



NCBRI chosen as 2010 ILGU Charity



The National Breast Cancer Research Institute (NBCRI) has been appointed as the ILGU Charity for 2010.

The NBCRI was founded in 1991 and is a voluntary charity, based at the Clinical Science Institute, NUI Galway. A leader in the field of breast cancer research, the Institute combines ethical research into the biology of breast cancer, whilst raising awareness of the disease. The NBCRI's role is unique, as their research can help to ascertain the causes and factors that influence breast cancer and help to develop effective screening, treatments and medication to combat it.

Over the Summer months, the following seven ILGU Charity 3 Ball Team Events will be held across the country, the proceeds of which will be donated to the NBCRI:

<u>Date</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Mon 14 June	Mid Leinster	Kilkea Castle
Mon 12 July	East Leinster	Malahide
Mon 19 July	Munster	Tipperary
Tues 20 July	Munster	Lee Valley
Thurs 12 Aug	Connacht	Ballina
Thurs 12 Aug	Connacht	Mountbellew

Irish Team Captains and Managers Announced for 2010

Sinead Keane (Curragh) will continue as captain of the Irish Girls' team for the European Girls' Team Championships to be played at Aalborg, Denmark, 6-10 July. Keane will look to lead her team to a successful defence of the title won by her Irish side in Finland in 2009 (*pictured below*). **Ailish McCartan (Greenore)** has been appointed as Team Manager for the European before taking over the reigns as Team Captain for the Girls' Home International Matches to be played at Bangor, 4-6 August 2010, with **Aisling O'Leary (Wexford)** acting as Team Manager for this event.



Claire Robinson (Knock), a past Curtis Cup player, will once again lead the Irish Team for both the European Women's Team Championships to be played at La Manga, Spain, 6-10 July and the Women's Home International Matches, Whitchurch, Wales, 8-10

September 2010, while Ballycastle's Fiona McComb will accompany the sides as Team Manager.

Roma English (Larne), will serve as Captain of the Irish Senior's teams for both the Seniors' Europeans Team Championships Berlin, Germany, 31 August - 4 September and the Seniors Home Internationals to be played at Sheringham, 28-30 September.

2010 ILGU Club Coaching Programme

The 2010 ILGU Club Coaching Programme, which is supported by the R&A, is in full swing at various venues across the country. The aim of the programme is to provide coaching at a minimal cost to those girls who are not currently involved with District training panels but who have the potential to be selected for such panels or an U18 Interprovincial team in the future.

Girls have been invited to attend assessment days around Ireland and once completed the programme will have provided coaching for over 250 girls. Each of the selected girls will receive six 2 hour coaching sessions, with a Junior Golf Ireland approved PGA professional, at a cost of

€50 per individual with the ILGU

covering the remainder of the costs. During the coaching sessions participants will receive tuition in all aspects of the game. More information regarding club coaching programme groups in each District can be found on the ILGU website through the various District home pages.

Pictures from Assessment Day held at Dundalk Golf Club





Ireland's Professionals in 2010

2009 was another successful year for Irish professional golf with male and female professionals making their mark by a series of successful performances on the major golf tours. 2010 looks set to be another exciting and challenging year for Ireland's professional female golfers as there will be five Irish representatives on the Ladies European Tour (LET).

The Irish Sports Council, through the Team Ireland Golf Trust, will continue to support Ireland's aspiring professionals and recently announced details of grants totaling €217,000 to 12 male & 5 female golfers who are pursuing their careers on various professional golf tours. The Team Ireland Golf Trust, which is unique in Europe, plays an essential part in the development of professional golfers at the start of their tour careers, given the lack of commercial sponsorship available. 2010 is the eleventh year of the Trust, which has provided €2.5 million in financial support to golfers to date.

Top awards of €20,000 were awarded to Alison Walshe, Tara Delaney and Martina Gillen, while Rebecca Coakley and Hazel Kavanagh will receive grants of €15,000 to assist their campaigns on the Ladies European Tour and their efforts to qualify for the European Solheim Cup Team in 2011.

Alison Walsh, who is originally from Co. Galway but competed for the USA in the Curtis Cup as an amateur in 2008, has opted to represent Ireland in the professional ranks. She aims to claim a place in the European Team for the Solheim Cup, to be played in Killeen Castle, Co. Meath, September 2011. Gillen successfully retained her European Tour Card in 2009 and will compete on the tour for her third year consecutive year. Delaney ended her 2009 rookie season on the LET in 95th position and went on to regain her European Tour Card for the 2010 season by producing quality rounds of 73 76 73 and 71 to claim one of just 30 cards on offer to the 166 strong top class field at the LET qualifying school in late December.

