

BY JEREMY THESEIRA FROM AIRWAVES TO FAIRWAYS

adio DJ and Executive Producer of One FM's Breakfast Show Andre Hoeden is an avid golfer and it all began when he asked his then 17-year-old self, "How could this be difficult?"

Today, 25 years later, he is a self-professed struggling 15 handicap-index player constantly looking to "get better". He will be hosting live at the inaugural SPH Golf Travel Fair 2018 at Marina Square Shopping Mall from April 6 to 8.

Now a TaylorMade and adidas Golf ambassador, Hoeden also enjoys playing golf whenever he is able to afford the time.

The nature of radio makes it even more challenging for Andre to get a round in often. "We can't really take time off because of the show. When one person takes leave, the whole show takes leave and when we do, we want to spend time with our family."

However, that has not stopped fellow radio DJ and colleague Glenn Ong from picking up the sport a little over two years ago.

"After two years, he realised that this game is really tough. With our

schedule, waking up at 4am to be in the studio by 5am, it is really hard to commit hours for a golf game. But he (Glenn) is enjoying it more now because he is not taking it so seriously," jokes Hoeden.

Hoeden has also played at various courses overseas, with golf travel a popular pastime within the community.

One of his favourites is Ria Bintan Golf Club's Ocean course designed by Gary Player, a top-rated golf course with views reflecting its natural surrounds.

"Ria Bintan is still one of my favourites. I like courses by the water because they offer a different experience from playing in Singapore. The mind just relaxes a bit more and that's what I like about golf holidays; you don't have to rush home after a game."

Andre has also enjoyed rounds at Palm Springs Golf and Country Club,



Andre Hoeden (left) with his brother, Ryan at Padang Golf Sukajadi.



Tering Bay Golf & Country Club and Padang Golf Sukajadi, which is one complex with the Radisson Golf & Convention Center in Batam.

"I was very impressed with the Radisson Hotel. It was fantastic and had great views of the golf course. The buffets are amazing and it's a great place for family."

Of all the courses that he has played at, Andre fondly remem-

bers the small nine hole course park within Shangri-La's Rasa Sayang Resort in Penang. A 9-hole, par-three course that can be played solely with a pitching wedge and putter.

"It's my favourite course because I could walk in with my 5-year-old son and that was his first golf course experience."

His ultimate aim is to take golf vacations with his family,

"Sharing a common activity like golf will definitely help when the kids are older," he said, continuing, "While I'm working at the SPH Golf Travel Fair, I might also look for something that I can bring the boy to."

"I've heard The Els Club at Desaru is nice, and they even have a short par three course as well!"

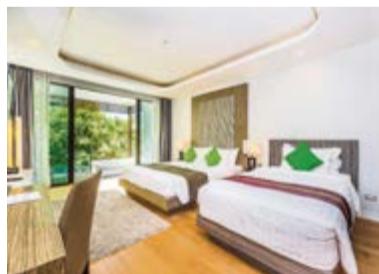
• Look out for Andre Hoeden and other ONE FM91.3 deejays at The SPH Golf Travel Fair from April 6-8.

SPH GOLF PARTNERS WITH CLUB WYNDHAM

The SPH Golf Card has teamed up with Club Wyndham Asia to offer an exclusive travel package at this year's inaugural SPH Golf Travel Fair.

Offering numerous benefits such as green fee vouchers, special rates at partner golf clubs in Singapore and across the region, handicap maintenance and global golf insurance, the SPH Golf card offers exclusive deals and services, catered for golfers of all levels.

Available only across the three-day event at a special rate of \$220, every SPH Golf membership sign up or renewal at the SPH Golf Travel



Top and above, Wyndham Sea Pearl Resort Phuket.



Ramada Plaza Bangkok Menam Riverside.

Fair will also enjoy a complimentary three-night stay for two at either the Wyndham Sea Pearl Resort Phuket or the Ramada Plaza Bangkok Menam Riverside.

The brand's first vacation club in Asia, Wyndham Sea Pearl Resort Phuket, formerly known as Sea Pearl Villas Resort, was officially rebranded on June 1, 2015.

Set atop a hill amidst 16 acres of lush manicured gardens, Wyndham Sea Pearl Resort Phuket is an oasis of tranquility surrounded by idyllic

pools and picturesque views of the Andaman Sea.

Expanding its presence in Asia, the Ramada Plaza Bangkok Menam Riverside is located right in the city, offering a little slice of serenity in bustling Bangkok.

Overlooking the Chao Phraya River, this five-star hotel boasts spacious rooms, an outdoor pool, five international restaurants, three bars and a huge wellness and spa centre.

Club Wyndham, a brand of Wyndham Vacation Ownership, is a flexible points-based reservation and exchange system that opens the door to a world of holiday possibilities with access to more than 4,500 global destinations.

With a diverse list of properties, Club Wyndham seeks to provide a home away from home experience in some of the world's most exciting holiday destinations such as Thailand, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and the US.