

BMW PGA Championship 2008

Wentworth Club, Surrey
22 - 25 May 2008

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Press Information

21st May 2008

Martin Kaymer presented with award.

Kaymer is the first German golfer in history to receive the coveted 'Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year Award'.

Wentworth. On Tuesday evening, before the start of The European Tour's flagship event, the BMW PGA Championship, the 23 year old from Mettmann was presented with the award at The European Tour Annual Dinner held in the ballroom of Wentworth Club, on the outskirts of London. Making the presentation to him was Scotland's Marc Warren, the winner of the award in 2006.

The award recognises Kaymer's performances in 2007, where he finished in 41st place on The European Tour Order of Merit, making him both the best newcomer and the best placed German. "This is a great award for me, and I am absolutely delighted," he said.

The annual presentation of 'The Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year' award is not decided solely on the final placing in the ranking list. The winner is nominated by a committee made up of representatives from The European Tour, the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, and the Association of Golf Writers. "Martin is a very impressive player, with a great future ahead of him", said George O'Grady, Chief Executive of The European Tour.

The Sir Henry Cotton Award, named after the legendary English player of the 1930s and 1940s, was first presented in 1960. Past winners of the award include Spain's Sergio Garcia and José María Olazábal, the Dane Thomas Björn, Englishmen Nick Faldo, Ian Poulter and Paul Casey, and Scotland's Sandy Lyle and Colin Montgomerie.

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Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year Award – List of Previous Award Winners:

2007 Martin Kaymer, Germany
2006 Marc Warren, Scotland
2005 Gonzalo Fernández-Castaño, Spain
2004 Scott Drummond, Scotland
2003 Peter Lawrie, Ireland
2002 Nick Dougherty, England
2001 Paul Casey, England
2000 Ian Poulter, England
1999 Sergio Garcia, Spain
1998 Olivier Edmond, France
1997 Scott Henderson, Scotland
1996 Thomas Björn, Denmark
1995 Jarmo Sandelin, Sweden
1994 Jonathan Lomas, England
1993 Gary Orr, Scotland
1992 Jim Payne, England
1991 Per-Ulrik Johansson, Sweden
1990 Russell Claydon, England
1989 Paul Broadhurst, England
1988 Colin Montgomerie, Scotland
1987 Peter Baker, England
1986 José María Olazábal, Spain
1985 Paul Thomas, Wales
1984 Philip Parkin, Wales
1983 Grant Turner, England
1982 Gordon Brand Jnr., Scotland
1981 Jeremy Bennett, England
1980 Paul Hoad, England
1979 Mike Miller, Scotland
1978 Sandy Lyle, Scotland
1977 Nick Faldo, England
1976 Mark James, England