Team Ireland Golf Trust Grants 2010 – Total €217,000

Jonathan Caldwell, Co. Down (Challenge Tour) €15,000
 Rebecca Coakley, Co. Carlow (Ladies European Tour) €15,000
 Tara Delaney, Co. Carlow (Ladies European Tour) €20,000
 Martina Gillen, Co. Cavan (Ladies European Tour) €20,000
 Hazel Kavanagh, Dublin (Ladies European Tour) €15,000
 Niall Kearney, Dublin (Challenge Tour) €15,000
 Richard Kilpatrick, CoDown (Alps Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Brian McElhinney, Co. Dongal (Europro Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Michael McGeady, Co. Donegal (Challenge Tour) €10,000
 Colm Moriarty, Co. Westmeath (Challenge Tour) €10,000
 Paul O'Hanlon, Co. Kildare (Europro Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Peter O'Keeffe, Co. Cork (Europro Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Gareth Shaw, Co. Antrim (Challenge Tour) €15,000
 Simon Thornton, Co. Down (European Tour) €20,000
 Barrie Trainor, Co. Down (Europro Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Niall Turner, Co. Cork (Europro Tour/Challenge Tour) €7,000
 Alison Walshe, USA & Co. Galway (Ladies European Tour) €20,000

Irish in the USA

Ireland's Rachel Cassidy (The Island), a student at Stirling University in Scotland, gained a highly credible top 20 finish at the Harder Hall Women's Invitational, Florida. The result also saw her finish as the top European player in this prestigious championship.

Stephanie Meadow (Royal Portrush) finished in tied 10th place at the at the South Atlantic Ladies Amateur Championship "The Sally" at Oceanside Country Club, Ormond Beach Florida, 13-16 January 2010. Meadow who is a student at the Hank Hainey International Junior Golf Academy in South Carolina and a member of the Curtis Cup preliminary squad, fired rounds of 71, 70, 81 and 80 for a total of 302 which included a share of the halfway lead on three under par.

In american college golf, Galway's Sinead O'Sullivan, of East Tennessee State University, claimed a tied third place finish at the Northern Migration Championship played in Arizona on March 17th.

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MIELE Ireland Interclub Fourball Championship DRAWS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Entries have now closed for the 2010 MIELE All-Ireland Ladies Interclub Fourball Championship and Draws are available for download from the ILGU website through the MIELE Interclub Fourball Championship page.

The interclub knock-out tournament sees 4 pairs from each club compete in fourball format, with the winners determined by points won and then on holes won in the event of a tie. There are 4 regional qualifiers, Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connacht, with the first rounds commencing in late May and regional finals taking place in August. Regional winners qualify for the All-Ireland semi finals and final held at Glasson Golf Club, 18 & 19 September 2010.

Lancome to Continue Sponsorship of ILGU Championships in 2010



Cosmetics giant Lancôme has announced the continued sponsorship of ILGU events for the 2010 season. In addition to the long standing sponsorship of both the Lancôme Irish Women's Close Championship and Lancôme Irish Girls' Close Championship, Lancome are again to sponsor the ILGU/Lancôme National Greensomes. To date this event has raised over €2 million for Irish Charities. The National Finals will take place on October 3rd at Killarney Golf Club, with qualifying rounds being held throughout the summer at 24 venues across the country. Qualifying venues can be viewed at www.ilgu.ie. The Lancôme Irish Women's Close Championship will take place at Portstewart Golf Club, 22-26 May 2010, while the 2010 Lancôme Irish Girls' Close Championship will be contested at Grange Golf Club, Dublin, 13-16 July.

ILGU AGM Review

The 116th I.L.G.U. Annual General Meeting (2nd as Irish Ladies Golf Union Limited) was held on Saturday 16th January 2010. Delegates adopted various minor motions, including resolutions to the Constitution of the Ladies Golf Union.

Derry native Anne Wallace (City of Derry) continues as ILGU President for her second and final year and reflected on a successful 2009, while looking forward with great enthusiasm to 2010.

Waterford's Violet Twomey was confirmed as the new Chairman of the Board of the ILGU. Violet is a member of Newland's Golf Club in Dublin, where she has been an active member of the Ladies Committee, serving as Handicap Secretary, Vice Captain and subsequently Lady Captain in 2001, as well as Lady Vice President in 2002. She first became involved with national golf administration in 2006 when she served on the Eastern District for three years and as Chairman of the Eastern District in her final year 2008. Prior to retirement, Violet was employed by Hibernian Insurance Co. Ltd. (now Hibernian Aviva) as Executive Head of Planning. The independent position of Chairman of the Board, a role traditionally carried out by the President of the Union, carries a four year term of office. Commenting on her appointment Violet stated "the ILGU is currently going through an exciting period of change. I am delighted to be involved in the management of this change and I look forward with great enthusiasm to the next four years."

