

INTERNATIONAL TALENT



The year to date has provided another extraordinary season for the Ladies European Tour with compelling storylines and champions.

Up to and including the Tenerife Ladies Open, the 17 events played have yielded winners from 12 different countries: Sweden, Australia, England, the Netherlands, Norway, France, Spain, Italy, Wales, Japan, Scotland and Austria.

Including the Comunitat Valenciana European Nations Cup, a team event for pairs, there have been 10 first time winners so far this season.

Christel Boeljon and Marjet van der Graaff won the Comunitat Valenciana European Nations Cup for the Netherlands, Norway's Marianne Skarpnord claimed the Deutsche Bank Ladies Swiss Open and Frenchwoman Jade Schaeffer secured the HypoVereinsbank Ladies German Open presented by Audi. Spain's Tania Elosegui triumphed at the ABN AMRO Ladies Open in the Netherlands, Sweden's Johanna Westerberg claimed the Portugal Ladies Open and Japan's Ai Miyazato netted the Evian Masters. Spain's Beatriz Recari won the Finnair Masters, Austrian Nicole Gergely claimed an historic win at the Randstad Open de France Dames and England's Felicity Johnson won the Tenerife Ladies Open.

Only Italian Diana Luna has secured multiple victories with back to back wins at the AIB Ladies Irish Open and at the SAS Ladies Masters in Norway.

2009 WALL OF CHAMPIONS



Katherine Hull (AUS)
ANZ Ladies Masters



Laura Davies (ENG)
Women's Australian Open



Christel Boeljon (NL) & Marjet van der Graaff (NL)
Comunitat Valenciana European Nations Cup



Marianne Skarpnord (NOR)
Deutsche Bank Ladies Swiss Open



Jade Schaeffer (FRA)
HypoVereinsbank Ladies German Open presented by Audi



Tania Elosegui (ESP)
ABN AMRO Ladies Open



Johanna Westerberg (SWE)
Ladies Open of Portugal



Diana Luna (ITA)
AIB Ladies Irish Open



Diana Luna (ITA)
SAS Ladies Masters



Becky Brewerton (WAL)
Open de Espana Femenino



Ai Miyazato (JPN)
Evian Masters



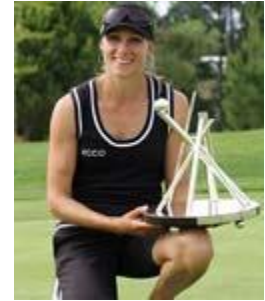
Catriona Matthew (SCO)
Ricoh Women's British Open



Karen Stupples (ENG)
S4/C Wales Ladies
Championship of Europe



Beatriz Recari (ESP)
Finnair Masters



Linda Wessberg (SWE)
UNI QA Ladies Golf Open
presented by Raiffeisen



Nicole Gergely (AUT)
Randstad Open de France
Dames



Felicity Johnson (ENG)
Tenerife Ladies Opene

MADRID LADIES MASTERS

This week's Madrid Ladies Masters has received a major boost with the inclusion of LPGA champion and Solheim Cup player Anna Nordqvist.

The 22-year-old Swede will tee up at Club de Golf Retamares for the three-round event, which starts on Thursday and ends on Saturday.

Despite her Major win at the McDonald's LPGA Championship Presented by Coca-Cola and having been a Solheim Cup player, Nordqvist has never won an event in Europe, bar the Qualifying School at La Manga Club in January.

Her brother Matthias, who has played on the Swedish National Team for the past two years, is making a one-time appearance as her caddie.

The third edition of the Madrid Ladies Masters, a 54-hole stroke play tournament with a prize fund of €200,000, features 40 professionals and two amateurs. There will be no cut and the winner will take home €50,000. The par-73 Retamares course will be set up at 6319 yards for the tournament. First round action will start at 10.30am on Thursday, with the final putt expected to be holed at approximately 2.30pm local time on Saturday afternoon.



ITALY FOR CHRISTINA KIM



U.S. Solheim Cup star Christina Kim has confirmed that she will play in the 2009 Carta Si Ladies Italian Open at Le Rovedine Milano Golf Club in Milan from Thursday 15th to Saturday 18th October.

Kim has received an invitation to play in the 108-woman field and joins European Solheim Cup players Laura Davies, Tania Elosegui, Becky Brewerton and Diana Luna.

Kim explained why she is delighted to be playing: "I'm looking forward to playing in the Italian Open. It really worked out just perfect – I've never been to Milan and it's such an exciting place with all the fashion. But, also, with the way the schedule worked out, I had an opening and I've wanted to go over and compete on the LET and see how I stack up against all the great players over there."

Kim displayed her stellar talents to a European audience at The 2009 Solheim Cup at Rich Harvest Farms in August when she won three points for the winning team USA.

THE GREAT ROOKIE RACE

Anna Nordqvist hopes to consolidate her position as the Ladies European Tour's leading rookie in Madrid. The Swede Nordqvist currently leads the race for Europe's Ryder Cup Wales Rookie of the Year Award with earnings of €59,571.74 from just four events and is €5876 clear of England's Florentyna Parker, who has played in 14 tournaments and is also in Madrid.

Her next LET event will be the season-ending Dubai Ladies Masters and she added: "Obviously I am in a good position now, but there are a lot of tournaments left and there are a lot of good rookies this year so I think it will be tight race."



LET IN NEW ZEALAND

The New Zealand Women's Golf Open has received a major boost with the announcement that the 2010 event will be played near Christchurch at a new course with a new naming sponsor.

The Pegasus New Zealand Women's Open will be staged at the new Pegasus course near Christchurch, with naming sponsorship from the company developing the town.

After a successful inaugural Open this year, the new partnership between Pegasus and Christchurch City Council will result in the Open being elevated to full status on the Ladies European Tour (LET), the second largest women's golf tour in the world.

The Pegasus New Zealand Women's Open, which will carry a prize purse of approx NZ\$415,000, will be held on 25-28 February as a co-sanction between the Australian Ladies Professional Golf (ALPG) and the LET. It will form part of a three-tournament swing for the LET including the Australian Women's Open and the ANZ Ladies Masters in Queensland.

THE LAST WORD

"In Finland everything was flowing; I was feeling strong. I had good memories from 2008 when I finished third. I said: "This is my tournament.""

Beatriz Recari. 2009 Finnair Masters champion.

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