



28 February 2012

## PLAYERS HONOUR SHANGHAI, DUBAI & BASTAD AS 2011 ATP WORLD TOUR TOURNAMENTS OF THE YEAR

**LONDON** — The ATP announced the 2011 ATP World Tour Tournament Award winners on Tuesday, with the Shanghai Rolex Masters, the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, and the SkiStar Swedish Open all maintaining their status as the most favoured tournaments on the ATP World Tour in their respective tournament categories, as voted by ATP players.

The tournament awards recognise leading standards set within the ATP World Tour Masters 1000 (Shanghai), ATP World Tour 500 (Dubai), and ATP World Tour 250 (Bastad) tournament categories in 2011 and provide further confirmation of the outstanding standards set by each tournament in their respective categories in recent years.

ATP Executive Chairman & President, Brad Drewett said: "These tournaments continue their pursuit of excellence and players appreciate their efforts to provide the very best conditions for them to showcase their skills. Players enjoy their time at these events and show their appreciation through these awards."

The Shanghai Rolex Masters has captured the ATP World Tour Masters 1000 award in each of its first three years as a Masters 1000 event (2009-11). Last year's tournament saw Andy Murray triumph over David Ferrer to capture his eighth career ATP World Tour Masters 1000 tournament.

Arnaud Boetsch, Communication and Image Director, Rolex, said: "We are delighted that the Shanghai Rolex Masters has been named ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Tournament of the Year by the players for the third consecutive year. We are truly proud of the recognition by the ATP players and we would like to express our pride in being associated with such a well organised, high standard event. We would especially like to thank the Shanghai Municipal Government and the event organiser, Juss Event, for their hard work and dedication which have made this event an outstanding tournament both on and off the court."

The Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, taking place this week, won the ATP World Tour 500 award for an impressive eighth time in nine years (2003-06, 2008-11). Last year, Novak Djokovic captured a third consecutive Dubai title en route to compiling a record-breaking year in which he finished the year as ATP World Tour No. 1 for the first time.

Colm McLoughlin, Executive Vice Chairman, Dubai Duty Free, said: "We are delighted to receive the award for 'Tournament of The Year' in the ATP 500 category for eight of the past nine years. The fact that this award is based on votes by the players themselves is incredible and our thanks go to all of the ATP players and officials. The award is a great way to mark our 20th anniversary of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships."

The SkiStar Swedish Open continues to excel in the ATP World Tour 250 category, triumphing for a remarkable 10th consecutive year (2002-11). In 2011, local favourite Robin Soderling thrilled the home crowd by capturing the title with victory over Ferrer in the final.

Thomas Wallén, Tournament Director, SkiStar Swedish Open, said: "To win this award for 10 consecutive years is a great encouragement not only for our organisation but also for Bastad and Sweden, as the host city and nation. This is, again, an injection of strength and energy which will motivate us to continue our commitment to winning this prestigious award."



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“The Skistar Swedish Open is the leading annual sporting event in Scandinavia. The players are the artists and the happier they are, the better they perform. Their performance is key to the success of the tournament. World-class tennis draws record crowds; this attracts our strong sponsor family - a simple and successful concept which we will continue in years to come.”

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**About the ATP**

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits - the ATP World Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 62 tournaments in 31 countries, the ATP World Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia to Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the ATP World Tour battle for prestigious titles and South African Airways ATP Rankings points at ATP World Tour Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non ATP events). At the end of the season only the world's top 8 ranked men's singles players and top 8 doubles teams, based on their performance throughout the year, will qualify to compete for the last title of the season at the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2012 ATP World Tour No.1 in singles and doubles. For more information, please visit [www.ATPWorldTour.com](http://www.ATPWorldTour.com)

