

MENA Golf Tour comes to Kuwait for first time as game continues to grow in the Gulf

Kuwait will provide a snapshot of its growing reputation as a fast-emerging golf destination when Sahara Golf and Country Club makes its debut on the MENA Golf Tour Monday.



MENA Tour event debuts in Kuwait.

The Sahara Kuwait Championship coincides with the club's 10th anniversary. Most of players will get their first look at the course, a stunning **Peter Harradine**-designed layout that requires precision and nerve to pass the test. Local knowledge could be the deciding factor as players jockey for positions on the Order of Merit.

"One practice round and you have a fair idea of what to expect. Trust your swing and have fun playing each shot as tension kills your game," said Morocco's Younes El Hassani, one of the regulars on the tour.

Headlined by 11 winners on the MENA Golf Tour, the field is certain to provide a grueling challenge.

Five Kuwaiti amateurs who will be competing in a MENA Golf Tour event for the first time feature, including Qatami Al Qatami, Ali Al Ansari, Abdulaziz Al Sarawi, Ali Alhajeri and Ahmed Al Sarawi, who will all be hoping the experience of playing alongside professionals will stand them in good stead for future engagements.

"We are delighted to be part of the MENA Golf Tour and feel the championship will be a great catalyst for the overall growth and development of the sport in our country," said Yousef Abdulaziz Al Qatami, member of Sahara Kuwait's golf advisory committee.

“Ours is the only grass course in the country so it makes perfect sense to bring international tournaments here.

“The (MENA) tour has done a great job in providing a springboard for the region’s players to grow and excel on the international stage.

“We look forward to welcoming MENA Golf Tour members and I am confident they will return home with fond memories of playing in our country.”

Built to PGA standards, Sahara Kuwait is a challenging a challenging par 70, 6,730-yard layout, featuring three lakes and nearly 5,000 trees.

Mohamed Juma Buamaim, chairman of the MENA Golf Tour, added: “We feel proud and privileged to join hands with Sahara Golf and Country Club for the event which, I believe, will motivate local talent to take their game seriously and strive for excellence.

“Their support has further strengthened our resolve to stimulate growth of golf in the region and beyond. We appreciate all the hard work in presenting the course in top condition.

“With the field comprising a great mix of experience and youth, we are headed for an entertaining week. I wish all the players the very best.”