

The Peninsula SPORT

Thursday 17 November 2016

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Timing of 'lab ban' wasn't intentional: WADA boss



Laudrup returns to former club for QSL clash

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European football experts confirmed for Doha Forum

The Peninsula

The Soccerex Asian Forum which will be held in Doha on December 5 and 6, will welcome three of football's foremost European experts who will share their wealth of experience on subjects ranging from player development and tournament preparations to the sport's future.

One of the founding members of the Premier League, David Dein, Head of Global Football at Red Bull, Gerard Houllier, and former Club England Managing Director, Adrian Bevington, will speak at the Forum, sharing their extensive insight with delegates from across the Middle East and the rest of the World.

With more than 20 years experience as Arsenal Vice-Chairman, David has been integral in the good fortunes of



Gerard Houllier, Red Bull Head of Global Football



David Dein, former Vice-Chairman of Arsenal and The FA



Adrian Bevington, Former Club England Managing Director at FA

the club dating back to his appointment in 1983.

He was responsible for the appointment of current Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger back in 1996, with the pair spending the next decade transforming the club and helping it join the elite clubs of European football.

During his tenure, David was a major factor in convincing some of the world's biggest stars to join Arsenal, including the likes of Ian Wright, Dennis Bergkamp and Thierry Henry, who all went on to contribute heavily to the success of the club.

Alongside his role at Arsenal, David has also been on the board of the FA since 1986, becoming Vice-Chairman in 2000.

In 1992, he was one of the major architects in the process of creating the Premier League, re-shaping the structure and finances of English football. David will be sharing his insight in an exclusive presentation put together for Soccerex in which he will discuss the future of our game.

Houllier will be part of a panel looking at fulfilling player's potential and the importance of good coaching and academies in doing so.

Prior to being appointed Liverpool manager, Gerard was Head of Technical Development at the French Football Association where he oversaw the famed Clairefontaine national

football centre and the development of players such as Thierry Henry, who were central to the French side that won the 1998 FIFA World Cup and the 2000 UEFA European Championships.

Since moving away from management Gerard has taken up the role of Head of Global Football at Red Bull, making him responsible for Austrian side FC Red Bull Salzburg, Germany's RB Leipzig and the New York Red Bulls from the US as well as the Red Bull Brazil and Red Bull Ghana academies.

Prior to establishing his own Sport and PR consultancy almost two years ago, Adrian Bevington had spent 17 years

working with the Football Association in a number of roles, most notably as Club England Managing Director.

One of world football's most experienced communications professionals, Adrian will speak on a panel looking at the preparation that goes into major tournaments, a topic he has a range of knowledge within. Being part of five World Cup and three European Championship campaigns with England, as well as being a project consultant for Wales during their historic Euro 2016 run, Adrian's knowledge of what a national team needs cannot be undervalued, and will provide a plethora of wisdom to share with delegates.

All three senior figures in the footballing world will call on their international accolade to contribute to the fascinating and diverse conference programme at the Soccerex Asian Forum. Hosted with the support of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy and the Aspire Zone Foundation, the event will feature expert insights from the top of the football industry alongside high-level networking opportunities for delegates, giving them a chance to connect and mix with some of the key rights holders in the business.

More information on the Soccerex Asian Forum in Qatar please can be obtained by contacting Chris Brookman at chris.brookman@hktstrategies.com or 97156 505 9820.

Soccerex Asian Forum

► David Dein, Gerard Houllier and Adrian Bevington will call on their international accolade to contribute to the fascinating and diverse conference programme at the Forum.

Carter and Powell spur West Indies to easy win

Harare Reuters

Limited overs specialist Jonathan Carter and debutant Rovman Powell both hit lusty knocks to carry West Indies to a 62-run victory over Sri Lanka in their triangular series match yesterday.

With West Indies all out for 227 after losing their last five wickets for 18 runs, Sri Lanka struggled to chase down the target and were bowled out for 165 off 43.1 overs.

Sri Lanka had beaten hosts Zimbabwe in the opening match of the series earlier in the week.

Carter came to the crease with West Indies on 76-3 and belted two fours and two sixes to score 54 runs, while Powell hit three leg side sixes in his knock of 44 runs off 29 balls.

Sri Lanka lost quick wickets in their reply, slumping to 16 for three after their first six overs and limped to 100-6 at the end of the 31st over.

Sachith Pathirana gave Sri Lanka a mid-order boost but here he was out for 45 their slim chances were over. Shannon Gabriel and Ashley Nurse each claimed three wickets for the Windies.

The rest of the series now decamps to Bulawayo, where Zimbabwe play the West Indies at Queens Sports Club on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES
J Carter c Perera b Lakmal 2
K Brathwaite (run out) 14
E Lewis c Dickwell b Pathirana 27
S Hope b Gunaratne 47
J Carter c de Silva b Kulasekara 54
R Powell c Dickwell b Pradeep 44
C Brathwaite c Lakmal b Pradeep 14
J Holder (run out) 2
A Nurse (not out) 5
S Benn b Kulasekara 7
S Gabriel b Lakmal 0
Extras (B 6, W 5) 11
Total (all out in 49.2 overs) 227
Fall of wickets: 17, 2, 37, 3, 16, 4, 109, 5, 172, 6, 209, 7, 214, 8, 215, 9, 226, 10, 227.
Bowling: Kulasekara 10-131-2; Lakmal 9-2-1-45-2; Pradeep 10-155-2; Jayasuriya 4-0-19-0; Pathirana 6-0-25-1; Gunaratne 10-1-40-1.
SRI LANKA
D de Silva c Hope b Holder 3
K Perera (run out) 4
N Dickwell c Benn b Gabriel 28
K Mendis c Nurse b Holder 4
U Tharanga (dn Nurse) 12
A Gunaratne b Nurse 18
S Jayasuriya c Powell b C Brathwaite 31
S Pathirana c Lewis b Nurse 45
N Kulasekara c Lewis b Gabriel 16
S Lakmal b Gabriel 0
N Pradeep (not out) 0
Extras (W 4, B 4) 4
Total (all out in 43.1 overs) 165
Fall of wickets: 17, 2, 8, 3, 16, 4, 51, 5, 64, 6, 79, 7, 139, 8, 151, 9, 160, 10, 165.
Bowling: Gabriel 8-1-0-31-3; Holder 8-0-36-2; C Brathwaite 9-0-34-1; Carter 1-0-4-0; Nurse 10-1-46-3; Benn 7-3-34-0.