Marion Collins retired from the ILGU Board following the completion of her four year term of office as Honorary Treasurer. Board members Phil Byrne (Southern) and Deirdre Kearney (Northern) also retired from the ILGU Board and were replaced by Roma English (Northern) and Mona O'Sullivan (Southern), while Ada O'Sullivan was also welcomed onto the ILGU Board as the new Director of High Performance.

Danielle McVeigh (Royal Co. Down Ladies), Leona Maguire (Slieve Russell) and Sheena McElroy (Grange) were presented with the Women's, Girl's and Senior's Order of Merit Trophies following their table-topping performances in 2009. A special presentation was made to the Irish Girls' team which created history in 2009 by winning the European Girls' Team Championships in Finland. Danielle McVeigh's win at the British Stroke Play Championship was also recognised and she was presented with a bronze medal, on behalf of the European Golf Association, after finishing 3rd in the Ladies European Amateur Rankings (LEAR) for the 2009 season. Woodbrook's Mary Anderson was elected as an ILGU Honorary Life Member.

Chief Executive Sinead Heraty delivered a progress report on 2009 and revealed plans for 2010 with High Performance, the progression of junior golf and increasing female membership in clubs all high on the agenda. Clubs are reminded that the ILGU Affiliation Fees is €25/£21 and €5/£4 (under 18s).



Danielle McVeigh (RCDL)



Leona Maguire (Slieve Russell)



Sheena McElroy (Grange)



Mary Anderson (Woodbrook)

2010 Curtis Cup Match



The 2010 Curtis Cup will be played at Essex County Club, USA from 11 – 13 June 2010 and Traveleads, the official GB&I travel agent of the Curtis Cup, are organizing a group travel package to the event. They have reserved a block room booking in the Official Curtis Cup Hotel and can facilitate accommodation and flight reservations for those wishing to travel. *Tel: +441317184000 or Email: curtiscup@traveleads.net* The GB&I team will be selected and announced following the completion of play at the Scottish Open Stroke Play Championship (Helen Holm) on Sunday 25th April. The Ladies Golf Union encourages supporters to join them for the week and support the 2010 GB&I. Further detail can be found on the LGU website at www.lgu.org.

Busy Times for Ireland's Elite Golfers in 2010

Ireland's top female amateur golfers have been making preparations for a hectic 2010 season, which will get into full swing in April.

8 players competed in the 80th **Portuguese International Ladies Amateur Open Championship**, Oceanico O'Connor Jnr Course, Portugal, 28-31 January 2010. Royal Co. Down's Danielle McVeigh was best placed of the Irish with a joint 6th place finish in a field of Europe's 90 elite players.

The ILGU high performance squad of 10 players then travelled to La Manga, Spain from 13-20 February 2010 for **Warm Weather Training** under the guidance of the new high performance manager Peter Lockley. Early March saw NUI Maynooth students Ciara Butler (Newlands), Danielle McVeigh (RCDL) and Aedin Murphy (Carlow) compete in the **Spanish International Ladies Amateur Open Championship** at Golf Platja de Pals, Spain.

The start of the domestic season kicks off with the **Royal Co. Down Scratch Salver** on March 28th, which is quickly followed by the **Munster Women's and Girls' Championships** at Ballybunion on the 1-2 April.

Leona Maguire (Slieve Russell), Lisa Maguire (Slieve Russell), Sarah Cunningham (Ennis) and Aedin Murphy (Carlow) travel to Paris for the **French U21 Championship**, St. Cloud Golf Club 1-5 April, where Leona Maguire will defend the title she won in 2009.

Ireland will have six representatives in the **Scottish U16 Open Stroke Play Championship** to be played at Strathmore Golf Club, 8-9 April. The girls selected to compete in this event are Jessica Carty (Hollywood), Ariana Coyle-Diaz (Elm Park), Laura Fekkes (Larne), Collette McNicholl (Royal Portrush), Emma Murphy (Wexford) and Jean O'Driscoll (Muskerry). They will be accompanied on the trip by managers Ber Murphy (Castletroy) & Marie Collins (Headfort).

Women's Interprovincial Championships

The **Women's Interprovincials** take place in The Island Golf Club, Dublin, 7-9 April. Leinster will go in search of their 7th title in a row but are sure to face tough tests against the Munster, Ulster and Connacht sides.

