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## **OLYMPIAN TIFFANY CHAN TSZ-CHING TO DEFEND HONG KONG LADIES OPEN TITLE**

***EFG Bank enters three-year title sponsorship of the city's premier  
women's golf event***

**HONG KONG (19 APRIL, 2017)** – Hong Kong's golfing golden girl Tiffany Chan Tsz-ching has confirmed she will compete in the Hong Kong Ladies Open at Fanling this summer, scene of her historic breakthrough victory in 2016 which propelled her onto the international stage.

To be staged over the Old Course at the Hong Kong Golf Club from 9 to 11 June, the third edition of the popular tournament, the first and only ladies' event in Hong Kong in which players earn Rolex World Ranking points, will also welcome a title sponsor for the very first time with EFG Bank backing the event in a three-year sponsorship deal.

The Swiss private bank has said it will work closely with the Hong Kong Golf Club, which launched the event in 2015, on raising the tournament's profile and strengthening the quality of the field in order to put Hong Kong on the world map of ladies' golf. The three-day championship, which will be sanctioned by the China LPGA, the LPGA of Taiwan and the Ladies Asian Golf Tour, will now be known as the 2017 EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open. The 54-hole event is also supported by the Hong Kong Professional Golfers' Association and the Hong Kong Golf Association, while the official charity partner is Friends of Asia Hong Kong.

EFG Bank is no stranger to the local golf scene having supported junior golf in the city through its sponsorship of the Hong Kong Golf Association's (HKGA) junior development programme between 2009 and 2015.

23-year-old Chan, who has enjoyed an excellent season representing the University of Southern California in her final year of college, said she is excited to be competing on her home course in front of the Hong Kong galleries once again.

The Hong Kong Golf Club member, one of only three amateur golfers to qualify for the Rio Olympics after claiming her play-off victory 10 months ago, said:

"I'm really looking forward to coming home and defending my title at the Hong Kong Ladies Open. The last year has been really amazing and I am very thankful for all the support I have



received from friends and family from around the world. It all started at Fanling when I came through a tense finish to win, which gave me a lot of confidence.

“Playing at the Olympics in Rio was an experience I’ll never forget. Since then I’ve been competing in a lot of events in the US, including the LPGA Q-School, which was special. It’s all helped me improve my game and I hope I can bring all of that with me to Fanling and perform well again.

“It is excellent news that EFG Bank will be the title sponsor of my home tournament over the next three years. I benefited from the EFG Bank & Hong Kong Golf Association junior programme, which guided me through the start of my career and no doubt EFG Bank's involvement with the Hong Kong Ladies Open will help grow the event, and raise the profile of ladies’ golf in Hong Kong, and I look forward to being part of this journey”, the Tuen Mun-born Chan added.

Albert Chiu, Head of Asia Region of EFG International commented:

“We are delighted to be title sponsor of the Hong Kong Ladies Open. In just two years, the tournament has established itself as a key highlight of the local golfing calendar. The quality of the field is strong and what a story with our local star, Tiffany Chan, who impressed us all with her win last year. EFG Bank was a long-term partner of the HKGA’s junior development programme, which Tiffany was a part of, and we are proud to be the title sponsor of the Hong Kong Ladies Open, which is aligned with EFG's objective to develop young golfing talents in Hong Kong.”

Kenneth Lam, Captain of Hong Kong Golf Club said:

“2017 is a very exciting year for the Hong Kong Ladies Open and we are honoured to have EFG Bank as title sponsor of the tournament for the next three years. Tiffany has gone from strength to strength since her win here last year, and her commitment to play again this year will no doubt attract a lot of attention and hopefully inspire many young lady golfers to follow her footsteps. The support of EFG Bank and Tiffany is a true testament to the growth potential of women’s golf in Hong Kong, and across the region. We are looking forward to a great tournament this June and hope to see many fans joining us at Fanling.”

Dr Caleb Chan, Founder and Chairman of Friends of Asia Hong Kong said:

“We are very pleased to be the Official Charity Partner of the Hong Kong Ladies Open once again this year. I think it is highly commendable that the Hong Kong Golf Club is doing so much to help promote female golfers in Hong Kong. Friends of Asia as their charity counterpart, will also do our best to support women and youth in need by donating to causes that can help better their lives through sports and illness prevention. Through the Golf Inspires program we support, a 2-year free-of-charge golf program for underprivileged youth co-organized by



InspiringHK Sports Foundation and Hong Kong Golf Club, we hope to encourage more young golfers to pick up the sport and follow the footsteps of Tiffany.”

The tournament will see over 100 of professional and amateur golfers battle it out for a share of the US\$150,000 prize purse. There will be a cut after two rounds, with only the top half of the field competing on the final day. Entry to the event is free. For further information on the 2017 EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open, please visit [www.facebook.com/efghongkongladiesopen/](http://www.facebook.com/efghongkongladiesopen/)

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**Released by Roco Communications on behalf of the Hong Kong Golf Club.**

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### **About EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open**

Organised and hosted by The Hong Kong Golf Club, the third edition of the EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open takes place between 9-11 June and features a field of over 100 players from Asia and around the world, it is the first ladies' tournament in Hong Kong in which players can earn Rolex World Ranking points.

The event is tri-sanctioned by the China LPGA (CLPGA), LPGA of Taiwan (TLPGA), and Ladies Asian Golf Tour (LAGT), supported by the Hong Kong Golf Association (HKGA) and the Hong Kong Professional Golfers' Association (HKPGA), features a total prize purse of US\$150,000. Entry for spectators to the tournament is free.

The 2017 EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open is title sponsored by EFG Bank and is additionally sponsored by Anessa, Bar Pacific, Golf Digest Hong Kong, San Miguel, Shiseido, Titleist, Under Armour and Vivienne Westwood. Friends of Asia Hong Kong is the Official Charity Partner.

For more information about the EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open please visit the Official Facebook page at [facebook.com/efghongkongladiesopen](http://facebook.com/efghongkongladiesopen)



## **About The Hong Kong Golf Club**

The Hong Kong Golf Club was founded in 1889 and is considered one of Asia's pre-eminent golfing establishments. Home to three 18-hole courses at its site at Fanling in the northern New Territories, and a further nine holes in Deep Water Bay on Hong Kong Island, the Club lies at the very centre of the development of golf in Hong Kong.

The host of numerous charitable events throughout the year, the Club is a key supporter of the Hong Kong Golf Association's junior programme and provides golf tuition to students from schools in the local Sheung Shui and Fanling districts. Since 1959 the Club has been the venue for the Hong Kong Open, a European and Asian Tour co-sanctioned tournament, making it one of only two international venues - the other being Augusta National, home of the Masters Tournament - to have hosted a world-class championship every year for more than half a century.

## **About EFG International**

EFG International is a global private banking group offering private banking and asset management services and is headquartered in Zurich. EFG International's group of private banking businesses operates in around 40 locations worldwide. Its registered shares (EFGN) are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

## **About Friends of Asia Hong Kong**

Established in 2014, Friends of Asia Hong Kong is a non-profit-making organization with a mission to inspire and support community needs through the development of important programs and fundraising events centred around sports, health and recreation. Through this initiative they hope to create awareness to the wellness of living – a way of living that emphasizes on all aspects of physical, mental and emotional well-being which in turn, will help foster a better environment of integrity and social responsibility.

[www.FriendsofAsiaCharity.com](http://www.FriendsofAsiaCharity.com)