

Overview of Ria Bintan Golf Club.

## BY BENNY TEO

## RIA BINTAN CELEBRATES 20 YEARS WITH APLOMB!

he premium golf club located in the Indonesian island of Bintan is celebrating its 20th annivesary with with a twoday golfing extravaganza that promises ingenuity and loads of fun.



Slated to be held on the weekend of October 20 and 21, participants of the Ria Bintan Golf Carnival begin the morning with a "Best Dressed" contest with a '1950s-1970s Retro Golf Fashion' theme.

While the element of fun is certainly high, so too are the rewards, with two male and female winners, as well as a "Best Dressed Flight" prize to be won.

Then, it's off to the links for a unique 20-Hole Par 3 Challenge where the venerable Gary Player-designed Ocean Course and the first two holes of the Forest Course will be transformed into a series of 20 par-three holes.

This unique proposition also comes with high reward as all 20 holes will offer hole-in-one prizes worth Rp10,000,000 each.

Additionally, there will also be 20 nearest-to-pin prizes to give away.

For this 20-hole challenge, the tee boxes will be reassigned and both men and ladies will tee off from the same site. It will be based on gross scores so all putts must be holed out before proceeding to the next hole.

Guests can look forward to a barbecue dinner with carnival games where 'RB dollars' can be earned to bid for items during an auction event later that evening. They will then proceed to Bintan Lagoon Resort to rest for the night.

The next day opens with an 18-hole shot gun tournament at the award-winning Ocean course. While the day before allows golfers a different perspective to the course, this day is set out to test the full gamut of their skills from long game to short.

The format of play is System 36 with stableford points and there will be two men's divisions (handicaps 1 to 18, handicaps 19-36), a member division and a ladies division, with a one-year membership at Ria Bintan, worth about \$22,000 up for grabs.

There will also be a whopping 13 novelty holes with prizes for hole-in-one, nearest-to-pin, nearest-to-line, longest drive, bulls-eye and six special "Deerest Hole" contests.

The weekend will then end with a buffet lunch and prize presentation before departing for the ferry home.

• To find out more, or sign up for the

 To find out more, or sign up for the Ria Bintan Golf Carnival, visit www. riabintan.com/rb20golfcarnival.

## SPH GOLF SEPTEMBER MEDAL

To enjoy Ria Bintan prior to the carnival, SPH Golf Club will be holding a medal game at the Ocean Course on Sunday, September 30. It is open to members at \$123 and guests at \$173. Return ferry at \$70 is not included.

• To sign up, visit https:// eventreg.sphdigital.com/register/ sphgolfseptembermedal

## MST GOLF IS PXG'S OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION PARTNER

MST Golf, the largest golf retailer in Southeast Asia with more than 30 outlets across Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam, bagged another milestone.

It will serve as PXG's official distribution partner for Singapore and Philippines, a burgeoning golf destination.

Since entering the market in 2014, PXG, founded by American entrepreneur and golf fanatic Bob Parsons, has incited a step change in the golf industry.

Parsons has channelled his passion for golf into a project that bears little relation to the established big beasts of the equipment market.

"We are delighted to be appointed as exclusive distributor for the fastest growing brand in the golf industry. PXG has been added to our powerful stable," said Dato Loh Ah Joo, director of MST Golf.

With MST Golf's appointment as exclusive distributor, two fitting centres have been established; MST Golf Tech Shop at Suntec City and Marina Bay MST Golf Tech Shop.

Suntec City is one of Singapore's largest malls and an exciting shopping destination located in the heart of the bustling Marina Bay precinct.

Former golf professional Ong Jay Vie is the fitter at Tech Shop Suntec and is using GC Quad technology for indoor fitting.

Marina Bay is the first 18-hole public golf course in Singapore and one of the few links-styled courses in Asia. Tech Shop at Marina Bay driving range has the much-experienced Max Heng as the fitter.

MST Golf's move coincides with unveiling of the new PXG GEN 2 Irons, the result of PXG's relentless drive to improve performance through innovations in materials, technology, and complete customisation.

