



BMW Golf Cup International 2008

BMW Golfsport

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Press Information

28th November 2008

BMW Golf Cup International 2008: Tee-off in Argentina.

Andrés Romero makes guest appearance at the World Final of the largest international amateur series in the world.

Munich. The BMW Golf Cup International is in its 22nd year. During this time, the World Final of the largest tournament series for amateur golfers in the world has been held – amongst others – in Australia, Mexico, Portugal, Thailand, South Africa and Spain. This year it comes to Argentina: the highlight of the 2008 BMW Golf Cup International will take place from 1st to 6th of December in Buenos Aires – Argentina's enigmatic metropolis, and the tango capital of the world. 141 excellent amateur golfers from 49 different countries will tee off at one of the most famous golf clubs in the country: the Jockey Club. The competitors have qualified from over 1000 tournaments around the world. This year, over 100,000 players competed around the globe.

"We are delighted to be able to offer our golfing customers a very special experience again this year. Staging our popular amateur series in South America for the first time sees us breaking new ground once again," says Magnus Wiese, Head of BMW Golfsport Marketing. "The BMW Golf Cup International sets the standards for global tournament series, with over 100,000 participants. Alongside our comprehensive commitment to the most important professional tours, this popular amateur competition is an important cornerstone for BMW as a 'Global Golf Player'. The World Final is an unforgettable experience for those involved, and gives them the chance to experience the BMW brand on an emotional basis."

One of the best golfers in Argentina will make a guest appearance at the highlight of this year's BMW Golf Cup International: Andrés Romero will help to make the event such a special experience. In his first season on the PGA TOUR, the Argentinean won the Zurich Classic at the first attempt. Further excellent results helped him qualify for the TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP, the season finale for the top 40 golfers in 2008. The world finalists will take part in an exclusive golf clinic with Romero, who will also present the trophy to the victorious amateurs at the closing gala dinner.

A challenging tournament on two attractive golf courses awaits the finalists, as well as interesting encounters with golf fans from around the world, with whom they will experience a diverse supporting programme.

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The tournament is played in three handicap classes: Men's A (up to handicap 12.4), Men's B (handicap 12.5 to 28.4) and Ladies (up to handicap 28.4). There will also be a national ranking.

Last year's venue for the World Final was Sydney, Australia. The winners of the singles competitions were Austria's Josef Kauer (Men's A), Sooi Yee Chiang from Malaysia (Men's B) and the Czech player Denisa Pavlikova (Ladies). Austria finished ahead of South Africa and Malaysia in the national ranking.

2008 BMW Golf Cup International World Final at a glance:

Date: 1st to 6th December 2008

Venue: Jockey Club, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Participants: 49 countries, 141 players

Nations: Abu Dhabi, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Dubai, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, St. Lucia, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, USA, United Kingdom, Venezuela

Organizer: BMW AG



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From caddie to PGA TOUR titleholder.

The rapid rise of Andrés Romero has its origins at the Jockey Club.

Munich. Romero – with a surname like this, he couldn't fail. Although Andrés Romero (Argentina) is in no way related to his famous compatriot Eduardo – Argentina's first world-class golfer – he has been following in the great man's footsteps. The 27-year-old will be a guest of honour at the World Final of the BMW Golf Cup International at the Jockey Club on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, and will demonstrate his golfing prowess to the 141 international competitors in an exclusive golf clinic. The current number 32 in the world rankings will give the amateur golfers tips on how to improve their swing and consider strategy in crucial situations, as well as offering advice on their short game, which is particularly important at the Jockey Club.

"I am delighted that I can be present at the premiere of the BMW Golf Cup International World Final in my homeland," says Romero. "Golf is on the up in Argentina, and the World Final will give this development an extra boost. I am particularly looking forward to sharing a fascination for golf with the competitors from around the world, and to giving them some helpful tips on how to improve their game."

For Romero, the visit to the World Final of the BMW Golf Cup International takes him back to the roots of his relatively young career: his dramatic rise to one of the most promising golfers in South America began as a caddie at the Jockey Club.

Romero was introduced to golf as an eight-year-old by his Uncle Miguel, who still coaches him today. At 17 he decided to turn professional – a decision that meant giving up another of his favourite hobbies: mountain biking. The adrenalin-filled, cross-country cycling is simply too risky for a professional golfer. In the meantime, the BMW fan uses a different all-terrain vehicle: Romero is particularly fond of his BMW X5.

The decision to concentrate on golf proved to be the correct one. Since gaining his card for the European Tour in 2005, Romero has never looked back. "Pigu" made his major breakthrough in 2007, when he narrowly missed out on victory at the British Open. Inspired by this performance, however, he went on to win the Deutsche Bank Players' Championship of Europe just seven days later, finishing a clear three shots ahead of the opposition.



