

42 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

Mann eyes a family double + in the World Hickory Open

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MUSSELBURGH pro Fraser Mann will be aiming to complete a second family double in the World Hickory Open, which tees off tomorrow over Gullane No. 2.

Brothers Lloyd and Zack Saltman have already lifted the title and last year it was won by Mann's brother, Lindsay.

The Carnoustie pro is back to defend his crown and showed he's still not lost his touch with a hickory club in his hand by finishing second behind Robert Arnott in a warm up for the main event at Musselburgh on Sunday.

Fraser finished third then and heads a strong Lothians contingent competing for a prize fund of £12,500 in an event that comprises of a pro-am in the first round before the professionals are left to play on their own in the final round on Friday.

● Former PGA champion Andrew Oldcorn is also in the field, as are ● Alasdair Good, the head pro at Gullane, and Heather MacRae, one of his trainees.

● Organiser Lionel Freedman has again attracted some interest in the event from abroad, the Continental challenge being led by Swedes Stefan Bjallroth and Klas Ohlsson. Another event tak-

ing place tomorrow and Friday in East Lothian is the Scottish stage of The Faldo Series. It's being played at The Renaissance, where Craighielaw duo Grant Forrest and Jane Turner, Blair Pelling (Prestonfield) and Dalmahoy's Robert Carson will be among those hoping to earn a trip to Brazil for the Grand Final, which will be hosted by Nick Faldo.

Meanwhile, Lloyd Saltman had to settle for an over-par start to his campaign in stage one of the European Tour's qualifying school at The Oxfordshire yesterday.

The Aegon-backed pro, who won the Brabazon Trophy as an amateur over the same course back in 2005, posted a two-over 74 to sit down in a share of 48th spot.

Saltman, who travelled straight to the south east of England having competed in the Kazakhstan Open on the Challenge Tour at the weekend, finished seven shots behind fellow Scot Gavin Dear, who marked his first round as a pro in fine style by charging to the front with a 67.

Saltman's younger brother, Zack, who joined the paid ranks at the start of the year, finished a stroke behind his sibling on a three-over 75.