VOLVO PGA EUROPEAN TOUR

The Volvo Tour, sanctioned by the PGA European Tour, this year has on offer a record £13m in prize money. Starting in February, the first event was held in Portugal, moving on the United Emirates Golf Club in Dubai.

The decision by the USPGA to restrict European players to only five tournaments a year, apart from the majors, unless they are prepared to contract for 15 events has persuaded Faldo, Langer and Ballesteros to opt for the European circuit in 1990.

European golf has become such a force in the last few years, stamped by two wins and a retention of the Ryder Cup, that the rank and file US Tour pros are more than happy to vote the players on this side of the Atlantic out of a chance to compete for their prize fund. By restricting competition to five events for our Europeans, they no doubt hope that it will also put them at a disadvantage in preparation for the major titles. Time will tell.

Sandy Lyle has decided to compete in the USA and has the potential to give them more than a run for their money. It is a hard school, and his early results have not been promising, but he has the game to help reduce Britain's dollar deficit. His progress will be watched with interest.

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	COURSE MANAGER
March 29	AGF Open	La Grande Motte	Etienne Podenam
April 5-8	Jersey Open	La Moye	Ron Whitehead
April 12015	Cannes Open	Cannes Mougins	Andres Peuet
April 19-21	Madrid Open	Puerta de Hierro	
April 26-29	Spanish Open	Club de Campo	
May 3-6	Benson & Hedges	St. Mellion	Roy Battishill
May 10-13	Belgium Open	Royal Waterloo	David Singleton
May 17-20	Italian Open	Milano	
May 25-28	PGA Championship	Wentworth	Chris Kennedy
May 31-June 3	Dunhill Masters	Woburn	Neil Whitaker
June 7-10	Scandinavian Open	Drottningholm	Lennart Nilsson
June 14-17	Wang Pro-Celebrity	Moor Park	John Edwards
June 21-24	Carrols Irish Open	Portmarnock	Tommy Clarke
June 28-July 1	French Open	Chantilly	Jacque Aossu
July 4-7	Monte Carlo Open	Mont Agel	Michael Merrick
July 11-14	Scottish Open	Gleneagles	Jimmy Kidd
Julu 19-22	OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP	St. Andrews	Walter Woods
July 26-29	KLM Dutch Open	Kennemer	Jaap Twisk
July 26-29	Seniors Brit. Open	Turnberry	George Brown
Aug 2-5	PLM Open	Bokskogens	Ronny Persson
Aug 9-12	Murphy's Cup	Fulford	Philip StirknAug
Aug 16-19	English Open	The Belfry	Derek Ganning
Aug 23-26	German Open	Hubbelrath	Harry Harrison
Aug 30-Sept 2	Swiss Open	Crans-sur-Sierre	Francois-Louis Rey
Sept 6-9	European Open	Sunningdale	Jack McMillan
Sept 13-16	Lancombe Trophy	St. Nom-la-Breteche	Pierre Dekeyser
Sept 20-23	World Match Play	Wentworth	Chris Kennedy
Sept 20-23	BMW Open	Golfplatz Munchen	Graeme MacNiven
Sept 27-30	Epson Grand Prix	St. Pierre	David Jones
Oct 4-7	German Masters	Stuttgart	Horst Nestle
Oct 11-14	Dunhill Cup	St. Andrews	Walter Woods
Oct 11-14	Austrian Open	Gut Altentann	
Oct 18-21	Portuguese Open	Quinto de Lago	Mario Barruncho
Oct 25-28	Volvo Masters	Valderrama	Michael Lovett