



GREAT SUCCESS FOR FALDO SERIES IRELAND

CHAMPIONSHIP

Summer 2009: Some of Ireland's most talented young golfers took part in the third annual Faldo Series Ireland Championship at the recently opened Lough Erne Golf Resort earlier this week.

This was the first time Lough Erne Golf Resort had played host to Ireland's elite young amateur golfers over the stunning 7,167 yard Faldo Course designed by the six-time major winner in 2006.

The eagerly anticipated 36 hole event open to both boys and girls aged 12 to 21 attracted players from all over the country keen to follow in the footsteps of previous Faldo Series Winner Rory McIlroy who is also the touring professional for Lough Erne and current World No. 23 player.

The fifty three players were not only competing to win their particular age category but more importantly a coveted place in the Faldo Series Grand Final in Brazil later this year at which the competitors have the opportunity to meet and draw inspiration from Sir Nick Faldo himself.

The event generated the first Hole In One at Lough Erne as 15 year old Ben Banerji who plays off four carded an ace with his 3 wood at the 218 yard par 3 13th hole. The Massereene Club member was delighted to make history at Lough Erne and was presented with a picture of the 13th hole in recognition of his achievement. Best score of the day was a round of 70 in the Under 16 Boys category by Conor Glynn and the overall winner was David Reilly with a 36 hole score of 146.

Sir Nick Faldo said; "This project has been designed with professional golf as the long term goal. Our aim is to help prepare these young players for the daily reality of professional tournament conditions and Lough Erne provides the ideal challenge to put the players to the test".

The Faldo Series was created in 1996 specifically to identify and nurture the next generation of champions. Today, more than 30 annual tournaments now take place in more than 20 countries throughout the UK, Europe, South America, the Middle East and Asia.

Jim Treacy, owner of Lough Erne Golf Resort commented: "This has been a great opportunity for some of Ireland's best young golfers to test their skills on a course we hope will go on to be recognised as one of Ireland and the UK's best championship courses".

Lough Erne Golf Resort

Lough Erne opened in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, in October 2007. It is set on a 600 acre peninsula nestled in between Lower Lough Erne and Castle Hume Lough. The privately-owned hotel has 120 guestrooms including 25 two and three bedroom Loughside Lodges which offer private, fully serviced accommodation. The Resort features The Thai Spa, a variety of innovative dining options including The Catalina Restaurant for elegant dining overlooking the Lough, The Blaney Bar for The Grazing Menu and exclusive Irish Whiskey Collection; The Loughside Clubhouse, Bar & Grill for Casual All Day Dining & Prime Irish Meats from The Grill and The Garden Hall for Traditional, Chocolate & Pink Afternoon Tea. The Resort has 2 Championship Golf Courses, including The Faldo Course, The Ultimate Golf Destination (opened July 1st 2009) Lough Erne Golf Resort is located just five minutes from Enniskillen (St Angelo) private airport. It is also easily accessible from Belfast International, Belfast City, City of Derry airports and Dublin Airport. All tills at Lough Erne Golf Resort accept Euro currency.

**Lough Erne Golf Resort, Belleek Road, Enniskillen, BT93 7ED, Northern Ireland.
Tel: + 44 (0) 28 6632 3230 .**

golf@loughernegolfresort.com www.loughernegolfresort.com

Press Information/Images:

**Helen McDonnell - Complete Golf PR: Tel: 01245 256802 / 07779 751339.
Email: completegolfpr@compuserve.com**