

ARABIAN GOLF

MICHAEL HARRADINE SHINES IN SEASON-ENDING EGF EVENT

MICHAEL HARRADINE added another feather to his cap when he won the season-ending EGF Order of Merit Championship by two shots at The Els Club.

The talented golfer, who emerged on top in the 2011-2012 Men's Order of Merit (gross) with a tally of 268.8 points, shot gross rounds of 73 and 74 for a 3-over-par total of 147 to beat his closest rival Khalid Yousuf by two shots. Craig Forrest had to settle for third a shot further back on a gross 150.

The ladies division, in contrast, produced a dramatic twist to the script with Serifa D'Souza, who had finished 13th on the Ladies Order of Merit, taking the honours with a 36-hole score of 164, four shots ahead of runner-up Kim Chiang and eight shots clear of third-placed Sandra Grenet.

The Men's Order of Merit winner Harradine and Yousuf will get special invitations to compete in the Singapore Men's Amateur Open Championship later this year in recognition of their achievements during the season.

The winners of this season's Ladies Order of Merit title (Sana Tufail) and the OoM Championship (Serifa) will also receive a similar trip overseas.

Dominance

In all, top 20 men and ladies players on their respective Orders of Merit, along with the leading 20 junior players were invited by the Emirates Golf Federation to compete in this new season-ending competition which has replaced the Scratch Matchplay Championship.

Conor Keegan comfortably kept

up his dominance in the Junior Division with back-to-back rounds of 75 for a 36-hole gross total of 150, beating Eoin Cunniffiee (158) and Rayhan Thomas (159) to second and third place respectively.

At the presentation ceremony, the EGF honoured ace Sana Tufail with the Junior of the Year award.

The talented youngster was also presented with a special trophy for her remarkable feat of winning 10 of the 11 ladies Order of Merit events during the season.

Bilal Belaid received the Most Improved Junior prize while Daniel Hendry walked away with the Best Performance of the Year award.

The Best Golf Initiative award went to Saadiyat Beach Golf Club for introducing golf to Children from Abu Dhabi's Future Centre for Special Needs.

Michael Harradine is presented with his prize from UAE National Team Head Coach Chris Vallender.



Above: Junior winners Serifa D'Souza (top) and Conor Keegan are presented with their prizes by Chris Vallender.