Star cast set for Commercial Bank Qatar Masters 2017

The Peninsula

A star-studded line-up will feature at the Doha Golf Club when the 20th Commercial Bank Qatar Masters will be held from January 26-29, 2017.

The highly anticipated event is organised by The Qatar Golf Association (QGA), the Qatar Olympic Committee (QOC), Doha Golf Club and long-term title sponsor, Commercial Bank.

Since 1998 the prestigious Qatar Masters golf tournament has been hosted by Doha Golf Club at the beginning of each year as part of The European Tour.

Widely known for bringing together the world's best golf talent, the prestigious event will see the likes of Ryder Cup stars Sergio Garcia, Rafael Cabrera-Bello, Justin Rose and Henrik Stenson who have all competed for the \$2.5m prize purse in past years. South African rising star Branden Grace becoming the tournament's first ever double champion in 2016.

The Commercial Bank Qatar Masters was attended by over 25,000

spectators in 2016 while attracting a global TV audience of over 400 million viewers.

"Since 1998, the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters has brought together golf fans, families, sponsors and the world's best players to deliver heart-stopping action on the course and renowned family entertainment off the course. We are delighted to be celebrating the tournament's 20th edition as we strive towards ever increasing golf participation in Qatar," said Hassan Al Naimi, President of QGA.

Joseph Abraham, CEO of Commercial Bank, added: "We are confident that our commitment to this great Championship will drive the game forward and further inspire a new generation of golfers to discover the game in Qatar and the region. It also demonstrates Commercial Bank's strong commitment to the people of Qatar by bringing first-class sporting entertainment to be enjoyed by the entire family over the course of four days..."

Further information will be available on the event's official web site, qatar-masters.com

COMMERCIAL BANK QATAR MASTERS PAST CHAMPIONS

2016 - Branden Grace
2015 - Branden Grace
2014 - Sergio Garcia
2013 - Chris Wood
2012 - Paul Lawrie
2011 - Thomas Bjorn
2010 - Robert Karlsson
2009 - Alvaro Quiros
2008 - Adam Scott
2007 - Bettel Goosen
2006 - Henrik Stenson
2005 - Ernie Els
2004 - Joakim Haeggmann
2003 - Darren Fitchard
2002 - Adam Scott
2001 - Tony Johnstone
2000 - Rolf Muntz
1999 - Paul Lawrie
1998 - Andrew Coltart



The defending Commercial Bank Qatar Masters champion Branden Grace of South Africa tees off during last year's tournament at Doha Golf Club in this file photo.

Champions Cavaliers roll over Raptors again

Los Angeles
AFP

Channing Frye's three-point shot in the final minute lifted the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 121-117 win over the Toronto Raptors in a tight contest between the two best teams in the Eastern Conference.

The Cavaliers beat their playoff rivals for the second time this season and the defending NBA champions appear to be an even stronger team than they were last season.

"We are a composed team. We have seen everything. It is not a situation we haven't been in before. The coach drew up a great play we just tried to execute it to perfection," Cavaliers star LeBron James said.

Frye has made 11 three-pointers in his last two games and the Cavs took a lead against the Raptors in the season series, something that could become important when home-court advantage is at stake.

"He's been great. He's just a difficult match up," James said of Frye. "We have a great lineup, and his ability to spread the floor and shoot the ball like he's been able to do and also guard bigs

2
NBA
The defending Champion Cavaliers beat raptors, their playoff rivals, for the second time this season.

18
Dennis Schroder led a balanced offense with 18 points as the Atlanta Hawks won their fifth game in a row, defeating the struggling Miami Heat.

and help out on the glass has been a great thing for our team."

These teams met in the conference finals last season.

James fell one rebound shy of a triple-double with 28 points, 14 assists and nine rebounds in front of a crowd of 20,500 at Quicken Loans Arena. He had six assists in the fourth quarter.

Kevin Love scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, and Kyrie Irving scored 24 points. Frye came off the bench to finish with 21 points.

The Cavaliers made 13

three-pointers in the game, meaning they have made at least 10 three-pointers in each of their first 10 games, an NBA record.

"They're shooting as many threes as anybody in the league right now," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "If a team is making 22 or 25 threes, you're going to have a hard night."

DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry each scored 26 points for Toronto, who suffered their first road loss of the season. Tuesday's game marked just the second time in 10 games DeRozan failed to score at least 30. He began the night leading the league in scoring at 34 points per game.

In Miami, Dennis Schroder led a balanced offense with 18 points as the Atlanta Hawks won their fifth game in a row, defeating the struggling Miami Heat 93-90.

Leading 89-88, Atlanta's Kent Bazemore made two free throws with 11 seconds left. Miami's Josh Richardson got a dunk on the other end, and Schroder's two free throws rounded out the scoring.

The win may have been costly for Atlanta, as center Dwight Howard led the game in the third quarter with a quad contusion. He finished with 11

points, 11 rebounds and three steals in 24 minutes.

In Portland, Jimmy Butler scored 27 points as the Chicago Bulls went wire to wire for a 113-88 victory over Portland at the Moda Center. Butler also had a season-high 12 rebounds and five assists for Chicago, which won its third consecutive game.

Dwyane Wade finished with 19 points, five rebounds and five assists. Jerian Grant scored a season-high 18 points, and Robin Lopez had 13 points and 11 boards for the Bulls.

Damian Lillard scored 19 points and CJ McCollum added 17 for the Trail Blazers. Allen Crabbe had 15 points for Portland, which had won five of its previous six outings.

In Minneapolis, Kemba Walker scored 30 points and Nicholas Batum added 16 to power the Charlotte Hornets' comeback in a 115-108 victory against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

TUESDAY'S NBA RESULTS	
Cleveland 121 - 117 Toronto	Atlanta 93 - 90 Miami
Charlotte 115 - 108 Minnesota	Chicago 113 - 88 Portland
LA Lakers 125 - 118 Brooklyn	



Patrick Patterson #54 (left) and DeMar DeRozan #10 (right) of the Toronto Raptors try to block LeBron James #23 of the Cleveland Cavaliers during their NBA game at Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, Ohio, US on Tuesday.



Henrik Stenson

Stenson heads stand-alone quartet to become Number 1 in Dubai

Dubai
AFP

The year-long Race to Dubai on the European Tour enters its home stretch with the season-ending DP World Tour Championship starting today, with four players still in the hunt to secure the honour of being called Europe's Number one.

The top-60 players after last week's Nedbank Golf Challenge qualify for the DP World Tour Championship, but 56 of them will have to contend for the \$8m tournament, the richest on European Tour schedule outside the majors and World Golf Championships.

