

## Sharjah joins Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Ras Al Khaimah to host European Tour event



*England's Paul Broadhurst, right, will be one of the big names to compete in Sharjah this year. Photo courtesy Joseph J Capellan*

The Sharjah Golf & Shooting Club is all set to host the Sharjah Senior Invitational Pro-Am presented by Shurooq on March 16.

Prominent names to compete in the 18-hole tournament include former Ryder Cup stars – Irishman Des Smyth and England's Paul Broadhurst – as well as former European No 1 Ronan Rafferty from Northern Ireland. They will be in action on the **Peter Harradine**-designed course.

The European Senior Tour was first held in the UAE in 2000 when Abu Dhabi Golf Club hosted the Abu Dhabi European Seniors Tour Championship. The Arcapita Seniors Tour Championship was held in Bahrain in 2005 and 2006.

"We're excited to see a European Senior Tour initiative in Sharjah and back in the UAE and the region," said Nick Tarratt, director at the Dubai branch of the European Tour International. "We look forward to a great one-day Pro-Am in March and hope this can develop into something more substantial for the future."

The tournament is the eighth European Tour event in the 2016 Middle East golf calendar, which also includes the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship, the Qatar Masters, the Omega Dubai Desert Classic, the DP World Tour Championship, the Abu Dhabi Invitational, the NBO Golf Classic Grand Final and the recently-announced Ras Al Khaimah Golf Challenge.