



PORSCHE

Press Release

July 29, 2018

---

Four days of world class golf around the Porsche North Course

### **Englishman Richard McEvoy finishes ahead of top stars**

**Hamburg.** Surprise win at the 2018 Porsche European Open: Englishman Richard McEvoy finished at the head of a high-class field after four rounds around the Porsche North Course belonging to the Green Eagle Golf Courses. The 39-year old only qualified for the tournament with a win the week before on the second tier Challenge Tour. It was his first ever win on the European Tour at his 285<sup>th</sup> attempt. With a total of 277 (11 under par), he finished ahead of the German amateur Allen John, the Swede Christofer Blomstrand and the Italian Renato Paratore all in joint second one stroke behind. On the final day, 14,300 spectators (total attendance: 39,000) once again lined the fairways. They saw one top star after the other fall by the wayside: Paul Casey (-8, England) was joint seventh, South African Charl Schwartzel (-7) finished joint ninth with Masters Champion Patrick Reed (USA). After starting the final day at the top of the leaderboard, Bryson DeChambeau (USA) posted a six over par round to leave him visibly disappointed in joint 13<sup>th</sup>.

“We have seen some fascinating golf in a fantastic setting. The Porsche European Open is now well-established. It offers an attractive package with top golf and an intensive brand experience, something that has been confirmed by the highly positive feedback from our customers. It means we’re already looking forward to the tournament in 2019,” said Andreas Haffner, Member of the Porsche AG Executive Board, who presented the winner’s trophy to Richard McEvoy.

Tournament director Dominik Senn confirmed that the 2019 Porsche European Open will be played from 5 to 8 September. The event will thus benefit from the changed European Tour and US PGA Tour schedules. As in future the FedExCup will be played in August, the new date offers better opportunities to invite top players. Senn: “Notwithstanding, we’ll continue with our concept of offering high-class golf with a mixture of top players from both sides of the Atlantic, plus young up-and-coming golfers.”

The European Open produced scores of stories in its 40<sup>th</sup> year – like for instance the impressive performance of the young Austrian pro Matthias Schwab over the first three rounds. It gave him the opportunity to play over the weekend alongside the Masters winner Patrick Reed and therefore in front of a big crowds. Or local hero Benedict Staben’s outstanding start when he shot a 67 to place him in the Top 10. All-in-all, the German players put on a good show over the four days – seven made the cut, more than ever before.

The best story was however written by the amateur Allen John from Ludwigshafen am Rhein. The 30-year old, who plays for the St. Leon-Rot Golf Club’s men’s team in the top German league competition, last year won the gold medal in golf at the Deaflympics in Samsun, Turkey. And now he has shown that he can compete with the European Tour’s elite in his foray onto the top European professional circuit. The former Ryder Cup winner Peter Hanson (Sweden) was particularly impressed by the huge length of the German’s drives: “It’s something I’ve never seen before in professional golf, and I’ve seen them all. Allen simply takes out various obstacles that are alone an optical challenge for every other pro.”

*Images in the Porsche Newsroom (<http://newsroom.porsche.de>) and for journalists in the Porsche press database (<https://presse.porsche.de>).*