With 1,217,175 points for the winner, only Number two Danny Willett, Number three Alex Noren and Number four Rory McIlroy have the chance to catch up with Race to Dubai leader Henrik Stenson.

England's Willett has the best chance just 299,675 points adrift, but he has been struggling with his form since finishing

second in Italy in September third week.

World No 2 and FedEx Cup champion McIlroy is 1,176,414 points behind Stenson and while he has conceded the race to European No. 1, the Northern Irishman is keen to defend his title, which he also won in 2012.

"Mathematically I can win the Race to Dubai, but it's not going to happen," said McIlroy.

"I wouldn't hold my breath. I think the three guys that are ahead of me are playing very good golf, especially the two Swedes, Henrik (Stenson) and Alex (Noren). Alex with what he's done over the past few weeks, Henrik has had a fantastic year, and so has Danny, obviously."

"So I don't expect those guys to play badly this week. I'm just concentrating on trying to win the golf tournament and if I can do that, I'll be very happy."

Willett was hoping his final two sub-70 rounds in Nedbank Challenge would spark his bid to win the Race to Dubai,

having finished second last year to Stenson.

"We've got four rounds of golf left in what's been a pretty long season and slightly different situation to last year, but we still need to win the golf tournament to win the Race to Dubai," said the Masters champion.

"We're 300,000 points behind Henrik. If we can do what we can control this week and we can win a golf tournament, then nobody can take it away from us."

Noren is coming off a win last week in South Africa, his fourth in last 11 European Tour starts. But the hard-working Swede was taking nothing for granted, starting the week 633,436 points adrift of Stenson.

"Well, it's still a new tournament, new grass, new challenges. Obviously, it's nice coming in with a victory last week. I always thought it's easier if you have a good week before and you're a little bit more relaxed and enjoying it a lot," said Noren.

Cost for 2020 Games gymnastics venue doubles

Tokyo
Reuters

The cost to build a temporary gymnastics arena for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo has more than doubled with Shimizu Corp winning the \$190m (20.5bn yen) contract, according to a report.

The venue, which will accommodate 12,000 spectators, will be raised at Tokyo's Koto Ward with construction expected to be completed by October 2019, Kyodo news agency reported.

The cost was initially slated to be \$81.6m (8.9bn yen), as stated in the candidature file presented to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 2013. The organisers cited reasons such as increase in construction prices and bolstering the earthquake-resistance system for the cost hike. The building will be used, after the Games, as an exhibition hall until 2030.

They added the initial price reflected only the construction cost, while Shimizu's bid included design cost as well.

The Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic organizing committee and the Tokyo metropolitan government will soon meet to talk about ratio of sharing expense.

IOC President Thomas Bach met Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike in October and had proposed a committee to look into ways to cut cost after the overall estimates were found to be "very large".

Venues for rowing/cano sprint, swimming and volleyball have come under the scanner as part of cost-cutting measures.

Lions RFC to host the Sri Lanka Touch Rugby 7's Tournament

The Peninsula

Lions Rugby Football Club will host the Sri Lankan Schools Touch Rugby 7's Tournament for the sixth consecutive year at Al Jazeera Academy Doha tomorrow.

The Qatar Touch Rugby endorsed tournament is an annual premier sports event contested by former rugby players representing Sri Lankan colleges.

First held in 2012, the tournament has increased in popularity bringing to life a touch rugby fiesta emanating flamboyant displays of sportsmanship, culture, peace, fun and most of all unity within Qatar.

Organizer and President of the Lions RFC, Nino Amit said "This is the most awaited touch rugby event in Doha. Colleges from all over Sri Lanka converge on this day testing their pride,

character and status quo. We are thankful to Al Jazeera Academy, the QRF and all our sponsors for their tremendous support."

Andrew Jansen from Carey College said "This is the biggest rugby event for the Sri Lanka community. The day brings us all together in a competitive way. There are rivals amongst us but at the end of the day we all get to enjoy the atmosphere and a day out with friends and families"

The all day event promises to be entertaining both on and off the field. There will be activities for kids such as face painting, bouncing castle, DJ music, live band, competitions and giveaways.

Entry is free and all are welcome. The Lions RFC extend a warm welcome to all community groups, affiliations, sports lovers, families and friends to Al Jazeera Academy for final Touch



Rugby tournament of 2016. The first match will start at 8 am and the finals to be concluded the 6 pm. GAC is sponsoring the club while the tournament is sponsored by several companies like

Al Riya water, Wellon group, Deluxe Travels, Stallions Sports Academy, Bloomsbury, Holiday Resort, Sampath Bank, and McDonalds. Twelve colleges are Participating in this year

tournament and they are Carey, Ispatana, Dharmaraja, D S Senanayake, Royal, Mahanama, Trinity, St Anthony's, St Sylvester's, St Peter's, Wesley and Zahira.

Spin delight in English camp

Visakhapatnam
AFP

England skipper Alastair Cook said yesterday his spinners were running high on confidence and could turn the tables on top-tanked India if a turning track was offered in the second Test in Visakhapatnam.

England's raw spin trio of Moeen Ali, Adil Rashid and Zafar Ansari shared 13 wickets between them to force the mighty Indians on the backfoot in the drawn first Test in Rajkot.

Leg-spinner Rashid led the charge with seven wickets as the hosts held on to a tense draw after losing six quick wickets on the final afternoon.

On the same track, India's famed spin attack struggled, with the world number one bowler Ravichandran Ashwin returning a dismal 3-230 -- his worst bowling figures at home since December 2012.

Cook credited the success of his tweekers to former Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, whose contract as England's spin consultant has been extended until the third Test of the ongoing five-match series.

"I thought they bowled excellently as a group of three spinners," Cook told reporters ahead of the second Test beginning today.

"Credit to Saqi (Saqlain)

Teams set for Test

13

England's raw trip of Moeen Ali, Adil Rashid and Zafar Ansari grabbed 13 wickets in the first Test.

3

India's top spinner Ravichandran Ashwin picked up only 3 wickets for 230 runs in Rajkot.

coming in and giving those guys confidence to go out and play. They are inexperienced in these conditions but they took a big step forward and it's great to see that.

"If they continue at that level, like in Rajkot, then there is no reason why we can't put pressure on Indian batting with our spinners."

Cook led from the front with a brilliant 130 in the second innings, one of four centuries by the visiting batsmen, to counter the Indian bowlers in their own den. "We got a good total and we managed to push the game forward to the fifth day.

