

## Ryder Cup stars headed to Sharjah for latest European Tour event in the UAE



Former Ryder Cup stars Des Smyth and Paul Broadhurst, as well as former European Number One Ronan Rafferty, have signed up for Sharjah Senior Invitational Pro-Am, the latest European Tour event to come to the UAE.

Sharjah Golf & Shooting Club will host the tournament on Wednesday March 16, 2016.

The 18-hole tournament on the **Peter Harradine**-designed aims to create a fun, yet competitive environment that showcases Sharjah's merits as an international golf and tourism destination.

The European Senior Tour first came to the UAE in 2000 when Abu Dhabi Golf Club hosted the Abu Dhabi European Seniors Tour Championship while 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, European Tour International Dubai Office.

"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 Sharjah Senior Invitational Pro-Am presented by Shurooq heralds an astonishing eighth European Tour golf initiative on the 2016 Middle East golf calendar.

It joins the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship, Commercialbank Qatar Masters, Omega Dubai Desert Classic, DP World Tour Championship, Abu Dhabi Invitational, NBO Golf Classic Grand Final and the recently announced Ras Al Khaimah Golf Challenge.

Ziad Al Sharabi, sales and marketing director of Sharjah Golf and Shooting Club, said: "This event is a fantastic platform for us to showcase our excellent floodlit course and leisure facilities to both the local residents of Sharjah and the international market.

"We will be opening our new state-of-the-art Golf Academy in the near future and we'll be proud to show what the club has to offer during this great event."