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**VINCENT CAPOL ZI-XIANG AND CHLOE CHAN CHEUK-YEE
ANNOUNCED AS EFG YOUNG ATHLETES FOUNDATION
SCHOLARS CLASS OF 2018**

HONG KONG (12 MAY, 2018) – Swiss private bank EFG has confirmed showjumper Vincent Capol Zi-xiang and golfer Chloe Chan Cheuk-yee as the scholars of the 2018 EFG Young Athletes Foundation scholarship programme.

The two 14-year-olds follow the footsteps of the pride of Hong Kong golf, Tiffany Chan Tsz-ching, who has been supported by EFG since 2008, and in particular a beneficiary of the foundation from 2009 and 2014.

Capol and Chan are both elites of their chosen sport with a wealth of experience representing Hong Kong. Capol, who started riding when he was seven, secured a spot at the 2018 Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games after winning his qualifying equestrian event in March. The German Swiss International School student considers German rider Christian Ahlmann as his international sporting hero, and Lei Lai-shan as his most admired local athlete for bringing to Hong Kong an Olympic gold medal, which is one of his biggest career goals.

Capol said:

I am extremely grateful for this opportunity and would like to first thank the EFG Young Athletes Foundation for offering me a scholarship programme. I want to also thank my mum and my coaches for their support, and to my father who passed away last year, for developing my passion for this sport, and for inspiring me. This scholarship will give me the opportunity to gain more experience and continue to develop my career.”

Like Capol, Chloe Chan is enjoying an immensely successful junior career. The King George V School student was a key component in the team that won the Orion 33th Bangladesh Amateur Golf Champion 2018, and represented Hong Kong at the Asian-Pacific Golf Confederation Junior Championship last year where she finished in respectable eighth place in the team tournament, partnering Taichi Kho.

Competing at the EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open this week alongside her heroine Tiffany Chan, the 14-year-old is delighted to follow the footsteps of the LPGA rookie and securing a scholarship with EFG Young Athletes Foundation. She commented:

“I want to thank EFG for this scholarship. At the beginning, I was told there would only be one scholar so I am very happy to be offered a half scholarship after coming second in all the applications. The funding will give me more opportunities to compete abroad, and allow me to work with my coach in Australia more often. I hope to follow the footsteps of Tiffany, to go to college in the US, then turn professional. I have another seven or eight years before I get there though.”

Mr Albert Chiu, Chief Executive, Asia Pacific, EFG, who is also a trustee of the EFG Young Athletes Foundation, said:

“We are delighted to offer a scholarship to both Vincent and Chloe, who have shown all of us their immense potential and desire to succeed in their respective sports. The EFG Young Athletes’ Foundation is about nurturing upcoming local talents so they have every chance to reach their full potential, and hopefully represent Hong Kong one day. We received nearly 70 entries and interviewed 10 shortlisted finalists and while all of them demonstrated their passion and commitment, Vincent and Chloe were the standouts, and we are very much looking forward to working with them, supporting them as they look to achieve their dreams.”

This is the first time the foundation, which expanded from a golf focused programme, has awarded a scholarship to a non-golfer. A judging panel, which consisted of Mr. Chiu, a Hong Kong ex-Olympian, and experts in the local sports industry, rated the finalists based on their Aspiration, Commitment, Potential, Personality, and General Observation at the interview. Capol, who was the standout amongst the entries, was awarded a full scholarship, while close second Chloe is the recipient of a half scholarship.

EFG has been a committed supporter of women’s golf in Hong Kong for a decade, and is the title sponsor of this week’s EFG Hong Kong Ladies Open. The bank has supported Tiffany Chan since she was 14. The 24-year-old sensation became an EFG Global Sport Ambassador when she turned professional exactly a year ago and qualified for the LPGA Tour soon after that. In just five months, Chan has established herself firmly in the upper echelon of the world’s biggest arena for ladies’ golf, and secured a spot at the US Women’s Championships later in the year.

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Photo Captions:

Upcoming junior golfer Chloe Chan Cheuk-yee (second from left) and rising show jumping star Vincent Capol Zi-xiang (second from right) received their certificates from Mr Albert Chiu, Chief Executive, Asia Pacific, EFG, and EFG Global Sport Ambassador



(far left) and LPGA rookie Tiffany Chan Tsz-ching after being announced as the 2018 scholars of the EFG Young Athletes Foundation.

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About EFG International

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