



Remarks by Dr. Adesola Adeduntan, MD/CEO, First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries, at the 57th Lagos Amateur Open Golf Championship on 16 November 2018 at Ikoyi Club 1938

The Chairman, Ikoyi Club 1938;

The Chairman of the Golf Section;

All other Officials of the Club;

Distinguished Guests and Golfers;

My colleagues from the FirstBank family;

Gentlemen of the Press;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is delightful to join you on this auspicious occasion. I welcome you on behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Nigeria's foremost financial institution and leading banking services provider.

I am excited to note that this Championship has been organised by the *Ikoyi Club 1938* for 57 years, and since co-creating the Championship with the Club FirstBank has been the headline sponsor every year!

Our almost 125 years' unbroken service to Nigeria and the world is replete with similar partnerships with individuals and institutions to provide support, not only in the sports and healthy lifestyle development, but also in Education, the Arts, Small and Medium Enterprises, and much more.

FirstBank has been the major sponsor of the 100-year-old Kaduna Polo Tournament. In fact, our sponsorship of this prestigious tournament, which has lasted for 99 long years, is reportedly the longest standing sports sponsorship association in the world!

We have supported other sporting activities like the Dala Hard Court Tennis Championship in Kano for 32 years, the CBN Classic Golf Tournament (CBN Governor's Cup), the Nigeria Cup also held in this Club, and the Nigerian Universities Games, to mention a few. Notably, FirstBank owns a male football club and a female basketball club, the popular Elephant Girls.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are likely aware that we have had Blessing Okagbare, Africa's fastest woman, as our Brand Ambassador. Also, as some of you might be aware already, FirstBank recently signed an endorsement deal with teenage golf sensation, Georgia Oboh, one of the distinguished prize winners at this competition last year. At only 17, she has set her sights on playing on the LPGA circuit which she has already been invited to participate in. With this, she would be the youngest African female golfer to have ever reached this milestone. She deserves some accolade.

Georgia currently plays in a minimum of 20 tournaments a year and is mainly based in Florida, USA, in between training in Nigeria. We trust that Georgia would serve as an inspiration to youth in Nigeria and across the world, as she symbolises the possibilities for young people in the sports arena and the world at large.

I trust that the "Professional Coaching Clinic" which helps to nurture the skills of young and upcoming talents, and "Beat the Pro Skills competition", now regular features of this Championship, have been beneficial.

I appreciate the usual cooperation of the Management of Ikoyi Club 1938, the Chairman, the Golf Captain, all match officials and indeed, everyone involved in the organisation of this tournament. Your commitment towards the Golf Tournament over the years is envious and worthy of emulation. I trust that like in the past years, this year's Championship has been rewarding to all stakeholders.

Following our Bank's goal to put customers and stakeholders at the heart of our business, we have continued to improve on our products, and also created new ones to suit customers' needs. Recently, we launched the FirstBank Chat Banking on WhatsApp. I trust that you have interacted with FirstBank Relationship Managers to sign up or learn more about how you can leverage the useful product packages even better.

Once again, I thank the Chairman, golf captain, officials, players, golf enthusiasts, commentators, spectators, our strategic partners, and the Concierge Sports team, as well as my fellow FirstBankers and everyone who has made this edition such a remarkable success.

Dr. Adesola Adeduntan
Managing Director/CEO
First Bank of Nigeria Limited & Subsidiaries