

December 2015, Issue 176

Worldwide Golf

The Middle East's No.1 Golf Magazine

TRAVEL

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▼ EMIRATES GOLF FEDERATION

DP WORLD SUPPORT FOR THE UAE NATIONAL TEAM AND LOCAL AMATEURS GROWS WITH EUROPEAN TOUR PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE INITIATIVE

DP World once again showed its commitment to developing the game of golf at UAE National grassroots level in the United Arab Emirates by supporting the visit of Jean-Jacques Rivet, the Head of Biomechanics and Sports Performance from The European Tour Performance Institute (ETPI) in Terre Blanche, France, to work with the UAE National Teams at the facility in Dubai.

The swing biomechanics expert will give the team guidance that will optimise their skills at Jumeirah Golf Estates' ETPI, which is one of only two of the state-of-the-art facilities in the world, along with Terre Blanche.

Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Chairman of DP World, said: "We're absolutely delighted to be able to support this fantastic initiative which offers us the chance to play a part in the development of our UAE National Golf Teams. The growth of the game in the region is extremely important to us and giving our local golfers access to a facility as admired as the European Tour Performance Institute offers them the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. I have no doubt that the knowledge and expertise of Jean-Jacques Rivet will be invaluable to our players."

Rivet's visit was part of a week-long programme which has also seen 21 European Challenge

Tour players use the Jumeirah Golf Estates ETPI facilities and tap into the Frenchman's expertise in preparation for the season-ending NBO Golf Classic Grand Final in Oman.

Yousuf Kazim, CEO of Jumeirah Golf Estates, said: "It has been a great week and we have enjoyed having the European Challenge Tour players, the members of the ICAEW, Jean-Jacques Rivet, and of course, the UAE National Team here. We are very proud of our world class facilities and it is our

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intention that local and international golfers of all standards and international golf federations and associations use the Jumeirah Golf Estates European Tour Performance Institute, so it is more than appropriate that the UAE National Golf Teams have access to the facility. With this initiative we hope to play our part in producing the golf superstars of tomorrow."

Rivet enjoyed working with the players again, having already hosted them at the facility in France where they trained for 10 days in September in

preparation for the Nomura Cup played at Yas Links, Abu Dhabi, in October.

"It was great to visit our sister ETPI in Dubai," said Rivet. "Like our facility in Terre Blanche, the facilities here are really state-of-the-art and amateur golfers in the UAE, as well as the professionals who visit here, are really fortunate to have a place like this to come and develop their game."

"The Director of Instruction, Mark Gregson-Walters and his team at the ETPI are very gifted coaches and I enjoy working with them and passing on some of our swing biomechanics techniques."

UAE National Team Head Coach Greg Holmes is delighted that his team were given the chance to work with Rivet again, saying: "The team improved a lot from the trip to the Terre Blanche ETPI. Just using the body and the ground properly definitely benefitted them and helped control their swings."

"We had a great 10 days with Jean-Jacques and it's fantastic that the team had the chance to work with him again."

The Emirates Golf Federation thanked DP World for its support in this initiative in assisting to increase the standard of the game at amateur level in the region.

Secretary General Khaled Mubarak commented: "We're very grateful for the support that DP World have given over the years in helping to develop the game of golf in the UAE."

"People are obviously aware of their title sponsorship of the DP World Tour Championship, The European Tour's season-ending climax which features some of the top professionals in the game. "But their sponsorship extends far beyond the professional game and this is the latest in a long line of initiatives DP World have supported with the aim of helping our local amateur golfers to improve."

Top row L-R: Julian Small (Jumeirah Golf Estates), Khaled Mubarak (Emirates Golf Federation), Mark Gregson-Walters (ETPI, JGE) Yousuf Kazim (JGE), Jean-Jacques Rivet (ETPI, Terre Blanche), Neal Graham (JGE) and Erik Hooper (DP World). Bottom row: David Condon (EGF), Nick Tarratt (European Tour) and Greg Holmes (EGF) with three UAE National Team Members.



L-R: Khaled Mubarak (Emirates Golf Federation), Yousuf Kazim (Jumeirah Golf Estates), David Condon (Emirates Golf Federation), UAE National Golf Team Member and Jean-Jacques Rivet





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