

BY SHAMIR OSMAN

A BROTHERHOOD BUILT ON GOLF

WAGC FINALS CEMENTED A FRIENDSHIP THAT WILL BE ON SHOW AGAIN AT SINGAPORE QUALIFIERS

hey flew the Singapore flag proudly at the World Amateur Golfers Championships (WAGC) Finals in Turkey last year, finishing second behind Malaysia to match the Republic's performance in the 2014 edition of the event. But instead of pride in the performance, it was camaraderie from their time out on the greens in Antalya that struck the loudest chord with the quintet of Willy Teo, Sushminder Singh, Frankie Lim, Patrick Goh and Ron

And it is that camaraderie that will see the men return for another shot at qualifying to represent the country at this year's edition of the WAGC Finals that will be held in South Africa's Durban Country Club from Oct 22-29.

The SPHGolf Singapore qualifiers, sponsored by Centurion, will be held on July 20 and 26, with the Singapore Finals a week later, on Aug 2.

Aspirants will slug it out on Tanah Merah Country Club's (TMCC) Tampines course.

"The experience playing with guys from all over the world was great, and it was the first time that I was involved in real competition, where everything went by the book," said Teo.

"It was challenging, and very stressful because the previous Singapore team that went to the WAGC finished second, but it was still special, representing the country.

"I enjoyed playing with that team, and we're still in contact, sometimes playing games together. I haven't been playing well recently, but yes, I'll still join with the guys, when the tournament comes around again," added an electrical industry sales professional.

Frankie Lim, whose second-place finish in the D division (20.5-25.4) was the best among the quintet, shared similar sentiments.

"The most memorable thing for me was playing with the teammates I met at the WAGC, not even my performance there," said Lim, revealing that he is getting a bored with playing the sport in Singapore.

"After a while you play everywhere in Singapore, and at every tee-box you know exactly where you need to put the ball, it becomes boring, the challenge



only comes when you play overseas.

"But when the (qualifying) tournament comes back, I will go and play with these guys again, because playing with them was what made the (WAGC) satisfying."

The Singapore qualifiers will be played across five divisions based on a golfer's handicap: A (0-5.4), B (5.5-10.4), C (10.5-15.4), D (15.5-20.4) and E (20.5-25.4), with the winner of each division going on to

represent Singapore at the WAGC Finals in Durban.

The entry fee for the qualifiers is \$480, with each golfer receiving a goodie bag worth over \$750, including an Ice Chrono Electrik watch worth \$300, and golfing vouchers at The Dalat at 1200, Laguna Bintan and TMCC, among other goodies.

● To register go to:
<http://www.tnp.sg/wagc>

(From left)
Frankie Lim, Willy Teo, Patrick Goh, Sushminder Singh and Ron Totton are all smiles as Team Singapore finish second at the World Amateur Golfers Championship in Antalya, Turkey last year.