

WA makes it three in a row for Surf Life Saving Championship

WESTERN Australia has secured the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships for three consecutive years from 2007 to 2009.

The 2007 event is expected to lure more than 8000 surf lifesavers from 200 clubs around Australia to Perth's Scarborough Beach from March 22 to 25.

"This three-year deal is enormous for WA, with interstate and overseas visitors expected to generate more than A\$25 million for the state," said tourism minister Mark McGowan. "Along with competitors, we expect 500 officials and 100,000 surf lifesaving enthusiasts to flock to Scarborough for the championship, which will be preceded by the Australian Masters Surf Life Saving Championships, from March 20-21, 2007."

2007 will be the Year of the Surf Life Saver — marking the centenary of the first surf lifesaving organisation, the Surf Bathing Association of NSW in 1907.

Dublin pair release Ryder prices

GOLF packages are now available for next year's Ryder Cup in Ireland.

Two hotels in Dublin — the Hilton and the Burlington — have been chosen for the seven-day packages (land content only) and are priced from 3984 euros per person twin share, or 5774 euros single.

The packages — from September 18 to 25 - include attending the 2006 Ryder Cup opening ceremony, foursome and singles matches and the first two practice days.

For more information and bookings, contact Catherine Bodley at Ovation Group in Dublin on email:cbodley@ovation.ie



Rich classic for Vines

AUSTRALIA's richest golf tournament, with a first prize of A\$550,000, will be staged at Perth's Novotel Vines Resort next year — and again in 2009.

At least five of the world's top 10 players such as Ernie Els, Retief Goosen and last year's winner, Australian Adam Scott, will take part in next February's Johnnie Walker Classic, which is regarded as Asia-Pacific's most prestigious annual golfing tournament.

On the web: www.vines.com.au

London wins

In an upset decision (54-50) London has beaten favourite Paris as the host city for the 2012 Olympic Games.



Kelly plans world-class events

A NEW golf course south of Perth, which has been tipped by top professionals to become one of the best in Australia, has been sold.

The purchase price of A\$20 million for 'The Cut' — an 18-hole championship standard course at Port Bouvard, near Mandurah — also includes major property assets such as the recently opened clubhouse and the adjoining resort hotel and villa development sites in the estate's beachside Southport precinct.

The new owner is John Kelly, director of The Cut, and his investment entity — Vive Holdings Ltd (an unlisted public company).

According to Kelly, who purchased the golf facility from Port Bouvard Ltd, it has the fastest-growing membership base of any course in Australia. "We are looking forward to building on that success and also to facilitating world-class quality developments on the resort hotel and villa sites which will be great assets for the regional community," he said.

The new A\$5 million clubhouse features function rooms that are available for small gatherings, through to fully catered events. It also has a meeting room — ideal for board/business meetings for small groups of up to 12 people, a restaurant (capacity 120) a glass enclosed outdoor area and a business centre.

Melbourne to Vanuatu ocean race

A FIRST-EVER ocean race is to be sailed from Melbourne to Vanuatu's capital Port Vila in July next year. The Melbourne-Vila race is being organised by George Shaw, event manager of the Ocean Racing Club of Victoria. The Vanuatu Cruising Yacht Club will be host club for the finish of the race and is planning a number of local and inter-island races and competitions between the Australian and New Zealand yachts and others from around the world that will be in Port Vila over winter 2006.

For more information on the Melbourne-Vila race contact the Ocean Racing Club of Victoria email orcvc@orcvc.org.au

Emirates, the Force is with you!

DUBAI-BASED international airline Emirates has signed a multi-million dollar sponsorship with Australia's new Super 14 rugby team, the Western Force.

In a three-year deal that runs until 2008, the airline is naming sponsor of the team, now called Emirates Western Force.

The announcement was made at a gala luncheon in Perth, before 500 guests.

Richard Vaughan, Emirates' senior vice-president Commercial Operations for East Asia and Australasia said: "Emirates is delighted to be naming rights sponsor of the Western Force. The airline is a strong supporter of rugby in a number of countries and has been waiting for the right opportunity to get behind the game in Australia."

He added that the seed of that opportunity was sown in December when Perth won the bid for the fourth Australian Super 14 team.

Vaughan said: "Emirates first started flying to Perth in 2002, and a sponsorship like the Emirates Western Force will help us develop that relationship.

"The Western Force operates on set of values with which Emirates identify: energy, unity, vision, growth, pride and professionalism — and we look forward to a



Pictured: Richard Vaughan senior vice president commercial operations East Asia and Australia for Emirates with members of the Western Force team following the sponsorship announcement. Left to right: stewardess Donna Davidson, Luke Doherty, Junior Pelesasa, Rudi Verdelgo, Richard Vaughan, Matt Windle, Lochlan MacKay and David Fitter.

very fruitful partnership with the team."

Rugby WA chief executive Peter O'Meara said he was thrilled to have an organisation like Emirates as the naming rights sponsor. He described the sponsorship as a "team-maker" and one which would go a long way to ensure the financial viability of the Western Force over the next three years.

O'Meara said: "Emirates backs some of the best sporting teams and events in the world, and we are very pleased that they have decided to get behind our Super 14 team.

"The Emirates brand will be seen on television sets and in stadiums throughout the Southern hemisphere, and the world."

The New Super 14 rugby competition is regarded as the toughest provincial rugby competition in the world. Its season runs from February to June and involves four teams from Australia, five teams from New Zealand and five teams from South Africa.

Emirates Western Force's team jersey features a black swan icon, wrapped from back to front and set in ocean blue.



Voted Australia's Top Golf Resort*

Joondalup Resort is the perfect venue for conferences, business meetings, incentives and social function. Our superbly equipped functions rooms, some with spectacular views over the golf course, are flexible enough to cater for groups of up to 250 guests.

We have people to take care of every detail of your function, plus a wide range of resort facilities to help ensure the success of any occasion.

Country Club Boulevard, Connolly, WA
Tel: (08) 9400 8888 Fax: (08) 9400 8889
Reservations: 1800 803 488
Email: hotel@joondalupresort.com.au
www.joondalupresort.com.au

* By readers of Golf Australia Magazine.

