



Dalian dances in delight as Liang stays ahead in Shui On Land China Golf Challenge

Dalian, China; October 13, 2011: Liang Wen-chong thrilled his fans at Red Flag Valley in Dalian by sinking a long, breaking birdie putt on the 11th hole of the Shui On Land China Golf Challenge to stay ahead after day four of the week-long, seven-city tournament.

Following a trio of holes at the stunning 36-hole golf resort, which celebrated its Grand Opening in the morning, the Chinese number one was two-under-par and one clear of world number two Lee Westwood and fellow Englishman Ian Poulter in the unique 18-hole event.

Rory McIlroy fell further back as the US Open champion again found trouble to lie seven-over, but the lively banter and camaraderie continued as the tournament flew past the halfway mark of its tour of China.

Liang, Westwood and Poulter were tied going to the day's last hole, an uphill par-four, where the Zhongshan native took the lead with a slow, creeping putt that broke dramatically from left to right before eventually dropping to the delight of the player and large crowd.

"I think it was about eight yards (24 feet), but I was thinking most about how to hold the power," said Liang, who punched the air and danced a jig across the green of the 18 hole of the Unicorn course after his epic putt.

"The putt was a bit hilly and breaking, so I just concentrated on getting the right line. I was really happy when it went in and I just hope I can keep playing well in Chongqing."

Liang, 33, said the three holes over the Red Flag Valley's hilly Dragon and Unicorn layouts presented the week's toughest on-course challenge so far.

"I was up and down on these three holes as this was the most challenging day," said Liang, who dropped his first shot of the event at the day's second hole, a downhill par-five converted to a par-four.

"We haven't seen these holes before so we had to work hard. It's a very good golf course, so challenging, and has a very good resort. It's all very high quality."

Mcllroy's dramatic tour of China continued when he recorded a double-bogey six at the 10th hole, flying out of a bunker over the green and into a steep bank.

Climbing up through the rough, he chipped onto the green but smiled ruefully as his ball trickled over the far side and into the same sand trap, from where he got up and down for what Poulter cheekily described as "an impressive six".

"I actually played pretty good today," Mcllroy said. "I just had one bad shot out of the bunker on the 10th which killed me. I made a double bogey there, which is a bit of an improvement because I've been making triple-bogeys earlier in the week! I haven't been eight-over after 10 holes for quite a few years, so it was nice to birdie the last."

Mcllroy continues to endear himself to fans with his engaging personality and the popular 22-year-old admitted he was committed to helping the game grow in the world's most populous nation.

"The guys want to make it a little bit competitive, but there's much more to the tournament than that. The Shui On Land China Golf Challenge is about spreading the game in China and letting people see what golf has to offer over here. That's the most important thing. I couldn't care if I was eight-over or eight-under.

"Obviously it would be nice to win, but for us it's more about the whole experience and making sure we enjoy it and making sure it's enjoyable for the people who watch us."

Mcllroy believes golf's inclusion in the 2016 Olympics has helped increase the sport's acceptance and recognition across China, which was the top medal winner at Beijing 2008.

"For golf to be included in the Olympics was a huge boost for the game over here. People recognise it more as a sport when it's part of the Chinese Olympic programme," Mcllroy said.

"If it isn't a sport in the Olympic programme, it's not as accessible, so being in the Olympics makes so many more people in the place like China want to play the game."

From Dalian, the players were scheduled to take late-night flights on two Bombardier jets to Chongqing, where they will play three holes at Sun Kingdom Golf Club on Friday.

The Shui On Land China Golf Challenge is being filmed by IMG Media and showcased on Golfing World.

Shui On Land China Golf Challenge 2011 schedule

October 10: Shanghai – Tomson Shanghai Pudong Golf Club

October 11: Zhengzhou – Jinsha Lake Golf Club

October 12: Beijing – Topwin Golf and Country Club & Jade Island International Golf Club

October 13: Dalian – Red Flag Valley

October 14: Chongqing – Sun Kingdom Golf Club

October 15: Dongguan – Long Island Golf and Country Club

October 16: Macau – Caesars Golf Macau

Website: www.shuionlandchinagolfchallenge.com

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About Shui On Land China Golf Challenge

The Shui On Land China Golf Challenge will be held from October 10-16, 2011 and feature Lee Westwood, Ian Poulter, Liang Wen-chong and Rory McIlroy. Host venues are Tomson Golf Club (Shanghai); Jinsha Lake Golf Club (Zhengzhou); Topwin Golf and Country Club and Jade Island International Golf Club (both Beijing); Red Flag Valley (Dalian); Sun Kingdom Golf Club (Chongqing), Long Island Golf and Country Club (Dongguan) and Caesars Golf Macau (Macau). Owned by The Great 18 Golf Championships Ltd and managed by Infinite Ideas International, the event will be broadcast on Golfing World and distributed internationally by IMG Media, with communications by Fast Track Hong Kong. Shui On Land is the title sponsor, while other sponsors include Bombardier, Sino Private Aviation, Media Asia Group, Lai Fung Holdings, Titleist, Kent & Curwen, Van Klaren, The Venetian, Audemars Piguet, Scottsdale Golf Group, Churchill Corporate Services and The Wealth Management Group.

About Shui On Land



Headquartered in Shanghai, Shui On Land (Stock Code: 272) is the flagship property development company of the Shui On Group in the Chinese Mainland with a proven track record in developing large-scale, mixed-use city-core redevelopment projects. The Company has eight projects in various stages of development in prime locations of major cities, with a landbank of 13.1 million sqm. (11.4 million sq.m. of leasable and saleable GFA, and 1.7 million sq.m. of clubhouses, car parking spaces and other

facilities). The Company was listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange on October 4, 2006, the largest Chinese real estate enterprise listed that year. Shui On Land was included in the 200-Stock Hang Seng Composite Index Series and Hang Seng Freefloat Index Series in March 2007. For further information, please visit: www.shuionland.com. For media enquiries, please contact: Ms Ingrid Wing-sai Tang, Assistant General Manager – Corporate Communications & Branding. Tel: +86 21 6386-1818. Email: ingrid.tang@shuion.com.cn



