

RE/MAX Long Drive Championship of France

Aa St Omer Golf Club 30th June 2007

In stark contrast to the previous week, the weather in France was definitely working against the long drive tour for the fourth national round of the RE/MAX European Long Drive Championship. In drizzle and wind on a perfect condition but soft grid the quality entry set about the morning qualification period.

Even the established stars were finding the conditions tough. England's Chris Moss, playing his first event of the year was hitting consistently just under 320 metres, as was Adam Stacey and Paul Glazier.

The afternoon knockout rounds were a different matter, as the sun broke through and the wind moved to come slightly from the drivers' backs. Longer drives were assured.

French local rookie, Jean Philippe Kwasnak, more than made up for his lack of experience by hitting consistently in the 270's. Unfortunately this was not enough to claim his semi-final place and he went out after a great show in the last-chance round.

The Seniors title was claimed by Brian Doyle in a reversal over Ivan Sanders of the result in Italy the previous week.

The final was always going to be tight with a fantastic display from some of the best long drivers in Europe. Third place went to Chris Moss with 331 metres (362 yds) who was narrowly beaten by Finland's Janos Uotila with the same distance. Tour veteran, Uotila looked to have the championship in his pocket but a huge blast from Adam Stacey (third in the RE/MAX World Finals in 2005) at 334 metres (365 yards) earned the Englishman the title of the first RE/MAX Open Champion of France.

Many thanks to Aa St Omer Golf club for their hospitality and providing such a spectacular arena for the championship. We look forward to returning in the future.