

EMIRATES GOLF FEDERATION

Local star Harradine looks to Defend Shaikh Rashid Trophy

One of the biggest local tournaments in the UAE's history made a welcome return last year, and this month, MENA Tour player Michael Harradine is hoping for back-to-back wins

One of the most unique and popular tournaments on the golfing calendar will get underway on November 17 when the Shaikh Rashid Trophy, sponsored by Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa, tees off at Arabian Ranches. Played on three different courses over three days, the trophy boasts a number of illustrious winners, including Asian Tour player Ross Bain and last year's victor, Michael Harradine - and this year for the first time, prestigious Amateur World Ranking points are also at stake. Competitors will be forced to adapt to three different courses, with the second round played on the slick greens of The Els Club and the final round staged on the tricky layout at tournament host club, Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa.

James Williams, the director of golf at Jebel Ali, is looking forward to an exciting edition of this great tournament. "With Amateur

World Ranking points on offer, the Emirates Golf Federation has done a great job in raising the event's profile, and we're proud and delighted to be both a sponsor, and the host venue for the final round," he said.

Defending champion Michael Harradine (*pictured right*), who placed fifth ranked amateur in last month's MENA Tour, says the Shaikh Rashid is one of his favourite events in the season. "You have to be versatile, because each day you have to adapt to a new test. The greens are different, the layouts are different - so you have to hit your stride quickly. It's never the most low-scoring event. My performance last year started a good run that I couldn't quite maintain, so hopefully I can improve on that this time round."

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