



**PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF THE  
“VOTE FOR VIETNAM’S BEST GOLF COURSE 2009” ORGANIZED BY THE  
VIETNAMGOLF MAGAZINE & VNAT**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Hanoi, December 04<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

VietnamGOLF magazine, with the support from Vietnam Golf Association, has coordinated with the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism to organize the “Vote for Vietnam’s Best Golf Course 2009”. The Vote has been organized for the third time this year, in the aims of highlighting Vietnam’s golf courses’ attraction and promoting Vietnam as an attractive destination for tourism and golf.

The Vote lasted during 5 months, from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 to October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 for a total votes: 27,102. People participating in the vote include Vietnamese and foreign golfers who are VietnamGOLF’s readers from mailing or faxing the traditional ballots to the Organizing committee, voters can cast their votes online through VietnamGOLF Magazine’s website: [www.vietnamgolfmagazine.net](http://www.vietnamgolfmagazine.net) (accounting for 95% of the vote).

The organizers reveal that they received not only votes by readers, but also various contributing ideas and comments by golf experts as well as interesting analytic articles.

The votes were counted and report to a jury and supervisor council chaired by Mr. Hoang Van Nghien, chairman of Hanoi Golf Club. The organizers also sent a group experts to golf courses throughout the country to evaluate the golf courses conditions. Based on the vote results and field report by this expert group, the Jury council which includes 10 members representing VNAT, Ministry of Culture-Sports & Tourism, Vietnam Golf Association, VietnamGOLF magazine and involved partners concluded the final result.

The final result was officially announced in the Press Conference held at Mövenpick Hotel, 83 Ly Thuong Kiet street, Hanoi on December 04<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as follow:

**Dalat Palace Golf Club has won the major award: “Vietnam’s Best Golf course 2009”**



The other awards include:

- Mongomerie Links Vietnam has won the title **“Vietnam’s Best New Golf Course 2009 voted by Golfers”** and **“Vietnam’s Best Par 5 Golf course 2009 for Hole #12”**
- Tam Dao Golf & Resort **“Vietnam’s Best Golfing Experience Golf Course 2009”** and **“Vietnam’s Best Club-House Golf Course 2009”**
- Hanoi Golf Club **“Vietnam’s Best Customer Service Golf Course 2009”**
- Kings Island Golf Course **“Vietnam’s Best Customer Service Golf Course 2009 voted by golfers”** and **“Vietnam’s Most Beautiful Landscape Golf Course 2009”**
- Van Tri Golf Club **“Vietnam’s Best Design Golf Course 2009”** and **“Vietnam’s Most Eco-friendly Golf Course 2009”**
- Chiling Star Golf & Country Club **“Vietnam’s Most Beautiful Golf Course 2009”**
- Sea Links Golf & Country Club **“Vietnam’s Most Challenging Golf Course 2009”**
- Vietnam Golf & Country club **“Vietnam’s Best Caddies Golf Course 2009”**
- Doson Seaside golf Resort **“Vietnam’s Potential New Golf Course 2009”**
- Long Thanh Golf Club & Residential Estate **“Vietnam’s Best Par 3 Golf course 2009 Hole #17”**
- Ocean Dunes Golf Club **“Vietnam’s Best Par 3 Golf course 2009 Hole #9”**
- Song Be Golf & Resort **“Vietnam’s Best Par 4 Golf Course 2009 Hole #3, Desert”**

Mr. Hoang Van Nghien, Chairman of the Jury stresses that: “the Vote which has become annual event, actively contributes to promoting Vietnam’s golf tourism potentials to the golf community in Vietnam and abroad. Mr. Nghien also appreciates that many Vietnam’s golf courses have proven their excellent management skills by professionally organizing national and international golf events. Some golf course have raised awareness and responsibility in natural environment protection alongside the appropriate solutions to help both their business efficiency and ensure environmental sustainability and recognized and certified by international protection environment organizations such as: ISO, International Golf & IGOLF-Life Foundation, R&A...”

Mr. Nghien also says that The Vote for “Vietnam’s Best Golf Course”, like any vote, is always “subjective”, reflecting the differences between golfers. “Golfers at different levels perceive the same golf hole differently. Their votes depend on their mood and the context when they come to the course to play. Even a well designed golf course which is highly appreciated by professionals may be rejected by a majority of amateur golfers because it seems too challenging to them”



Mr Paul Spencer Sochaczewski, an international member of the Jury expresses his view: “Vietnam has many good courses, with a few tracks of international standard that rank among the best in Asia. Service seems to be adequate at most courses, and a few achieve excellence. The best courses in Asia are the ones in which staff are trained with the rigor of a major hotel chain”.

There is a common view by all the Jury members: The Best Golf Course is not necessary the most prestigious one, but the one which provides the best golfing experience, the one you wish to play for the rest of your life if you are in Vietnam. Which includes: *beauty of course; challenge of course; “shot values” – having unusual, dramatic, memorable holes; course maintenance; environmental integrity; caddies; reception and welcome; Pro shop; changing room; service; F&B; overall management...*

Significantly, not all the golf courses in Vietnam were put on the Vote list this year. Those have troubles in terms of protecting environment or causing social disputes were excluded from the list.

Vietnam Golf Magazine is proud to cooperate with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Sports and Vietnam Golf Association to having successfully organized the Vote.

Vietnam Golf Magazine would like to express their special thanks to all Co-organizers, sponsors and readers for having cooperated to promote a healthy golf industry in Vietnam.

#### ***About VietnamGOLF magazine:***

*VietnamGOLF is a professional bilingual monthly magazine of golf, business and high-end entertainment. The magazine has a modern and elegant design, suitable with the nature of the game. The magazine is provided to Vietnamese and foreigners golf readers and those who are interested in investing in golf in Vietnam. By introducing Vietnam not only as an attractive and safe tourism destination but also a perfect land for golfers.*

*VietnamGOLF Magazine which was initially bimonthly magazine since July 2005 has become to a monthly magazine in January 2007 with support of readers and now expanding its subscription to outside of Vietnam.*

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