

Sorenstam unveils *The Lady in Silver*



● World No. 1 Annika Sorenstam of Sweden (right) unveiling the Dubai Ladies Masters Trophy at the Emirates Golf Club's Majlis course. — KT photo by Jeffrey E. Biteng

By A Correspondent

DUBAI — World number one Annika Sorenstam yesterday unveiled the Dubai Ladies Masters trophy, a stunning piece of art, on the first tee of the Majlis course at the Emirates Golf Club.

The elegant trophy, which captures the essence of the region's women, will be presented to the winner of the first Dubai Ladies Masters.

The tournament gets under way at the Emirates Golf Club

from October 26 to 29.

"The Lady in Silver," as the winner's trophy is called, wears a Burqa — a traditional gold metallic-covered canvas mask the women used to wear for protection from harsh sun and, of course, to conceal their beauty from men outside their family.

"The trophy is really impressive, something that reflects the tradition of the region," said Alex Armas, executive director of Ladies European Tour. "I don't

think I have ever seen such a fine trophy. I congratulate the people, who created this work," she added. Embodying the cultural tradition and vibrancy of Dubai in all vividness, the "Lady in Silver" is designed by Golf in Dubai team, headed by its Vice-Chairman Mohammed Juma Buamaim.

The 32.5cm tall art piece stands on an intricately-carved circular wooden base. "The trophy is a perfect fusion of tradition and modernity — a symbolic

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reflecion of the spirit of Dubai said Buamaim, who added of personal touch to the trophy by presenting Sorenstam with a burqa his mother used to wear. "The trophy also shows the mark towards modern our country hasn't forgotten tradition and values," he added. "Looking through the Lady's eyes, you will see a vibrant Dubai, a city where women moved from their traditional household roles to the forefront of the corporate world and actively involved in all spheres of the society, including sports. she preserves her traditional values.

"I am sure the Dubai Ladies Masters tournament, the Ladies European Tour event to be held in this region, will be successful as the emirates as of the most successful stories of the world," he said.

"If the event, boasting a cast, spearheaded by world number one Sorenstam and K. Webb can inspire local girls to develop interest in the sport, it would be a bonus for us," said Buamaim. "I hope the winner of the Dubai Ladies Masters will love treasure this "Lady in Silver". After all, true beauty is timeless."