"Unfortunately we didn't quite get over the line but we begin afresh 0-0 at the start of the second Test. And we are here

to give India a run for their money," said Cook.

England though face a late selection quandary over pace spearhead Chris Woakes, who is down with a minor knee injury.

Fast bowler Jimmy Anderson would be itching to take the field against India after missing the first Test but Cook admitted he faced tough competition.

"Jimmy has come over and done really well in the nets... but last he bowled in a game was in August so (we have to) kind of weigh that up with a couple of guys who have been out here for seven weeks or so," said Cook.

India's spin force of Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Amit Mishra failed to get the desired success on a fast Rajkot track, sharing nine wickets in the two innings.

Indian captain Virat Kohli who had criticised the presence of grass on the Rajkot wicket, is expecting turn in Visakhapatnam, which is set to host its first Test ever.

"It's a wicket where spinners will find it really nice to bowl on and expect the same going into the game," said Kohli.

"We want to focus on our strengths and play the cricket that we have as a team at home and put the pressure on the opposition."

Kohli also confirmed fit-again opener Lokesh Rahul was a certainty in the starting XI, dousing any chance of veteran Gautam Gambhir playing a part



England's Adil Rashid (left) chats with Saqlain Mushtaq during a training session yesterday.

in the series.

The left-handed Gambhir, making a comeback to the national side after a gap of two years, scored 29 and a duck.

"We had it pretty clear in our

heads that KL (Rahul) is our number-one choice along with Murali Vijay. He is fit at any stage, he comes back into the team and we are going to start with him," said Kohli.

Aussies have lost 'fear factor', says batting great Lara

Sydney
AFP

Australia's cricketers have lost their "fear factor" and could be heading towards a West Indies-style decline, batting great Brian Lara has warned.

Lara, whose career began when the now struggling West Indies were in the ascendancy in the 1980s, sees some similarities in the trajectory of Steve Smith's Australia.

His comments come after Australia lost their fifth straight Test in an ignominious innings defeat to South Africa in Hobart on Tuesday's fourth day.

"The fear factor is no longer there and a similar thing happened to the West Indies 25 years ago," Lara told News Corp newspapers.

"When Australia beat us at home in 1995, no one feared us any more and that's going to be the situation with Australia. Especially if they are not travelling well."

The once-proud West Indies are a mere shadow of

the team that won a then-record 11 straight Tests in the 1980s. They now wallow at eighth on the world rankings, ahead of only Bangladesh and Zimbabwe.

Lara said he feared Australia also risked going into a "downward spiral", claiming their 3-0 Test series loss in Sri Lanka in July and August has given opponents a sense of their vulnerability.

However, he backed the embattled Smith and cautioned selectors against making mass changes for next week's day-night third Test in Adelaide.

"The morale of the team was pretty low when we started to lose," said Lara, who is visiting Sydney.

"Everything must stay as harmonious as possible... You can dig a bigger hole for yourself if you are not unified and you start worrying about other things that may not even be happening."

"It could become a downward spiral." Lara holds the world record of scoring 400 not out in a Test match against England.

Aussie chief selector quits over crisis

Sydney
AFP

Australia's chairman of selectors Rod Marsh quit with immediate effect yesterday after a run of five heavy Test defeats left the team in crisis, saying it was time for "some fresh thinking".

The former wicketkeeping great, 69, stepped down amid recriminations about the poorly performing team which crashed to a third-straight home series defeat to South Africa on Tuesday.

"This is my own decision and no one within Cricket Australia has pressured me or even suggested that I should do this," Marsh said in a statement.

Cricket Australia said it would hold an extraordinary meeting to decide on an interim replacement, with an announcement "in due course".

Marsh, one of several leading cricket officials under intense pressure, had previously insisted he would see out his contract which runs to the middle of next year.

But yesterday he said it was time for a new perspective after a run of defeats which has prompted severe criticism in Australian media.

"Clearly... it is time for some fresh thinking, just as it is for our Test team to welcome some new faces as we build for the future," Marsh said.

"I have always had the best interests of Australian cricket foremost in my heart, and that's why I have made this decision."

Australia's four-man selection panel now consists of Mark Waugh, Trevor Hohns and coach Darren Lehmann.

The panel has been under heavy scrutiny over the shocking results of Steve Smith's national team, culminating in their latest batting collapse of eight for 32 in their innings and 80 runs defeat to the Proteas in Hobart this week.

Lehmann declared only four players -- captain Smith, David Warner, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood -- were sure to keep their places after Australia's second demoralising collapse in the Hobart Test.

Only hours before Marsh's announcement, Cricket Australia chief James Sutherland had voiced support for him to see out his contract.

Former Test fast bowler Jason Gillespie and former Test captain Ricky Ponting have been touted as possible successors. Australia's team announcement for next week's third and final day-night Test in Adelaide has been delayed until Sunday.



England's cricket captain Alastair Cook catches the ball during a training session yesterday.

ICC seeks to monitor players' phone messages

Dubai
Reuters

Cricketers suspected of corruption could be forced to hand over their mobile phones under new plans to curb match-fixing, head of the game's anti-corruption unit has said.

The Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) of the International Cricket Council (ICC) can currently request information from players, including phone records, while cricketers also have to hand over their phones to officials before each day's play.

The ACU does not have access to players' new medium of communications, including Whatsapp and Snapchat.

"As the world changes and as people use different means of communicating with each other through social media - Whatsapp, Snapchat, all of these things - we have to keep ahead of these things," Ronnie Flanagan, the head of the ACU, told reporters.

"One extension (of ACU powers) we might seek is that, instead of just asking for a player's billing records, might we actually, like tennis, seek the ability to take the devices and download them to see what communications had been made upon them."

For that, the ACU would need approval of the ICC board. Former South Africa Test player Alviro Petersen was recently charged with contriving to fix domestic Twenty20 matches last year.

New Zealand, Pakistan edgy ahead of opener

Christchurch
AFP

Pakistan and New Zealand both claimed the high ground on the eve of today's first Test in Christchurch, with the Black Caps drawing inspiration from Brendon McCullum's classic farewell innings.

Just days after a 7.8-magnitude earthquake rattled the city and devastated parts of the South Island, Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq looked to cash in on a perceived lack of confidence in the New Zealand ranks after their disastrous tour of India, where they suffered a series whitewash.

But although Pakistan are on a high after crushing the West Indies last month, New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson claimed his side was rejuvenated by returning to home conditions and familiar seamer-friendly wickets.

