

Jin Zhang Steps up to win Dramatic Volvo China Open

Needing a birdie on the last, Jin Zhang stepped up to deliver and win the 27th Volvo China Open

SHENZHEN, GUANGDONG, CHINA,
December 19, 2021 /

EINPresswire.com/ -- Shenzhen (CHINA): The unheralded Jin Zhang hoped to make the cut but ended the week an Open Champion after a closing 71 (-1) saw him clinch the 27th Volvo China Open at Genzon Golf Club in Shenzhen.

The 26-year-old China Tour pro held his nerve to clinch the biggest win of his career by one shot, despite a gritty but ultimately unsuccessful final day charge from 2016 winner Haotong Li.

“

It wasn't my best day on the course and I didn't make enough putts so I think luck was on my side today. I'm just so happy to be able to say to my father on TV 'Dad, I've finally won!'"

*Volvo China Open Champion
Jin Zhang*

Needing a birdie on the 311-yard 18th to win, Zhang confidently drove the green and left himself with a tap-in birdie putt to finish on 8-under par and win by one from Li (-7) with Guxin Chen and 17-year-old amateur Wenyi Ding tied for third on 5-under.

"I'm so happy to be able to hold this heavy trophy," said Zhang who stood on the 18th tee having made only two birdies all day but who saved the best for last to claim the famous Volvo China Open trophy and his first win on the China Tour.



Jin Zhang lifts the distinctive Volvo China Open trophy

"I couldn't watch Haotong play on 18 and I thought he had made birdie. But someone told me he hadn't so I knew I had a great chance. I didn't really believe I could drive the green but I went for it so that's the highlight of the round. It wasn't my best day on the course and I didn't make enough putts so I think luck was on my side today. I'm just so happy to be able to say to my

father on TV 'I've finally won!'"

Despite the tournament being played behind closed doors because of the global pandemic, there was no shortage of atmosphere at the prize-giving ceremony attended by Yuping Wang (Vice President China Golf Association, Director of the Guangdong Sports Bureau), Zheng Pang (China Golf Association Vice President and Secretary General), Xiaolin Yuan (President and CEO Volvo Car Asia Pacific), Xiong Feng (Vice President and Secretary General Guangdong Golf Association), Jinliang Li (Director of Competition, China Golf Association), Michel Zhao (Volvo China Open Board Chairperson) and Xueqin Deng (Genzon Group Chairman).

Zhang, whose season's best had been a tie for sixth place at last month's Hengdian Championship, ended his China Tour title drought with the biggest title of them all. And with his wide brim sun hat and beaming smile, he was a hugely popular winner with players and officials alike.

For runner-up Haotong Li, the dream of becoming the first two-time Chinese winner of the Volvo China Open will have to wait another year. The 26-year-old former world number 32 got off to a flying start. Two birdies on the opening two holes quickly reduced the gap and by the turn he had overhauled Zhang thanks to two more birdies in a superb front nine of 32.

Another birdie on the 10th left the others playing catch-up as Li finally rediscovered the form that took him to two DP World Tour titles by the age of 22. But bogeys on 13 and 15 saw him fall back into the pack and it was a case of hoping for a play-off after failing to make birdie on the last and he ended with a 69 (-3)

In the battle for top spot on the China Tour Prize Money Ranking List, the 2020 Volvo China Open winner Zhang Huilin birdied the last to win the Ranking List and receive a playing card and full



Volvo China Open champion Jin Zhang with tournament officials



Jin Zhang watched his putt on the final hole at the 27th Volvo China Open

playing rights for the 2022 DP World Tour.

"It's a pressure-packed tournament," said Zhang Huilin. "I thought about a lot of things both as money list leader and defending champion on my home course. I didn't have my best game all week and made just eight birdies but I survived and have finally done it. Playing on the global stage is all I have dreamt of since I started to play. The 2020 Volvo China Open win was definitely the key as it counted for this season and I will certainly embrace the Tour membership."

The Volvo China Open was the season finale of the 2021 China Tour and the longest-running professional golf tournament on the Chinese mainland. The Volvo China Open, hosted by the China Golf Association and Guangdong Provincial Sports Bureau, was promoted and operated by Teamfirst Management Ltd., and certified by the China Tour.

Ends

27th Volvo China Open Final Scores

280 (-8) Jin Zhang

281 (-7) Haotong Li

283 (-5) Guxin Chen, Wenyi Ding*

284 (-4) Yanwei Liu

285 (-3) Wenyi Huang

(All China nationality unless stated otherwise)

* Denotes amateur player

Alan Ewens

Pace Events

[email us here](#)

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Other](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/558756722>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2021 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.