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COMMERCIALBANK QATAR MASTERS



БІЛГІЛЕРІЗІ ОУ МАТЧ



DUBAI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WINNER ROBERT KARLSSON WILL RETURN TO DEFEND HIS TITLE AGAINST A TOP QUALITY LINE-UP, INCLUDING TWO HIGH PROFILE US PGA TOUR STARS

QATAR HAS A WELL-DESERVED reputation as the toughest venue and the most challenging tournament on the Desert Swing. Once again, the organisers have attracted two high-fliers from America, this time in the shape of World No.6 Steve Stricker and Fed-Ex Cup contender and World No.13 Matt Kuchar.

Stricker was arguably the most formidable player on the American Ryder Cup side that came so close to retaining the trophy in Wales last October. He combined with Tiger Woods to win three out of four matches, then claimed the impressive scalp of Lee Westwood in the singles. Over the past three years he has developed into a prolific winner on the PGA Tour, claiming nine victories, the bulk of which have come in the latter stages of his career.

The unorthodox Kuchar had a huge year on the PGA Tour last season, winning the first Fed-Ex play-off event, The Barclays, after a tense battle with Scot Martin Laird and notching two top 10s in majors at the

U.S. Open and U.S.PGA. Both players will complement another strong field at Doha Golf Club, where last year Robert Karlsson held off spirited resistance from Lee Westwood and big-hitting Spaniard Alvaro Quiros to score an emotional triumph.

The likeable Swede had only just recovered from a potentially career-threatening eye injury, but has since gone on to enjoy an impressive run of form. Peter Harradine's renowned championship layout is a proven haven for power hitters, with Karlsson, Quiros, Henrik Stenson and Ernie Els all having won in the past. When the wind gets up ball control becomes a real challenge, and its the bombers who have been most successful in negotiating the tricky hazards and rocky outcrops that are such a prominent feature on the course. More than any other course on the Desert Swing, power is a prerequisite to succeed at Doha Golf Club, so don't be surprised to see another big gun add his name to the trophy in 2011.

EVENT DETAILS

The tournament will be preceded by a Pro-Am that takes place on **February 2**. Organisers are offering hospitality packages and access to the suites overlooking the 9th green from **QR250 per day**. This exclusive hospitality package includes a Continental Breakfast (9-10am) and Buffet Lunch (12-3pm), inclusive of soft drink. Further ticketing details will be released nearer to the event. For more information, visit www.qatar-masters.com



JUSTIN ROSE

AGE 30
WORLD RANKING: 29
OFFICIAL WINS: 6

Rose burst into life in America last summer with back-to-back victories in July, at two huge tournaments - the Memorial and the AT&T National. Amazingly it was not enough to secure him a place in Europe's Ryder Cup side, but there is no doubt he has the potential to enjoy a big year in 2011.



ROBERT KARLSSON

AGE 41
WORLD RANKING: 17
OFFICIAL WINS: 2

The tall Swede has an unbelievable record in the Middle East. Not only is he the defending champion in Qatar, but he is also the reigning Dubai World Champion. With a game built for the long desert courses in the region, you can expect to see Karlsson challenge again this year.



STEVE STRICKER

AGE 43
WORLD RANKING: 6
OFFICIAL WINS: 9

Stricker's career just keeps getting better and better. A late bloomer, he enjoyed a superb year in 2007, but has since established himself as a regular member of the world top five. With two more victories on the PGA Tour in 2010 and a huge contribution to his team's Ryder Cup efforts, he is a favourite



MATT KUCHAR

AGE 32
WORLD RANKING: 13
OFFICIAL WINS: 3

After a long spell without winning, the American rediscovered his form in 2009 and has since gone on to become one of the most consistent performers on the PGA Tour. He went close to winning the Fed-Ex Cup Play-offs last season before eventually losing out to Jim Furyk.

PLAYERS TO WATCH