



**PRESS BRIEFING NOTE  
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No embargo**

**Ryder Cup joins Race Against Waste**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Ryder Cup at The K Club, Straffan, Co. Kildare, from September 22-24 will be one of the most environmentally friendly golf events ever staged and will include a wide range of best practice environmental measures to encourage maximum recycling and minimise waste.

Since January 2006 the Irish Department of the Environment's "Race Against Waste" team have been working closely with The European Tour organisers on The Ryder Cup to ensure that waste produced at The K Club will be reduced, reused and recycled, in keeping with Irish national waste policy and the European Tour's commitment to better environmental standards at all their events.

Race Against Waste activity at the 2006 Ryder Cup includes:

- extensive recycling facilities in the tented village and on the course for people to separate plastic, aluminium and paper waste
- a poster campaign on buses bringing spectators to The K Club will remind people to manage their waste properly when at The Ryder Cup
- an on-site information campaign will encourage spectators to use the recycling facilities provided
- food waste from hospitality units and caterers will also be separated out from other waste and sent for biological treatment / composting
- an environment brochure is being produced to inform spectators of the environmental activities associated with the tournament and to encourage people to play their part
- other wildlife and landscape information is also being provided to spectators.

"The 36<sup>th</sup> Ryder Cup at The K Club is getting into the Race Against Waste and September's event will include a wide range of best practice environmental measures to encourage maximum recycling and minimum waste," Elizabeth Arnett, Technical Director of Race Against Waste. "The Race Against Waste Team have been working closely with The European Tour organisers on The Ryder Cup to ensure that waste produced at The K Club will be reduced, reused and recycled, in keeping with Irish national waste policy and the European Tour's commitment to better environmental standards at all their events."

In only a few years, Ireland has gone from landfilling more than 90% of all waste to now recycling over a third of our waste. Race Against Waste is the Irish Department of the Environment Heritage & Local Government's campaign to encourage people to take action to reduce, reuse and recycle waste. The campaign includes 'how to' seminars and programmes to help all sectors improve their waste management, including large public and private sector organisations, small & medium sized businesses, sporting organisations and householders. For more information on campaign activities and for useful tips and case studies on how to reduce, reuse and recycle, visit the website [www.RaceAgainstWaste.ie](http://www.RaceAgainstWaste.ie)



The K Club is leading the way in waste management in Ireland's Golfing Sector by recycling over 45%. Since joining Race Against Waste in 2005, 100,000 golfers from the Golf Union of Ireland have been targeted with seminars and information about waste management. The Golf Union of Ireland and Race Against Waste worked in partnership to carry out waste audits in a sample of clubs throughout Ireland, hold a series of seminars to support clubs joining the Race and participate in events organised by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Ireland.

For more information on the greening of golf events, contact Jonathan Smith at Golf Environment Europe at [jonathan@golfenvironmenteurope.org](mailto:jonathan@golfenvironmenteurope.org), or on 0044 07917 453147, or Mary Murphy 087 233 6415/01 284 6338.

