

UniCredit UniCredit UniCredit UniCredit UniCredit PGA Professional Championship of Europe leaves Junior Legacy

Hugo Santos held his nerve in a play-off to win the UniCredit PGA Professional Championship of Europe and claim the most prestigious victory of his career. With Santos and Ben Collier level on 11-under-par after four rounds at the Peter Harradine designed course at Pravets Golf Resort and SPA, Bulgaria, the par four 18th had to be replayed to determine who would claim the  $\pounds$ 10,000 first prize.

The dramatic climax was a fitting end to a Championship staged at a venue that, despite opening as recently as May, has earned almost unanimous acclaim from the cream of Europe's PGA professionals. "The feedback from the players has been nothing but complimentary," said Ian Randell, the PGAs of Europe chief executive. "The tournament was as close to perfection as it could be."

A legacy from this tournament is that the championship fund has donated a significant sum to launch a junior development programme to be run at Pravets Golf Resort & SPA throughout 2012. This fund will select youngsters from the local community who have shown a commitment to learning the game and provide them with coaching within the world class academy facilities at Pravets.

Braemar Golf's Golf Courses Director Jonathan Pendry was equally enthusiastic over the success of the event "The success of this championship is based on the dedication and commitment of our team at Pravets Golf Resort & SPA, the vision of the owners Terra Tour Services, the support of the PGAs of Europe and the backing of the main sponsors UniCredit, without whom the tournament would not have been possible. All of the resort team lived and breathed this event and were proud to be involved in the first major international golf event held in Bulgaria".

To demonstrate the national importance of the championship it was opened by the Bulgarian Prime Minister and patron of the championship, Mr Boyko Borisov, who spoke in glowing terms as to the facility and his pride at the event being selected to be played in Bulgaria.

## Notes for Editors:

**Pravets Golf & Spa** (<u>www.riupravets.bg</u>) is a luxury resort situated only 40 min away from the capital city of Bulgaria. Guests experience luxury across every aspect of the resort, from the stylish accommodation in the 4-star RIU Pravets hotel to the world-class 3,000-sq.m SPA center, elegant gourmet restaurant, casino, outdoor and indoor swimming pools and two night bars. The resort also offers a variety of entertainment facilities for watersports, hunting, biking, hiking, fishing, photo safari, etc. Pravets Golf & SPA is already well-known among businesses in Bulgaria for its excellent conference facilities for more than 450 participants.

**Pravets Golf Club** (<u>www.pravets-golfclub.com</u>) is a core part of the resort and it offers a Peter Harradine designed 18-hole championship golf course, state-of-the-art Golf Academy, an extensive practice area and a stylish clubhouse with a restaurant, VIP area together with a well-equipped Pro Shop. The par-72 parkland style course boasts tremendous views of the local Stara Planina Mountain and the picturesque lake of Pravets.

**Braemar Golf** (<u>www.braemargolf.co.uk</u>) is an international golf services company head quartered at the home of golf in St Andrews, Scotland. They construct, support and manage high quality golf developments in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

For more information please contact;

Dessislava Sharkova Pravets Golf Club <u>dsharkova@tts.bg</u> M: +359 889 64 92 67