After being flummoxed by Indian spin in all three Tests in October, Williamson said New Zealand's challenge was to pick themselves up.

"It's important when you come off the back of that India tour, which was extremely tough, that we still come back here and play with freedom, express our skills. When we do we play our best cricket," he said.

"There will be a little bit of

movement for the seam bowlers but we've played in these conditions a lot and certainly back ourselves to play positively."

When New Zealand last played at Hagley Oval, former skipper McCullum smashed a world record 54-ball century against Australia in a brutal onslaught that produced 145 runs off 79 deliveries.

Williamson scored seven off 69 in the same innings.

"Brendon was the complete opposite. It was a great example of someone playing with freedom and I think that came from the confidence of knowing your own conditions," he said.

New Zealand, who have not won a series against Pakistan since 1985, will delay finalising their side as late as possible although it has been confirmed opener Jeet Raval will make his debut.

Misbah said the Pakistan line-up was already confirmed but he was giving nothing away before the toss other than to say seamer-friendly conditions would not hinder them. They played in similar conditions in their drawn series against England earlier this year.

"That experience is really going to help us here, because of the kind of confidence we gained from that," Misbah said.

Pakistan have their own motivation, having lost their top world ranking and Misbah said they were keen to get it back and despite New Zealand pitches not being renowned for taking turn, his ace remained spinner Yasir Shah.

Yasir, with 116 wickets at 27.04 from 19 Tests "can get something out of any conditions," Misbah said.

"It's all about building pressure, bowling in the right areas, playing with the mind of the batsman," he told reporters.

"Regardless of the conditions, you can be effective and good bowlers always learn ways to get people and I believe he is that kind of bowler."



Norway's Hans on target in Qatar

CISM movement

▶ **CISM President Colonel Abdul Hakeem Al Shino says the military sports movement is expanding.**

▶ **The membership was 130 but now 135. Shortly the number will go to 138 countries**

Armstrong Vas
The Peninsula

Hans Kristian Boe of Norway took the individual gold in the 300m Standard Rifle 3 men's section at the 49th CISM World Military Shooting Championship at the at Losail Shooting Range yesterday. Olsen Steffen of Denmark

took the silver followed by Brekne Odd Arne of Norway. In the other results yesterday, in the 25m Pistol individual women event Thailand dominated with Prucksakorn Tanyaporn and Sowsa-Nga Pattarasuda, bagging the top two spots followed by Yao Yushi, of China.

In the third event, the 25m Centre Fire Pistol men, Jin Yongde of China bagged gold while Omkar Singh of India took the silver while Kim Hyon Ung of North Korea claimed the bronze. The nine-day championship is contested by over 700 shooters from 50 countries and is contested in both the men's and women's section.

The championship ends on November 19.

Hosts Qatar have already won two medals, one silver and Bronze at the championship.

Meanwhile, CISM President Colonel Abdul Hakeem Al Shino said the military sports movement is expanding and three

more countries are to be given full membership in the coming months.

"Presently, we have about 135 countries as members of CISM. When we came on board three years ago, the membership was 130 but now we are 135. Three other countries including Japan and Cameroon will be joining us by next year to make us 138 countries," he said.

49TH CISM WORLD MILITARY SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP

300m Standard Rifle 3 Men
Hans Kristian Boe, (Norway)
Olsen Steffen, (Denmark)
Brekne Odd Arne, (Norway)

25m Pistol individual women
Pruksakorn Tanyaporn, (Thailand)
Sowsa-Nga Pattarasuda, (Thailand)
Yao Yushi, (China)

25m Centre Fire Pistol men
Jin Yongde, (China)
Singh Omkar, (India)
Kim Hyon Ung, (North Korea)



Pruksakorn Tanyaporn of Thailand celebrates her win in the 25m Pistol women individual event at the 49th CISM World Military Shooting Championship at Losail shooting Range yesterday. Sowsa-Nga Pattarasuda of Thailand took the bronze while Yao Yushi of China finished third.



Top seed El Shorbagy moves into Qatar Classic semi-final

The Peninsula

Mohamed El Shorbagy of Egypt moved into the semi-finals of the Qatar Classic 2016 with a fighting 3-2 win over Simon Rosner of Germany.

At the Khalifa International Squash Complex, the top seed took 79 minutes to overcome the challenge of the German and a book a place in the last four stage of the championship.

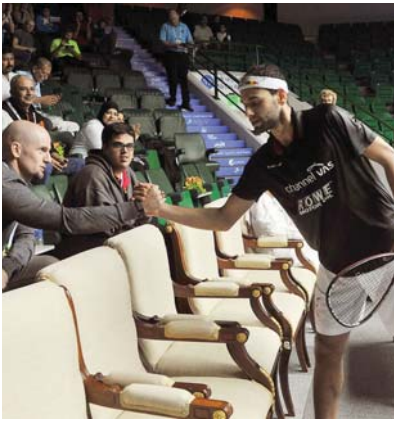
El Shorbagy will take on the winner of the second quarter-final between Gregoire Marche of France and Nick Matthew of England.

The Egyptian is aiming to win his third successive title in Doha.

The semi-finals will take place today at 5.30pm, and 6.30pm. The final will be on Friday at 5.30.



Mohamed El Shorbagy of Egypt in action against Simon Rösner of Germany during their Qatar Classic Squash Championship at the Khalifa International Squash Complex in Doha yesterday. El Shorbagy won. RIGHT: El Shorbagy celebrates his win. Pics by: Kammutty VP/The Peninsula



Timing of 'lab ban' wasn't intentional: WADA chief

The Peninsula

WADA chief Sir Craig Reedie apologised yesterday for the inappropriate timing of the suspension of the Doha anti-doping laboratory calling it unintentional. He was addressing delegates at the ongoing XXI Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) General Assembly in Doha.

Delegates attending the Assembly were in for a rude shock when reports in the western media were flooded with the four-month ban to a Doha-based laboratory, just hours before the Assembly was scheduled for a start, on Tuesday.

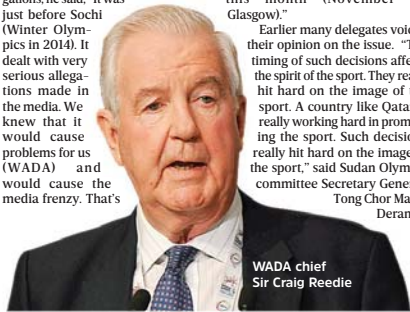
This despite the fact that the actual suspension had taken effect on November 7.

