

Regional Golf Round-up



Page 18
Wednesday
March 6, 2013
Sport360

With Joy Chakravarty

SPORT 360

WEDNESDAY

6 MARCH 2013

N.814

SPORT360.COM

Harradine finds the going tough on his father's design



Unexpected win: Michael Harradine.

Michael Harradine clinched one more title at a golf course designed by his father Peter, when he won at the first Meydan Men's Open at The Track. The win also took him to the top of the Emirates Golf Federation Order of Merit.

It wasn't a typical solid performance from Harradine, who opened with an eight-over 80, and then added a 76 on the second day to finish on top at 156.

"If I'm honest, I was surprised that I won, because I played poorly," said Harradine. "Everyone had a

shocker though, I think I just played less poorly than everyone else.

"I was eight-over after the first round and then four-over after the second and I didn't think I'd even be in the top three."

Craig Forrest came second with a score of 163, followed Ricky Dominguez with 164. The lowest nett scores were by Nicolas Reincke (148) and Alban Des Brest (163). Alistair Purves won the nearest the pin on day one and Harradine won the nearest the pin on day two.

And Harradine insisted he did

not have an advantage in the competition despite the course being designed by his family business.

"It was designed by the company in collaboration with Meydan, but I don't think it helped me," said Harradine, who is a third generation golfer in a family synonymous with the sport. His grandfather, Donald, launched the Harradine Golf – a course design company – in 1929 and his son and Michael's father, Peter, is one of the most respected course architects in the game.

Michael has only played The

Track twice, but has knowledge of the course during construction.

That familiarity, he believes, may have lulled him into a false sense of security.

He said: "I walked around it plenty of times when it was being built. I remember thinking that the fairways were wide and it wouldn't be too much of a challenge, so I was surprised how tough it was."

► You can email me any regional golf news and event reports at joychakravarty@sport360.com