3	5		
1	-1	Rebecca Hudson <i>England</i> 		R1:	3	4	2	5	4	5	2	4	3	3	5	4	3					
				R2:	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	5	4	3	4	4	4	3				
				R3:	4	4	3	5	4	4	2	6	4	3	5	4	5	4				
				R4:	5	5	3	5	4	4	2	4				4	4					
				Total:	16	18	11	19	16	17	9	19	11	9	18	16	12	10				
				Par:	0	+2	-1	-1	0	+1	-3	-1	-1	0	+2	0	0	+1				
2	Par	Martina Eberl <i>Wacker, Focus, Wilson</i> 		R1:	3	4	3	4	3	3	B	B	3	3	5	5	4	3				
				R2:	4	4	4	5	4	3	Y	Y	4	3	4	4	4	3				
				R3:	3	4	3	4	4	4	E	E	4	3	5	4	5	3				
				R4:	4	4	3	4	3	4					5	4						
				Total:	14	16	13	17	14	14			11	9	19	17	13	9				
				Par:	-2	0	+1	-3	-2	-2	+2	+2	-1	0	+3	+1	+1	0				
3	+1	Nikki Garrett <i>Oakley, Magenta Shores C.C.</i> 		R1:	3	4	4	4	5	4	3	5	B	B	5	5	3	3				
				R2:	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	Y	Y	4	5	5	4				
				R3:	3	4	3	3	4	4	2	5	E	E	4	4	4	3				
				R4:	3	3	3	5	4	3	3	5			5	4						
				Total:	13	15	13	16	17	15	11	20			18	18	12	10				
				Par:	-3	-1	+1	-4	+1	-1	-1	0	+2	+2	+2	+2	0	+1				
4	+6	Diana Luna <i>Conte of Florence</i> 		R1:	4	4	B	B	5	4	2	4	4	3	5	4	4	3				
				R2:	3	3	Y	Y	4	3	3	5	4	3	5	4	5	3				
				R3:	4	4	E	E	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	5	4	3				
				R4:	4	7			4	4	2	4			5	4						
				Total:	15	18			17	15	10	17	12	9	20	17	13	9				
				Par:	-1	+2	+2	+2	+1	-1	-2	-3	0	0	+4	+1	+1	0				
5	+8	Stephanie Arricau <i>Pau Golf Club, France</i> 		R1:	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	5	5	3	4	4	4	3				
				R2:	4	6	3	5	3	4	2	6	5	3	6	5	5	3				
				R3:	4	5	3	5	3	4	3	5	5	3	4	4	4	3				
				R4:	4	4	3	3	4	4	3	5			4	4						
				Total:	16	19	13	18	14	16	12	21	15	9	18	17	13	9				
				Par:	0	+3	+1	-2	-2	0	0	+1	+3	0	+2	+1	+1	0				