

BY GODFREY ROBERT

ACE HELPS RYAN TO RANKING GAME WIN

An ace was the icing on the cake when Ryan Ang claimed the three-day 4th National Ranking Game at the Marina Bay Golf and Country Club recently.

The hole-in-one helped Ryan to a solid even-par round of 72 for a 218 total and finish a stroke ahead of Wong Qi Wen (72) after the third round in the Men's division.

The first three Ranking Games – specially scheduled for Development Squad players and counting towards the SGA Order of Merit as well as the R&A World Amateur Golf Ranking – were cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

One the ace on the par-three fifth hole, Ryan said: "It feels amazing to finally get a Hole-In-One! I had waited a long time for it and for it to come at a tournament round was so much better.



Ryan Ang is over the moon about his first hole-in-one.

"It was a stock six-iron to a hole playing 178 metres but with a little downwind. It was a really solid shot and I saw it track towards the pin and then disappear over the hill...so I assumed it had rolled way past the pin. But to my surprise, as I drove up

national coach Matt (Ballrad) told me I had holed it."

On the round in blustery conditions, Ryan said: "I was struggling with my swing today, and it was definitely a grind to reduce my mistakes and keep up with Qi Wen as his ball striking and short



Shannon is winner on countback.

game are really good."

It was close down the stretch with Ryan just one back of Qi Wen with three holes to go. But he managed to capitalise on a rare mistake from Qi Wen and birdie the 16th hole to swing the momentum back and hold on to win.

Shannon Tan came out tops in the Women's division, winning on countback after a three-way tie at the top of the leaderboard. She

beat Inez Ng and Jen Goh after a two-under 70 on the final day. All three totalled 226.

Shannon said: "I was honestly quite disappointed after the first round as I couldn't really adapt to the course conditions and I've been struggling the whole round.

"I made a couple of careless mistakes so after the round I just sat down by myself to reflect what I was missing in that round and how I am going to manage my game for the next two rounds in overcoming the course."

In Round 2, Shannon played better but she wasn't satisfied still.

"I told myself I just had to shoot an under-par round in the last round instead of thinking about how many strokes I was behind the leader. I just decided to take it shot by shot on the final round."

4TH LEG SCORES

Men's division:

218: Ryan Ang 73-73-72.

219: Wong Qi Wen 75-72-72.

224: Sean Lee 74-80-70.

Women's division:

226: Shannon Tan 82-74-70
Inez Ng 79-75-72, Goh Jen 80-72-74.