

LOCAL
ROUND-UP

Turner wins again at Al Hamra

The Desert Classic sensation responds with his second successive win in the RAK Men's Open

When you've just made the cut at the Desert Classic as a 17-year-old amateur (and got to six under par in the process) a return to the regional competition circuit might seem to pose all the pressure of a weekend knockabout with your buddies. But there was nothing complacent about the way Matthew Turner (pictured above, third from right) went about dismantling the long, hard and fast Al Hamra course with two composed rounds to win his second straight RAK Mens Open last month.

Peter Harradine's blustery layout weaves its way through a series of manmade lagoons and is notoriously difficult to score on, with only Alex Charawani matching par on day one. With Turner in his slipstream just one shot back, Charawani could not sustain his challenge, and a composed 71 from the English youngster on day two was enough for a comfortable six shot victory over fellow junior Joel Neale. Third place went to Miki Mirza (80, 72) while Saed Malik edged Al Hamra member Ben Constance to the best nett prize with a 149 total. Turner has now opened up a nine point lead in the UGA Order of Merit (see opposite for table).