"There is a procedure that WADA has to follow. I was aware of the process and I hoped that the process would be completed much before the Doha ANOC," said Sir Craig, stressing on the fact that it wasn't planned.

Directly addressing the President of ANOC, Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah, Sir Craig said, "President, that just happened, it wasn't intentional. I apologise for that."

"We know the breach and we are already working to correct it within the given time period (four months)."

About the McLaren report, that is investigating the Scott doping allegations, he said, "It was just before Sochi (Winter Olympics in 2014). It dealt with very serious allegations made in the media. We knew that it would cause problems for us (WADA) and would cause the media frenzy. That's



WADA chief Sir Craig Reedie



why it was dealt with before the Games, rather than later. And so the Games were held successfully."

This was after Sheikh Sabah, responding to concern of the delegates, said, "I am really worried about the timing of such decisions."

Citing examples, he said, "The McLaren report came out just before the Sochi Winter Olympics, the ban of the laboratory in Rio came a few days before the city was set to host the Olympics and now this report about the Doha laboratory has come hours ahead of the ANOC General Assembly. Following the trend, I would say that another report will surface just ahead of the WADA meet (Executive Committee Meeting) later this month (November 19, Glasgow)."

Earlier many delegates voiced their opinion on the issue. "The timing of such decisions affects the spirit of the sport. They really hit hard on the image of the sport. A country like Qatar is really working hard in promoting the sport. Such decisions really hit hard on the image of the sport," said Sudan Olympic committee Secretary General, Tong Chor Malek Deran.



Hassan Al Thawadi (right), Secretary General of the Qatar 2022 Supreme Committee speaks during a media briefing on the sideline of the XXI ANOC General Assembly yesterday.

Pictures by: Salim Matramkot/The Peninsula

World Cup on track, says Al Thawadi

The Peninsula

The Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, the body tasked with making the preparations and hosting the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar, made it clear that it is on course to delivering the results on time - this in the light of the changing economic scenario following the fall in crude oil prices.

Speaking at a packed media gathering, Supreme Committee Secretary General Hassan Al Thawadi said, "Of course, our budget is assigned by the government."

"But, we were already working towards reducing our expenses. And this is before the oil prices went down. So when the oil price went down we had already worked out significant steps towards adjusting our budgets."

"And as the oil prices came down we started having discussions with the government and the impact of the slump was as great as people would have assumed."

Thawadi stressed on the point

that, the SC would keep its promise of hosting a world-class World Cup. "Of course, we will keep our promise of hosting the World Cup."

Enumerating the new business models towards achieve the goal, he added, "We are working with the government and private sector together. The PPP or the public-private partnership model, we are working on that."

"Various business models are under place, recession models, models that get us the desired result with minimum expenditure - they are being tried," added Thawadi.

Earlier, he even spoke about Supreme Committee's commitment towards sustainability and greener tomorrow.

"We have adopted the GSAS (Global Organisation for Research & Development) model that focuses on reduced carbon footprint in infrastructure and green buildings."

"So we are not just preparing for the World Cup, but are effectively working towards a greener and healthier tomorrow."

Murray fights back to subdue Nishikori in Tour Finals epic

London Reuters

Andy Murray moved a step closer to the semi-finals of the ATP Tour Finals as the world number one wore down Kei Nishikori in a grueling 6-7 (9/11), 6-4, 6-4 victory that took over three hours yesterday.

Murray was pushed to his limits by Nishikori in the longest Tour Finals match played in the event's seven years at London's O2 Arena.

But Murray finally subdued the Japanese star in three hours and 20 minutes and will be guaranteed a place in the last four if Marin Cilic defeats Stan Wawrinka last evening.

"I just fought really hard. Kei was making me run but I eventually got over the line," Murray said.

"These are the sort of matches you work so hard for. I feel OK right now, but it's the following day when you feel it often."

"Hopefully there will be another three days to this season and I'll do my best to get through them."

The 29-year-old's gritty recovery took his winning streak to 21 matches, just one short of his career best run of 22 successive victories earlier this year.

It is the first time Murray has started the Tour Finals with two consecutive group stage wins since his tournament debut in Shanghai in 2008.

Murray's refusal to be outlasted by the obdurate Nishikori keeps him on course to retain top spot in the ATP rankings at the end of the year.

Novak Djokovic's win over Milos Raonic on Tuesday had given the Serb a 70-point lead over Murray in the unofficial 'as-it-stands' rankings but, with each victory at the Tour Finals worth 200 points, the Scot moved back above his

old rival by beating Nishikori.

To guarantee finishing 2016 in pole position, Murray must win the Tour Finals for the first time, with anything less giving Djokovic the chance to overhaul him.

Murray has enjoyed an incredible 11 months in which he has won Wimbledon for the second time, claimed a second Olympic singles gold medal and lifted four successive titles in Beijing, Shanghai, Vienna and Paris.

But since losing to Djokovic in the French Open final in June, the highest-ranked player Murray had faced was then world number six Milos Raonic in Cincinnati.

Murray had won seven of his nine meetings with Nishikori, but the world number five enjoyed an impressive triumph in their last encounter in the US Open quarter-finals and he made the Scot sweat again.

Murray was involved in the previous longest Tour Finals match, a 2010 semi-final loss to Rafael Nadal that took three hours and 11 minutes, and this time his overtime wasn't in vain.

While saving break points in the third and fifth games of the first set, Murray was pushed so hard that his wedding ring, which he keeps tied to his shoe, fell off.

When Nishikori earned another break point at 5-5, Murray again wriggled out of trouble but then squandered a set point in the next game.

In a thrilling tie-break, Murray came from 3-6 down and saved four set points but crucially he was unable to take two set points of his own and Nishikori finally sealed it when the Scot missed a wild forehand. It had taken 85 minutes to settle a gruelling first set, yet Murray's energy levels remained high and he started the second set with an immediate break.

Stars of Rio 2016 honoured in Doha

The Peninsula

The best sporting achievements from the Rio 2016 Olympic Games were recognised by representatives from throughout the Olympic Movement at the spectacular 2016 Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) Awards held in Doha on Tuesday.

The ANOC Awards 2016, organised by the Qatar Olympic Committee and held at the Qatar National Convention Centre, showed sport's power to unite different nations and cultures as delegates from 205 NOCs gathered at the state-of-the-art Qatar Convention Centre for the third edition of the awards. The ceremony was broadcast live by Al Jazeera and on the ANOC YouTube Channel and was distributed to broadcasters all around the world.

