

ST ANDREWS TROPHY

GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND VS THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE

LINNA GOLF, FINLAND 26-27 JULY 2018



EDGAR CATHERINE



FALKO HANISCH



ANGEL HIDALGO PORTILLO



MATIAS HONKALA



FREDÉRIC LACROIX



YVES HOFSTETTER
(Non-Playing Captain)



STEFANO MAZZOLI



FREDRIK NILEHN



LORENZO FILIPPO SCALISE



SAMI VALIMAKI

CONTINENT OF EUROPE TEAM

The EGA selection committee has announced the nine talented amateur golfers (see above) who will represent the Continent of Europe against Great Britain & Ireland in the 32nd St Andrews Trophy (SAT) later this month.

The team will be captained for the second successive time by 2017 Swiss Senior Champion, and two-time St Andrews Trophy player, **Yves Hofstetter**. Ahead of the match, Hofstetter said:

“I am looking forward to welcoming Craig Watson and his team to the very active golfing country of Finland. I am sure we will have a very tough and fair match. I will tell my team to remember that every stroke will count.”

The biennial match, which was instituted in 1956, travels to Finland for the first time and will be played at Linna Golf, host of the 2010 European Amateur Championship, on 26 and 27 July. Four foursomes matches will be played in the morning on both days, while eight singles matches are held in the afternoon of day one, and nine singles matches in the afternoon of day two.

The Continental side will be trying to win the match for the first time since 2012 when they claimed a second consecutive victory at Portmarnock Golf Club in Ireland. Great Britain & Ireland retained the trophy in 2016 at Prince's GC, after a historic tied match.

Edgar Catherine, one of two French players in the side, won the South African Stroke Play Championship last year. He will be representing the Continent of Europe for the second time, after helping his team to victory in the 2016 Jacques Léglise Trophy. Catherine represented Europe against Asia-Pacific at the Bonallack Trophy in Qatar earlier this year.

Falko Hanisch won the 2016 Boys' Amateur Championship and finished runner-up the following year. The German player will represent the Continent of Europe for the third time, after helping his side to victory in the 2016 and 2017 Jacques Léglise Trophy matches, where he won five points out of a possible six.

Angel Hidalgo Portillo also represented Europe at the Bonallack Trophy in Qatar, contributing two and a half points from four matches. The Spaniard, who was part of the winning side at the 2017 European Amateur Team Championship, claimed the Copa de Andalucía earlier this year.

Finland will be well represented at home; **Matias Honkala** has played for Europe on two occasions, in this year's Bonallack Trophy and in the 2016 Junior Ryder Cup. He also played a key role in the Continent of Europe's 2017 Jacques Léglise Trophy victory, going

undefeated in his three matches. Honkala's best result of late was a victory at the opening event of this year's Audi Finnish PGA Golf Tour.

Frédéric Lacroix, the second French player in the team, also represented Europe at the Bonallack Trophy this year. In 2017, Lacroix won the European Men's Club Trophy with Racing Club de France La Boulie, and finished tied for third in the South African Stroke Play Championship.

Stefano Mazzoli, represented the Continent of Europe in the 2014 Jacques Léglise Trophy and in the 2016 SAT. The 2015 European Amateur Champion, and Texas Christian University athlete, won the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate and has enjoyed numerous top-10 finishes in U.S. Collegiate events this year.

Fredrik Nilehn will be representing the Continent of Europe for the first time. The Swedish player has made his mark on the U.S. collegiate golf scene for the Texas Tech Red Raiders. He has won four individual events in his two years on the team, including the 2017 Amer Ari Invitational, and set a new school record this season with a scoring average of 70.13.

In 2017, **Lorenzo Filippo Scalise**, the second Italian player selected, won the Italian Amateur Stroke Play Championship (Franco Bevione Trophy), finished in a tie for second at the European Amateur Championship, and was instrumental in Italy's bronze medal at the European Amateur Team Championship. The former University of Tennessee athlete has also impressed this season, securing numerous top-five finishes in U.S. collegiate events and in setting the school record for lowest season scoring average with 70.34.

Sami Valimaki, the second Finnish player in the side, won the 2017 Portuguese International Amateur Championship, placed third in the German International Amateur Championship, and finished top-five in the Italian International Amateur Championship in the same year. He won all four of his matches on the way to helping secure Finland's promotion from the European Amateur Team Championship, Division 2, and scored two and a half points for the European team at the Bonallack Trophy in Qatar.

Epalinges, 11 July 2018

For scoring and reports from the matches please visit:
<http://www.ega-golf.ch/event/2018-st-andrews-trophy>

For past match results please visit:
<http://www.ega-golf.ch/page/st-andrews-trophy>

For further information, please contact:
Arnaud Baratçabal
EGA Championship Manager
Tel: +41 21 785 70 60 Email: info@ega-golf.ch