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Sporting gesture

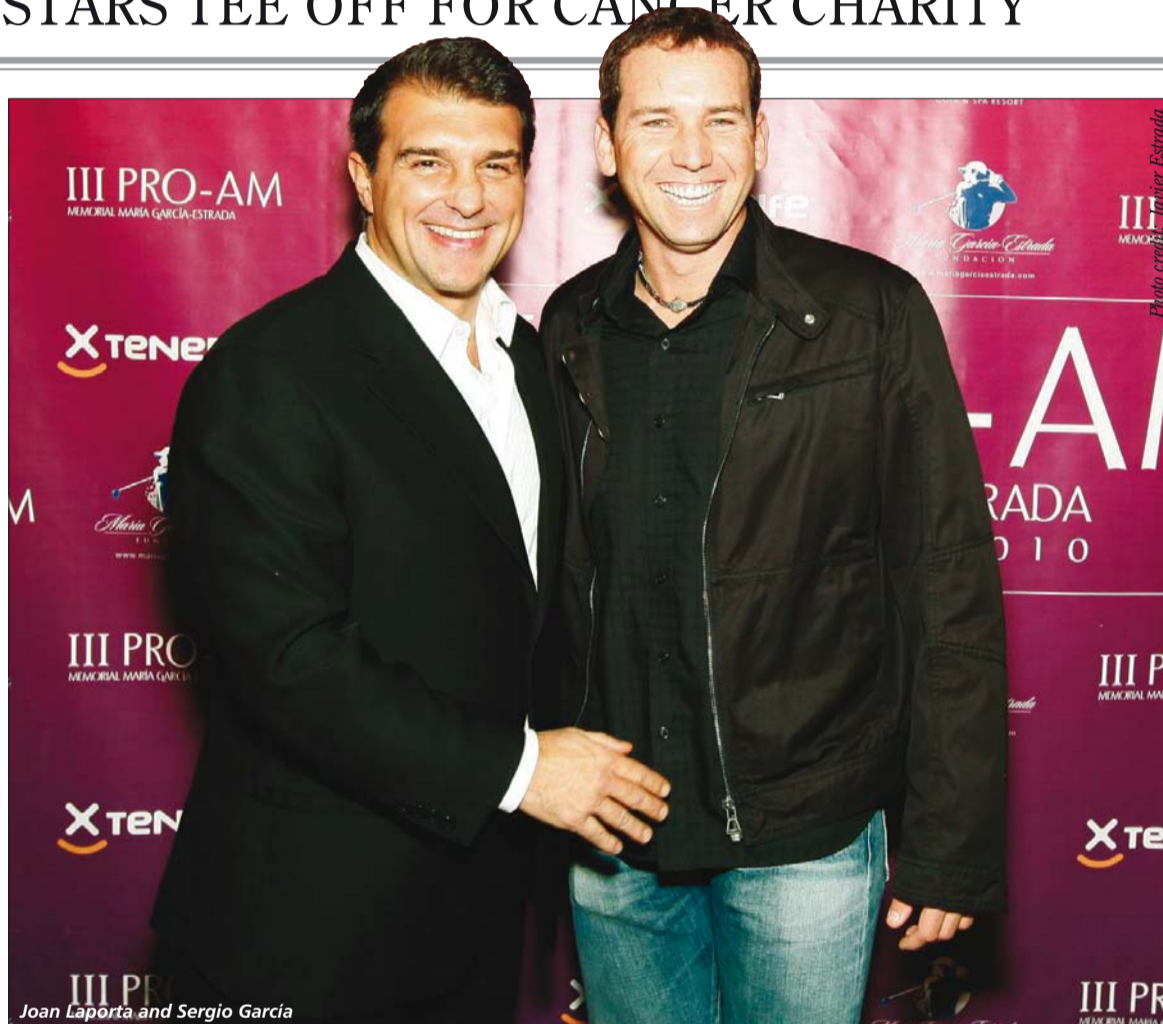
SPORTING STARS TEE OFF FOR CANCER CHARITY

Charitable might not be the word that springs to mind when CD Tenerife fans remember the visit of FC Barcelona to these shores on January 10th, after a drubbing at the hands of the world's best football club (see match report on page 55), but the visiting club president Joan Laporta was more than happy to take part in a charity golf event during his stay on this island.

The president was swinging his irons at the III ProAm Memorial María García-Estrada, alongside many of Spain's top golfers, led by Sergio García, who was celebrating his 30th birthday on the day, and many other golfers and visiting players.

The tournament took place in the Abama Golf Resort in Guía de Isora.

María García Estrada was born on January 13th, 1981 in Tenerife and from an early age her life was linked to golf, a sport in which she attained considerable success in the 1990s, playing for Spain and subsequently taking up a sports scholarship in the States, making friends in the international circuit,



Joan Laporta and Sergio García

and professionally in her working life. Tragically however, she was struck down with a rare form of cancer, and died in 2005, despite the work of specialists world-wide.

The foundation in her name was established to work to identify the cancer that killed her and work on finding a cure.

During this, the third

tournament in María's name, Sergio García said, "I am delighted to be able to assist the García-Estrada family in their work which can help many people". The golfer also expressed his wishes for a speedy recovery for fellow Spanish golfer Severiano Ballesteros, who is recovering from cancer, and added his wishes that Tiger Woods

would return to the game as soon as possible, saying that "golf needs him".

The tournament was played by 40 teams, each with one professional and three amateurs, and was sponsored by, among others, the Tenerife Cabildo, the Guía de Isora council, Cadena SER Tenerife; Televisión Canaria; Golf+; Lexus; Disa; Estrella Damm;

Medacta Internacional; ACJ; Viajes Halcón; Lacoste; Medibérica; Suquime; Hospitén; Vodafone and Pedro del Hierro.

Funds raised will further assist in the investigation of sarcomas, a cancer which is rare and particularly aggressive. "An investigation against desperation and pain", according to Sergio García.

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