

English Duo Seal Victory



England's Trish Johnson and Rebecca Hudson have claimed a five-stroke victory in the inaugural VCI European Ladies Golf Cup at La Sella near Alicante. The pair combined for rounds of 64, 70, 65 and 71 for an 18-under-par total of 270.

Belgium and Germany tied for second on 13 under. Belgians Lara Tadiotto and Ellen Smets carded a final round of 71, while Germans Martina Eberl and Anja Monke fired a 65.

The tournament featured fourballs on days one and three, with the Valencian Cup Format, a variation on greensomes, played on days two and four.

The English duo were five strokes clear of the field going into the final round and recovered from a bogey on the fifth with three birdies on the back nine. Johnson holed from 25 feet at the 15th to give the English team a three-shot lead.

Hudson then almost fired a hole-in-one at the 185-yard 17th, allowing Johnson to hole from five feet to effectively seal victory. "We gelled perfectly," said Johnson. "The two

Belgian girls were absolutely fantastic. They deserve better than what they got actually in the end but they played great and they pushed us all the way." Hudson added: "For me I've just enjoyed the whole week and knowing that Trish was always going to be there or thereabouts was just great."

Rolex World Rankings

Rolex World Rankings as of 7th April 2008

1. Lorena Ochoa (Mexico)
2. Annika Sorenstam (Sweden)
3. Suzann Pettersen (Norway)
4. Paula Creamer (USA)
5. Karrie Webb (Australia)



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

Get well soon wishes for Kirsty A Taylor



The winning English pair of Johnson and Hudson were keen to pass on their best wishes to Kirsty A Taylor from Yorkshire, who following brain surgery was replaced by Hudson at the VCI European Ladies Golf Cup.

Taylor, the 2005 Welsh Ladies Champion of Europe, is recovering well, letting nature take its course and hopes to be competing on Tour later in the year. Johnson said: "We both wish her all the best and can't wait to see her back out here. I think that goes for everyone on the Tour."

Flamenco dancing at the European Cup

Players and sponsors were treated to an evening of spectacular flamenco dancing during the VCI European Ladies Golf Cup at La Sella Resort near Alicante in Spain. Famous Spanish flamenco dancer Antonio Canales and his group performed at a gala dinner held in a hospitality tent on Saturday evening. The entertainment was hosted by Spanish actress Carolina Cerezuela. Canales and his group performed until after midnight and were met by a standing ovation. To see further pictures from the evening visit the LET's image gallery online at www.ladieseuropeantour.com



Marti's goals for 2008



Top Spanish golfer Paula Marti has revealed her ambitions for the 2008 season. The 28-year-old mother of one from Barcelona hopes to finish the year in the top five places on the New Star Money List. She also wants her son, Izan, to see her win a third LET victory.

"I want him to come to the 18th hole and see me win. That is one of my dreams," she said.

Marti added: "My goal this year is to be more consistent. Last year I had a very good year at the beginning and I put the pressure of The Solheim Cup on myself. That is when I started playing badly. So my goal this year is to be up there, to be on the leader board. When you are there every

week suddenly you get the win so that is my goal. To be more consistent, to be up there and I would love to finish top five on the New Star Money List. It's a big achievement but I think I can do it."

She added that she would like to give 21-month old Izan a brother or a sister at some point. "Maybe next year or in two years' time," she said. "This year it's only golf."

Pilgrim back on tour

Eleanor Pilgrim is back on Tour again after a forced four month break from golf due to health issues at the end of last season. The 31-year-old from Newport in Wales picked up a virus around the time of the Ricoh Women's British Open and Ladies English Open which became serious. She said: "I picked up a virus which turned into pneumonia and I was just stubborn. I thought I was just tired and put it down to that and it turned into pneumonia.

"I had a load of scans and I have a lung condition as well which they picked up which is permanent now so I've got to look after myself. It did knock me and my back was also playing up considerably and there were a few complications there as well.

"I had to step out of the game and to be honest I didn't think I would be able to return. So it's given me a bit of perspective. It's great to be back and we'll see how we go."



Coakley takes short game tips from Pelz



Ireland's Rebecca Coakley has increased confidence after she visited the Pelz Academy in Florida ahead of the main 2008 LET season.

Coakley, the highest ranked Irish player, said: "I walked away after going to the Pelz Academy feeling much more confident about my short game. We'll see how that stands under pressure. It's going to be a long process but hopefully in six months time I can say I've improved."

Coakley learned about getting consistency: "Having one shot that you know what height it's going to come in at and how it's going to roll rather than guess work," she said. She also went to the Belfry in England to be fitted for some new

wedges and woods.

Clare queen aiming for next level



Clare Queen finished 39th on the New Star Money List last year, which was a considerable improvement on 99th in her rookie year. This year, the 25-year-old Scot believes that she can take her golf to the next level. "I'm hoping to challenge for some more tournaments and give myself a chance. If you can do that enough times then maybe you will get a win," she said. Queen also trained hard in the gym over the winter.

Queen has employed Shane Codd as her full time caddie for the 2008 season and she added: "Thanks to some help from my sponsors I was able to do it this year and I feel it was a quite important thing just to have a bit of consistency from week to week. Shane is a good guy and a good caddie as well so if he can save me one or two shots each week then that's got to make a difference."

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