



# SWIRE SHIPPING



28/06/2023

Hi All VGO Regulars and First Times,

It is about time that we had our first major announcement for the Vanuatu Amateur Golf Open for 2023.

Firstly, let me introduce myself. I am Tony Ryan and I have been asked to step into the huge shoes left behind when our great mate Bryan Death passed away back in September 2019. For those of you who made the tremendous effort to get back here last year in October to play in a fairly hastily organized 2022 event, thank you. I am sure everyone will agree that it was a very successful event, enjoyed by all those that participated. We had a generous bunch of sponsors who dug deep, only months after the Vanuatu Borders reopened in July.

To that end, my second big announcement is that Swire Shipping have been most generous to offer to be the Naming Rights Sponsor for this year's event again. We welcome them with open arms, as they were so willing and provided the Open with a real international flavor last year, having such a big presence throughout the region of the South Pacific for over 150 years. And the event last year formed an important part of their year long celebrations.

As we received responses from more of our invited sponsors, we will add their names and logos to the website for everyone to see.

It was decided that, after the 2 cyclones that hit Vanuatu so devastatingly at the beginning of March, that it was still too early to try and put together a professional event for 2023. So, we have opted to stick with the International Amateur Tournament as we had last year. There will be a few minor changes to the format., which I will brief you about as time goes by. I also hope to have the Tournament Rules up on the website in the next couple of weeks.

The event this year is being held from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of September, with the Fun Day being held on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> and the Tournament proper being held from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the VGAO this year.

Cheers and Regards

Tony = VGAO CHAIRMAN 2023