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SPORTS

Rory McIlroy won't back down from all the controversies

RORY McIlroy ruffled a lot of feathers in the sports world Tuesday when he denounced golf as an irrelevant Olympic sport. McIlroy came off as selfish when he said he didn't get into golf to "grow the game," only to "win tournaments."

After his British Open first-round 69 yesterday at Troon, McIlroy said it was "actually nice" to talk about golf instead of the Olympics, his decision to skip them and his apparent disdain for them.

He attempted to soften the blow from his harsh comments, but he did not back off on his Olympic stance.

"Yeah, I think I would have elaborated a little bit on the 'grow-the-game' comment," McIlroy said. "Obviously, I feel like I do my bit to grow the game. It's not as if I'm uninterested. I feel like golf is a great vehicle to... I don't want to force golf on anyone. But I feel like golf is a great vehicle to instill values in kids."

"I'm an ambassador for the PGA Junior League, I do some stuff for the First Tee in the States, and I feel

like I've used my success in golf in a very positive way in the community. Look, the next generation can play golf if they want or they don't. It won't make me any less happy."

"But if I can somehow make a positive change in the world by what I do on the golf course, whether

that means raise money for charity or give kids more of a chance in life growing up, I've been very fortunate to do what I've done in golf, and I feel like I've used that success in a positive way.

"I have no regrets about where I stand on certain things, but I wish I maybe

would have just elaborated a little bit more on what I said."

McIlroy did not back down from his Olympic comments, suggesting it's not an uncommon viewpoint among golf's top players.

"I still don't think I'm the only one," McIlroy said.

"Look, it's my opinion. I think my opinion's shared by a few people, but some people may think it's wrong and that's fine. But I've spent seven years try-

ing to please everyone, and I figured out that I can't really do that, so I may as well be true to myself."

• Culled from nypost.com.



Sergio Garcia watches his iron played from rough on the 16th hole during his first round on the opening day of the 2016 British Open Golf Championship... yesterday. PHOTO:AFP.

Mickelson continues Open charge at Troon

FORMER champion, Phil Mickelson, went clear at the top of the British Open first round leaderboard after a birdie at the short 14th at Troon yesterday.

It was the sixth birdie of the day for the 2013 winner of the Claret Jug and allowed Mickelson, at six-under, to move a stroke clear of the rest of the field on a day of glorious sunshine.

Mickelson had earlier recorded four birdies on the front nine and also picked up a shot at the par-four 10th.

His fellow American, Patrick Reed, was the clubhouse leader at five-under, followed by a host of players on four-under.

That list included American quartet, Justin Thomas, Steve Stricker, Billy Horschel and Tony Finau, as well as Denmark's Soren Kjeldsen.

Out on the course, Germany's Martin Kaymer and the reigning champion Zach Johnson of the United States were both four-under after 12 holes.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MERGE PURSUANT TO SECTION 30 (4) OF THE INSURANCE ACT 2003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Standard Alliance Insurance Plc (SA Insurance) and Standard Alliance Life Assurance Ltd (SA Life) (SA Insurance and SA Life are together referred to as the "Merging Entities") have agreed to combine their respective businesses through a merger (Merger), pursuant to which SA Life will transfer all of its assets, liabilities and business undertakings, including real property and intellectual property rights to SA Insurance, in consideration for the allotment of fully paid Ordinary shares of SA Insurance to the shareholders of SA Life; and SA Life will thereafter be dissolved without winding up.

The Merging Entities will, pursuant to a Court Order dated 17 June, 2016, convene separate Court Ordered Meetings of their respective shareholders, whereby if 75% of the shareholders present in person or by proxy voting at the separate meetings, approve the Merger, the Merging Entities shall apply to the National Insurance Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission for the approval of the Merger and to the Federal High Court to sanction the Merger.

Certified copies of the following documents are available for inspection at the principal and branch offices of each of the Merging Entities, by the members and policy-holders of each of the Merging Entities, within 21 (twenty-one) days from the date of publication of this Notice, between the hours of 10am and 3pm daily, excluding weekends and public holidays:

- Merger Agreement between the Merging Entities;
- Auditor's report in respect of each of the Merging Entities;
- Actuarial reports in respect of the life insurance business of SA Life;
- Report on the proposed Merger prepared by an independent actuary.

Dated this 12th day of July, 2016

Signed:
MANAGEMENT

STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC
Head Office: Plot 1, Block 94, Providence Street
Lekki Scheme 1, Lekki, Lagos

STANDARD ALLIANCE LIFE ASSURANCE LTD
Head Office: 285, Ajose Adeogun Street,
Victoria Island, Lagos.