GEO FOUNDATION

GEO Certified® Ceremony at the Italian Open

Tuesday 15 October 2019

Ten Italian golf clubs have recently celebrated their sustainability credentials with recognition from GEO Foundation. A presentation event was given a prominent place during the Italian Open this week and attended by representatives from throughout Italian golf as well as the media.

Gardagolf, Golf Club Bogogno, Golf Club Castelfalfi, Golf Les Iles, San Domenico Golf and Golf Club Margara, Golf Club Udine have all earned GEO Certified® - the most credible and widely endorsed international recognition for sustainability- for the first time.



Italy has been one of the forerunners in sustainable golf, with Golf Club la Pinetina renewing its certification for the fourth time; Golf della Montecchia, Golf Club Udine and Golf Le Fronde renewing for the third time, and this year the US Kids Venice Open also seeking to retain their GEO Certified® Tournament status for a second year.

Alessandro De Luca, responsible for the Green Section of the Federazione Italiana Golf commented: "Sustainability is an important consideration for a growing number of golf clubs in Italy. Results ranging from reduction of water and pesticide use to university research partnerships to innovative community outreach projects are inspiring to see and we are pleased to see more and more clubs step forward more strongly. This leadership also helps us deliver on the sustainable legacy commitments we have made in relation to the delivery of The Ryder Cup in 2022."

Kelli Jerome, an Executive Director of GEO Foundation said: "Congratulations to the teams at each of the ten clubs GEO Certified recently in Italy – a testament to their commitment at each golf club to strengthen and also demonstrate golf's value to nature and communities, the responsible use of resources, and measures to reduce climate impacts. We are proud to partner with The R&A, FIG to support and recognise this kind of action through the OnCourse® Italy program and GEO Certified label."



Every month more Italian golf clubs are joining OnCourse, the online sustainability programme for golf, to help them more easily incorporate best practices into their operations, and to unlock recognition and business benefits. Many of these clubs have stated their intention to augment their OnCourse membership by taking the additional step to become GEO Certified, to add to

the group recognised this week. Collectively, this helps to strengthen the position and status of golf in Italy, showing important social and environmental leadership.

About Federazione Italiana Golf

Federazione Italiana Golf was founded in 1927 to promote, organize, control and regulate the sport of golf in Italy. Its member clubs are working to enhance and protect biodiversity and ecological functions, provide valuable recreational green spaces, conserve natural and economic resources, and to create jobs in local communities.

http://www.federgolf.it/

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