The evening ended with ANOC presenting an award to His Highness the Emir of Qatar for contribution to the Olympic Movement, which Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic Committee accepted on his behalf. In his acceptance speech, Sheikh Joaan said: "It is an honour to accept this award on behalf of His Highness the Emir of Qatar. Everyone in Qatar has been inspired by the dedication of His Highness in using the power of sport to develop our country and empower our youth. It is also an honour to host you all



Head of Team GB's Olympic Delegation and IAAF President Lord Sebastian Coe poses for a photograph after receiving the Award for Most Successful NOC of Rio 2016, during the ANOC awards in Doha on Tuesday.

In Qatar for tonight's ANOC Awards and unite and celebrate the Olympic Movement."

ANOC President Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah said: "The Rio 2016 Olympic Games produced many memorable sporting memories created by inspirational athletes from around the world. The athletes and their respective NOCs are at the very heart of every Olympic Games. It is their hard work and commitment that contributes to the success of the Games and it is important these

achievements are recognised and honoured."

"Tonight has been a fantastic evening for the world's NOCs, an opportunity to thank and give back to them after all they give to the Olympic Movement."

The award winners were selected by the ANOC Jury which comprises of representatives from each of the Continental Associations, the ANOC Athletes' Commission Chair, ASOIF President, ANOC Secretary General and media representatives. The jury

ANOC AWARD WINNERS

- Best Female Athlete of Rio 2016: Monica Puig (Tennis)
- Best Male Athlete of Rio 2016: Wayne Van Nieuwen (Athletics)
- Best Female Team of Rio 2016: Team GB Hockey (Hockey)
- Best Male Team of Rio 2016: Team Fiji Rugby Sevens (Rugby Sevens)
- ANOC Award for Most Inspirational Performance: Rafaela Lopes Silva, from the Brazilian Olympic Committee
- Most Successful NOC of Rio 2016: Team GB

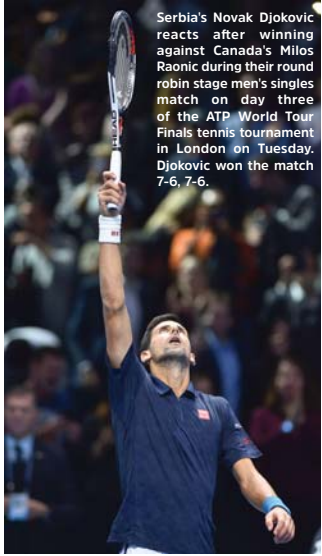
Breakthrough NOC award winners for winning their first ever Olympic medal or first ever Olympic gold medal at Rio 2016:

- Bahrain Olympic Committee
- Comité National Olympique de Côte d'Ivoire
- Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee
- Jordan Olympic Committee
- Kosovo Olympic Committee
- Comité Olímpico de Puerto Rico
- Singapore National Olympic Council (Aquatics)
- National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan (Athletics)
- Vietnam Olympic Committee (Shooting)

Individual awards

- ANOC Award for Inspiring Hope through Sport: Refugee Olympic Team
- ANOC Award for the Success of Rio 2016: Carlos Arthur Nuzman (Brazil)
- ANOC Award for Contribution to the Olympic Movement: Emir HH Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani

collated a shortlist of candidates during the Games and then met after the conclusion of Rio 2016 to determine the winners.



Serbia's Novak Djokovic reacts after winning against Canada's Milos Raonic during their round robin stage men's singles match on day three of the ATP World Tour Finals tennis tournament in London on Tuesday. Djokovic won the match 7-6, 7-6.

Laudrup returns to former club in the battle of QSL title contenders

Lekhwiya vs Al Rayyan

▶ Al Rayyan head coach Michael Laudrup previously managed Lekhwiya to a league and cup double during the 2014/2015 season.

▶ Al Rayyan headed into the international break off the back of a 2-1 win over Al Ahli.

The Peninsula

Round seven's QSL match of the week will see third placed Lekhwiya take on fourth placed Al Rayyan in what will be an early test of each side's title credentials.

The tie will certainly be of interest of current Al Rayyan head coach Michael Laudrup, who previously managed Lekhwiya to a league and cup double during the 2014/2015 season.

For Lekhwiya, they have enjoyed a fine start to the season and have been playing some of their best football in years under head coach Djamel Belmadi. Last time out they dropped points away at Al Khor in a scintillating 2-2 draw.

As with any international break, a number of key Lekhwiya players have gone away for international duty, including the key midfield duo of Luis Martins and Karim Boudiaf. Djamel Belmadi will be hoping that these two in particular will not be feeling the effects of the long trip back



Al Rayyan's Rodrigo Tabata (left) and Lekhwiya's Ahmed Yasser Aziz vie for ball possession during their Qatar Star League (QSL) match at Lekhwiya Stadium in this November 2015 file photo.

from China.

One player who could be set to make an impact for the Red Knights is Ismael Mohammad. Normally a regular at international level, Mohammad was not chosen for this round of qualification games and the rest would have done the tricky winger the world of good. Lekhwiya's number seven will certainly be fresh for the visit of the reigning QSL champions.

As for the visitors, Al Rayyan headed into the international break off the back of a 2-1 win over Al Ahli. Captain Rodrigo Tabata was the man again for the Lions, converting two penalties to give Michael Laudrup his second win as Al Rayyan head coach.

Laudrup has made a solid

start in charge of Al Rayyan, registering two draws and two wins. The Danish coach will certainly be eyeing a statement win against his former

QSL WEEK-7 MATCHES	
Friday	
Muallther SC, Al Khor vs Al Gharafa Club (16:00 Thani Bin Jassem Stadium)	
Al Saliya Al Kharatiyyat vs Al Ahli Club (18:10 Hamad Bin Khalifa Stadium)	
Saturday	
Al Ahli Umm Salal vs Al Ahli Club (16:00 Hamad Bin Khalifa Stadium)	
Al Gharafa Al Arabi vs Al Gharafa Club (18:10 Thani Bin Jassem Stadium)	
Sunday	
Al Wakrah Al Sadd vs Al Wakrah Club (16:00 Saoud Bin Abdul Rahman Stadium)	
El Jash Al Shahania vs Lekhwiya Club (16:00 Abdullah Bin Khalifa Stadium)	
Lekhwiya Al Rayyan vs Lekhwiya Club (18:10 Abdullah Bin Khalifa Stadium)	

employees, especially with Al Rayyan targeting back to back QSL falcon shields.