Connacht

Shauna Brady (Co.Sligo), Doireann Carney (Galway GC), Daryl Conroy (Castlebar GC), Ailbhe Farrell (Roscommon GC), Sarah Helly (Enniscrone GC), Niamh Kitching (Limerick GC), Anne McCormack (Roscommon GC), Holly Robinson (Co. Sligo)

Captain: Rita Grealish (Galway GC), Manager: Vonnice Noonan (Co.Longford)

Munster

Sarah Crowe (Tipperary), Sarah Cunningham (Ennis), Aoife Lowry (Tipperary), Laura McCarthy (Muskerry), Gillian O'Leary (Cork), Karen O'Neill (Douglas), Chloe Ryan (Castletroy), Linda Toomey (Limerick)

Captain: Valerie Hassett (Ennis), Manager: Valerie Shannon (Lahinch)

Leinster

Ciara Butler (Newlands), Rachel Cassidy (The Island), Karen Delaney (Carlow), Mary Dowling (New Ross), Maria Dunne (Co. Louth), Louise Mernagh (Woodenbridge), Aedin Murphy (Carlow), Deirdre Smith (Co. Louth)

Captain: Denise McCarthy (Woodenbridge), Manager: Lucy Tormey (Mullingar)

Ulster

Victoria Bradshaw (Bangor), Louise Coffey (Malone), Nichola Currie (Clandeboye), Tara Gribbon (Warrenpoint), Bronagh Lunney (Slieve Russell), Gemma Mc Clenaghan (Greencastle), Danielle McVeigh (RCDL), Charlene Reid (Royal Portrush)

Captain: Mrs Sinead Smyth (Royal Portrush), Manager: Dr Christine Crockett (RCDL)

2010 Fixture List

MAR	Event	Venue
28	Royal Co. Down Ladies Scratch Cup	Royal Co. Down
APR		
1-2	Munster Women's & Girls' C'ships	Ballybunion
1-5	French U21 C'ship	St. Cloud, FRA
7-9	Women's Interprovincials	The Island
11	Woodbrook Scratch Cup	Woodbrook
17	Cork Scratch Cup	Cork
18	Zara Bolton Scratch Trophy	Royal Portrush
23-25	Scottish Open Strokeplay	Troon, SCO
26	Irish Schools Finals	Milltown
30-2	Welsh Open Strokeplay	Southerndown, WAL
MAY		
2	Hermitage Scratch Cup	Hermitage
10	ILGU Silver & Bronze Medals (2009)	P'arlington/P'laoise
22-26	Lancome Irish Women's Close	Portstewart
29	Mabel Harrison Scratch Trophy	Royal Portrush
29-30	St. Rule Trophy	St. Andrews, SCO
JUN		
5-6	Irish Women's Open Stroke Play	Newlands
11-13	Curtis Cup	Essex, MA, USA
16-18	Connacht Women's C'ship	Castle Dargan
19	Lahinch Scratch Cup	Lahinch
22-26	British Ladies Amateur C'ship	Ganton, ENG
28-30	Ulster Women's & Girls' C'ship	Clandeboye
29-1	Irish Senior Women's Close	Tullamore
JUL		
5-7	Leinster Girls' C'ship	Balbriggan
6-10	European Girls' Team C'ships	Aalborg, DEN
6-10	European Ladies Team C'ships	La Manga, SPA
9	LGU Challenge Bowls	Kilkeel
11	Stackstown Scratch Cup	Stackstown
13-16	Lancome Irish Girls' Close	Grange
18	Curragh Scratch Cup	Curragh
18-20	Ulster Girls' C'ship	Royal Co. Down
21-24	European Women's Individual C'ship	Kuneticka Hora, CZE
22	LGU Coronation Foursomes Irish Final	Knock
22-24	European Young Masters	HUN
23-25	Leinster Women's C'ship	Dun Laoghaire
26	May Fitzgibbon Final	Greystones
AUG		
3-5	English Women's Open Stroke Play	Whittington Heath,ENG
3-5	Harder German Junior Masters	GER
4-6	Girls' Home Internationals	Bangor
6-8	AIB Irish Open	Killeen Castle
9	Miele Regional Final (South & East)	Thurles
9-10	Connacht Girls' C'ship	Roscommon
9-13	British Girls' Amateur C'ship	Royal Belfast
11	Miele Regional Final (North & West)	Slieve Russell
13-14	Irish Senior Cup Final	Cork
16	Munster Girls' C'ship (H'cap 10-32)	Thurles
18-19	Girls' Interprovincials	Roscommon
18-20	British Ladies Open Stroke Play C'ship	Tenby, WAL
23	Australian Spoons Final	Carrick-on-Shannon
23	Girls' Interclub Final	Naas
25-27	Midland Women's & Girls' C'ship	Birr
31-4	European Senior Ladies Team C'ship	Berlin, GER
SEPT		
8-10	Irish Senior Womens Open S'play	Laytown/Bettystown
8-10	Miele Interclub Fourball	Glasson
14-16	British Senior Ladies Open C'ship	West Kilbride, SCO
18-19	AA Ladies Championships	Donabate
28-30	Senior Women's Home Internationals	Sheringham, ENG
OCT		
3	Lancome Greensomes Finals	Killarney
11	ILGU Silver & Bronze Medals (2010)	Hermitage
20-23	Espirito Santo Trophy	Buenos Aires, ARG