

VIVENDI TROPHY

Continental Europe vs. Great Britain and Ireland
The Duel, 15-18 September, 2011
Saint-Nom-La-Bretèche (France)

Press release – 18th May, 2011

In the spirit of Severiano Ballesteros

Vivendi today announced that Jean Rene Fourtou, Chairman of the Vivendi Supervisory Board, has suggested to the PGA European Tour that the "Vivendi Trophy with Seve Ballesteros" be renamed to "The Vivendi Seve Trophy", in memory of Severiano Ballesteros who really knew, amongst other things, how to develop and support the spirit of match play and Golf as an all-round game. During the day's press conference, Scott Kelly, Marketing Director of the PGA European Tour emotionally welcomed the change on behalf of the PGA European Tour.

The 2011 Vivendi Trophy

The Vivendi Trophy takes place every two years, alternating with the Ryder Cup. The Vivendi Trophy 2011 will take place from 15th to 18th September at the Saint-Nom-La-Bretèche Golf Course.

Following the success of its 2009 version, the second edition of this great competition, initiated and organised by CANAL+ EVENTS, will once again put the 10 best players in Continental Europe in a head to head with the elite of Great Britain and Ireland.

A new champion at the helm

Jose Maria Olazabal will succeed Colin Montgomerie as the Ryder Cup 2012 Team Captain. The Spanish champion will then head the Seve Trophy 2011. "Txema" may, like Monty did in 2009, oversee and observe the two teams. This arrival is also highly symbolic: we all remember the achievements of the fearsome pair in the Ryder Cup with Olazabal and Ballesteros. For Jose Maria, the Vivendi Trophy will be a great moment in many respects.

Colin Montgomerie will also be present at this meeting to share a few words of wisdom with the new Captain, to fulfil his role as Vivendi golf ambassador, but more importantly, to pay tribute to the Spanish champion.

2 teams, 20 players

Each team comprises 10 players: the world top 5 and the top "Race to Dubai" European 5. Heading each team will be their Captain who Jose Maria Olazabal has the difficult task of choosing. Both men will aim to bring their team to victory in the same way Paul McGinley did, the Captain in 2009 of Great Britain & Ireland who won the trophy with a score of 16.5 to 11.5 against the Continental Europe team of Thomas Bjorn. Both men will also have to prove that they can don the garb of Vice-Captain for the next Ryder Cup meeting.

On the 16th May, the 20 qualifiers* for the Vivendi Trophy are:

**According to the official world ranking and "Race To Dubai" European ranking*

Continental Europe

Martin Kaymer	Ger
Francesco Molinari	Ita
Robert Karlsson	Swe
Miguel A Jimenez	Esp
Alvaro Quiros	Esp
Anders Hansen	Den
Nicolas Colsaerts	Bel
Thomas Björn	Den
Matteo Manassero	Ita
Rafael Cabrera Bello	Esp

Great Britain and Ireland

Lee Westwood	Eng
Luke Donald	Eng
Graham McDowell	Irl
Rory McIlroy	Irl
Paul Casey	Eng
David Horsey	Eng
Paul Lawrie	Sco
Chris Wood	Eng
Darren Clark	Nir
Robert Coles	Eng

Follow weekly changes to the scoreboard and the names of qualifiers on www.europeantour.com

En route to the Ryder Cup

As the Vivendi Trophy demonstrated in 2009, this test is a competition like no other. In many ways, this French event has become an important step towards the Ryder Cup. It was at Saint-Nom-La-Bretèche where all forces involved put themselves to the test, put strategies in place, where doubles players proved themselves first of all to win the Vivendi Trophy but also to position themselves successfully for the future European Ryder Cup team.

It is indeed a unique opportunity for the European Captain who will now develop, assess and identify players one year before the great confrontation of Europe vs. USA.

Led by Captain Colin Montgomerie, Thomas Bjorn and assisted by Paul McGinley, the Europeans managed to get the most from their experience of the Vivendi Trophy in 2009 by soaring to victory in the Ryder Cup in 2010. Rory McIlroy, Miguel Angel Jimenez, Francesco Molinari, Peter Hanson and Graeme McDowell, all present and scrutinised by Colin Montgomerie on the fairways of the Saint-Nom in 2009, obtained true star status after their victory!

As a partner in the nomination for the Ryder Cup in France, Vivendi and broadcaster of major golfing events in France, CANAL+ shares the joy of the world of French Golf after the announcement yesterday that France will be welcoming the tournament to its national territory in 2018.



Reminder

Vivendi Trophy

From 15th to 18th September 2011

Saint-Nom-La-Bretèche

Match Play between 2 teams of 10 players: Continental Europe vs.
Great Britain and Ireland

On each of the first 2 days: a series of 5 fourball match play

3rd day: a series of 4 greensomes and 4 foursomes

Last day: series of 10 singles match play

All information - www.vivenditrophy.com

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