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The success story continued last season, with numerous top-ten finishes. These included sixth place at the BMW PGA Championship in Wentworth, England, seventh place at the US PGA Championship and eighth place at the Masters. He also claimed his first victory on the PGA Tour: the Zurich Classic. In his first year on the world's most prominent professional series, Romero qualified as one of the top 40 golfers for the FedExCup season finale.



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BMW Golf Cup International 2008: Golf with the "Gauchos".

The Jockey Club has been one of the most exclusive golf clubs in South America since 1930.

Munich. The highlight of the BMW Golf Cup International is coming to South America for the first time. The venue for the World Final is Buenos Aires, the pulsating capital of Argentina. The eighth largest city on the planet stretches about 3,800 kilometres from North to South, covering numerous climatic and vegetation zones, and boasting 250 attractive golf courses. The fact that golf is booming in football-crazy Argentina was demonstrated by the country's sports personality of the year in 2007: Angel Cabrera, who won the US Open in that year, came through to win the title against all the football stars. Alongside Cabrera, winner of the 2005 BMW PGA Championship, Argentina can boast another of the top golfers in the world at present in the form of Andrés Romero.

"We traditionally invite the world finalists to play at one of the most beautiful golf courses in the world. This year we decided upon Argentina. These are uncharted waters for us, as the World Final of the BMW Golf Cup International has never been staged in South America," says Magnus Wiese, Head of BMW Golfsport Marketing. "This decision is in keeping with our philosophy: the BMW Golfsport commitment is globally-oriented, and is not just restricted to the established golfing markets. Furthermore, the venue of Buenos Aires will contribute to making the World Final experience unforgettable for all the competitors."

With 13 million inhabitants – one-third of all Argentineans – Buenos Aires is the commercial, industrial and cultural centre of the country, and one of the largest conurbations in South America. The port city is the undisputed home and international capital of the tango, and hosts the annual Tango World Championship. It is also the home of one of the most famous golf clubs in South America: the Jockey Club.

It was the renowned golf course architect Alister Mackenzie who designed the two 18-hole courses at the Jockey Club in 1930, naming them "Colorada" (red) and "Azul" (blue). The first course to be completed, on 24th December 1930, was the par-72 "Colorada Course". With a length of 6,241 metres, it is slightly longer than the "Azul Course" (5,810 metres, par 72).

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Many of the world's top golfers have already been impressed by the numerous challenges offered by the two courses. As well as long holes, these challenges include undulating fairways and well-defended greens that are also tricky to read. The Jockey Club has played host to many championships. In 1946 the Argentina Open took place on both courses for the only time, with Lloyd Mangrum hitting a course record of 63 shots for the Azul Course – a record that still stands today. Mark Calcavecchia eventually set the course record (63 shots) for the Colorado Course in 1993. The Jockey Club has also hosted the World Cup in 1962 and 1970, the Miguel Angel Juárez Celman Open Tournament Cup in 1959, the Argentine Republic Open Championship on numerous occasions, the 1985 Andes Cup, and the Hispanic Cup in 1962.

Colorado Course (Red).

Hole	Par (Men)	Yards (M)	Meters (M)	Par (Ladies)	Yards (L)	Meters (L)
1	4	430	393	5	425	388
2	4	350	320	4	335	306
3	3	150	137	3	135	123
4	5	490	448	5	460	420
5	4	355	325	4	312	285
6	4	366	334	4	335	306
7	4	438	400	5	425	389
8	3	220	201	3	180	164
9	4	425	388	4	380	347
OUT	35	3224	3040	37	2987	2731
10	5	470	430	5	440	402
11	5	506	462	5	470	430
12	3	180	165	3	150	137
13	4	445	407	5	434	397
14	4	411	376	4	367	335
15	5	535	489	5	452	413
16	4	430	393	4	372	340
17	3	170	155	3	148	135
18	4	354	324	4	325	297
IN	37	3501	3201	38	3158	2889
OUT	35	3224	3040	37	2987	2731
TOTAL	72	6725	6241	75	6145	5620

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Azul Course (Blue).

Hole	Par (Men)	Yards (M)	Meters (M)	Par (Ladies)	Yards (L)	Meters (L)
1	5	463	423	5	450	411
2	5	474	433	5	459	420
3	4	350	320	4	330	302
4	4	343	314	4	298	272
5	3	107	98	3	96	87
6	4	327	299	4	290	265
7	3	168	154	3	115	105
8	4	427	390	5	415	379
9	4	407	372	4	391	358
OUT	36	3066	2803	37	2844	2600
10	5	483	442	5	442	404
11	3	186	170	3	158	144
12	4	409	374	4	379	347
13	4	395	361	4	380	348
14	3	153	140	3	130	119
15	4	343	314	4	335	306
16	4	377	345	4	339	310
17	5	490	448	5	470	430
18	4	452	413	5	427	390
IN	36	3288	3007	37	3060	2799
OUT	36	3066	2803	37	2844	2600
TOTAL	72	6354	5810	74	5904	5399

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