The Lions are relatively injury free heading into the Sunday evening match, only Paraguayan midfielder Victor Caceres is a long-term absentee, summer signing Khaled Al Zakiba has recovered from a knock over the international break and could be a part of the match-day squad.

South Korean midfielder Koh Myong-jin has enjoyed a strong start this season, and has made vital contributions for his side in both defense and attack. The former FC Seoul man has scored twice so far this season, whilst setting the tone for Al Rayyan's attacks with his passing play. His battle with compatriot

Nam Tae Hee will be one to watch out for.

It certainly promises to be a fascinating encounter when Michael Laudrup's Al Rayyan side takes on Lekhwiya in the QSL match of the week for round seven.

QSL STANDINGS									
	P	W	D	L	G/F	G/A	Pts		
El Jash	6	5	0	1	18	11	16		
Al Sadd	6	4	0	2	20	9	14		
Lekhwiya	6	4	0	2	21	12	14		
Al Rayyan	6	3	0	3	10	4	12		
Umm Salal	6	2	1	3	8	7	9		
Al Khor	6	2	2	2	8	7	8		
Al Gharafa	6	2	2	2	14	14	8		
Al Shahania	6	2	2	2	6	11	8		
Al Ahli	6	2	3	1	10	11	7		
Al Arabi	6	2	4	0	9	13	6		
Muallther SC	6	2	4	0	6	12	6		
Al Kharatiyyat	6	1	4	1	5	13	4		
Al Saliya	6	0	4	2	6	11	2		
Al Wakrah	6	0	5	1	5	11	1		

Yusef aiming to fire Lekhwiya to title glory

The Peninsula

Lekhwiya forward Yusef El Arabi is targeting to add to his tally of eight goals this season, when his side takes on reigning QSL champions Al Rayyan in the match of the week for round seven. The Moroccan striker revealed his thoughts on the game in an exclusive interview with QSL online.

Opening up the conversation, El Arabi stressed that the tie will not be easy for Lekhwiya.

"This will be a tough game, Al Rayyan won the league last season and have yet to be defeated. They also have a coach in Michael Laudrup who knows Lekhwiya well. Even though it will be a challenge we are only targeting three points."

Last season, Lekhwiya lost on both occasions to Al Rayyan as they sunk to fourth place in the league, losing the QSL falcon shield in the process. El Arabi insists that his teammates have not forgot this going into the Sunday evening game.

"Last season was hard for the squad to take, but we have improved in the summer. Last time we played Al Rayyan we defeated them for the Sheikh Jassim Cup a few months ago. I believe form is on our side."

"Of course Al Rayyan have a number of good players in attack. I know Sergio Garcia from my time in La Liga he is always dangerous. Whilst Al Rayyan also has Sebastian Soria, who has proved himself as one of the best in Qatar" explained the 29 year old striker when asked about the players to watch in the Rayyan set up.

El Arabi has started the QSL season in stellar form noting eight goals from just six games, and the man from Moroccan is confident he can maintain his goal scoring run.

Ending the conversation, El Arabi reiterated his aims with his new side. "For Lekhwiya we will be always looking to win titles and this year it's no different. Our aim is the QSL title and qualification for the AFC Champions League. I certainly think we can hit these targets this season."



Vice President of Aspire Zone Foundation Tariq Al Naama (right) receives the award of honour from the Dutch Ambassador HE Dr Bahja Tahzib-Lie, in Doha.

Dutch Ambassador honours Aspire Academy

The Peninsula

The Dutch Ambassador to Qatar marked the successful completion of the 7th edition of ASPIRE4SPORT Congress & Exhibition 2016 and the 3rd "Aspire Academy Global Summit", that took place in Amsterdam on October 3 and 4, during a sports networking reception to honour Aspire Academy held at H.E. Dr. Bahja Tahzib-Lie's official residence in Doha on Monday evening.

A significant portion of people who were involved in both events in Amsterdam accepted the Ambassador's invitation and were eager to meet with sports professionals and entrepreneurs from the

Netherlands who currently live and work in Qatar.

Mrs. Tahzib-Lie reflected on the success of the events in Amsterdam and expressed her appreciation of Aspire's philosophy designed to develop future world class athletes through dedicated programs. She specifically remarked on projects like the "Kun Riyadi", Qatar's Athlete Development Pathway Project that involved comprehensive research into the development of young athletes in the Netherlands.

On behalf of Aspire, Tariq Al Naama, Vice President of Aspire Zone Foundation, thanked the Ambassador for the invitation and her support that helped make the recent events in Amsterdam a big success.

The Peninsula

The maiden Qatar Ladies Open (QLO) will serve up a four-day flurry of fun for friends and families, as supreme golf meets an action-packed programme of off-course activities and entertainment.

Taking place from 23-26 November at Doha Golf Club, Qatar Ladies Open is the ultimate place to be and be seen, offering more than just golf with everything from sports challenges and competitions to family fun, fashion, hospitality and delicious food and beverage options.

As well as watching the world-class golf, visitors of all ages and abilities will be able to try their hand at the sport themselves, with golfing activities and clinics running throughout the four days. And the fun isn't limited to golf – visitors can play badminton, handball and volleyball, with plenty of friendly match-ups for individuals, pairs and teams. The event will also feature table tennis and a Batak reaction wall, designed to test hand eye co-ordination and stamina.

The QLO Village will also offer excitement for football fanatics with a soccer dribbling challenge, table football and the 'ball in a bucket' competition. Visitors looking to relax can unwind in the shade on Fat Boy beanbags and seating, whilst enjoying delicious food from the ever-popular Belgian Café in the

hospitality pavilion overlooking the 18th green.

Once energy has been restored, spectators can browse the merchandise store and pick out mementos from this inaugural, history-making professional women's golf tournament.

With over 100 world-class players battling it out on the course, The QLO Village will see plenty of competition too, including the giant buzzer challenge, where competitors will have to work as a team to maneuver a large metal looped stick around a metal wire, without triggering the alarm.

With 315 world-class players from 42 different countries who inspire fans at more than 20 golf tournaments on five continents, the Ladies European Tour is truly global and showcases each country it visits to a global audience, driving inbound tourism with increased television coverage and live broadcasts. At each event, it's not just about the swing – it's about a day that goes with a swing: a big day out with fun entertainment and a festival atmosphere set in beautiful scenery.

The LET aims to captivate and excite, but it doesn't just appear and leave – the tour aims to create a legacy as 'more than just a golf tour'.

In 2016, the LET took on extra significance by contributing to the success of golf's return to the Olympic Games in Rio.

