

## SA TO FACE MACEDONIA AT EMPERORS PALACE

Emperors Palace will once again be hosting South Africa's Davis Cup home tie. The country will take on Macedonia in a Euro/Africa Zone Group 1 tie from March 6 to 8.

Victory is vital for South Africa as a win against Macedonia will set up a second round tie against Belarus in May, which will also be on South African soil.

That would put the country just one win away from playing for a place in the World Group next year.

This will be the second time Emperors Palace will stage a Davis Cup tie as last year's contest against Denmark was played with great success at the same venue. South Africa won that tie 5-0. South Africa went on to score their eighth straight win in the competition when defeating Monaco, which ensured the country's promotion to Group I.

Mark Jakins, Chief Commercial Officer commented "We are once again extremely delighted to be hosting the Davis Cup at Emperors Palace. We are certain that the product offering of Emperors Palace as a sophisticated and glamorous entertainment destination has added flair to the event and lifted the bar in terms of tennis delivery to the country. For this Davis Cup event people can expect the same professional and exciting time they enjoyed last year, bigger and better and with added hospitality options. We are hoping the public will come out in support of their country at this event exclusively at Emperors Palace. Ticket prices are reasonable so that all can come along and enjoy the tennis."

The players who represented the country during the year included Kevin Anderson, Rik de Voest, Izak van der Merwe, Wesley Moodie and Jeff Coetzee and was captained by John-Laffnie de Jager.

The remarkable fact about Macedonia is that while they have nobody of note in their team, they have managed to survive in Group I for the last two years. Last year they beat Latvia 4-1 in the opening round but then lost to The Netherlands by the same score in the quarter-finals. The players who did the job for them were Lazar Magdincev, who is currently ranked 1749 but has been as high as 339), Dimitar Grabuloski (ranked 1025), Predrag Rusevski (ranked 850) and Ilija Martinoski (ranked 854).

"The performance of Macedonia proves the point that one can never take any team for granted when it comes to Davis Cup play. When sportsmen play for their countries they always manage to lift their games.

“While we are undoubtedly the favourites with the tie taking place on home soil, we must not fall into the trap of being complacent,” said De Jager.

Ends

#### About Emperors Palace

Emperors Palace Hotel Casino and Convention Resort is conveniently situated alongside OR Tambo International Airport. It is Peermont’s flagship resort and Gauteng’s most exciting entertainment and dining destination. The resort offers a unique experience with luxurious accommodation across its four hotels as well as a magnificent casino with over 1640 slot machines and 67 gaming tables for unparalleled authentic gaming enjoyment. The resort is home to both local and international celebrities and offers an exciting entertainment line up, a unique retail concourse, a children’s paradise with an in-door entertainment centre. The resort is a premier hotel and conferencing destination with multi-faceted conference facilities and impeccable service. Emperors Palace is a resort that cares for its community through its extensive CSI programmes.