



Case Study: **INTERNATIONAL SERIES 2024**

International Golf Event

PERFORMANCE **54**



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The Client



Performance54 & Golf Saudi

Event

The International Series - England

Location

Foxhills Golf Club, Surrey, UK

Dates

August 8 - 11, 2024

The Background

The International Series England is one of the most prestigious tournaments in the world of golf, drawing in elite athletes, high-profile spectators, sponsors, and media from across the globe. The event is officially part of the Asian Tour, where Asian tour competitors take part in a one-off tournament joined prestigious and high-profile colleagues from the LIV Tour, such as Lee Westwood, Phil Mickelson or Sergio Garcia. The takes place over four days and includes numerous activities such as player practices, official events, corporate functions, and a grand opening and closing ceremony. The host venue, Foxhills Golf Club, is a large leisure complex comprising of numerous golf courses, gyms, spas, tennis courts and restaurant is in Surrey, just outside of London. Given the international stature of the event, security was a top priority and the size of the venue, which spans over 400 acres with multiple entry points, VIP areas, public viewing zones, and media zones, along with the clubs 10,000 members needing access to facilities throughout the week... made planning and executing security for a high profile event very challenging.

The Challenges

Performance54 and Saudi Golf required a comprehensive security plan to ensure the safety of all participants, visitors, and staff while maintaining a welcoming atmosphere for spectators. The organisation sought to prevent potential security threats, manage crowd control, handle VIP protection, and maintain an efficient emergency response system.

Key challenges included:

- ▶ Ensuring the security of high-profile guests, including the Saudi Royal Family, celebrities, and corporate sponsors over a large and expansive site.
- ▶ Safeguarding the athletes and their families.
- ▶ Crowd management with thousands of spectators expected to attend.
- ▶ Preventing potential threats such as terrorism, protests, or other disruptive activities.
- ▶ Managing access to restricted areas like VIP lounges, locker rooms, and media zones.
- ▶ Providing a seamless experience without detracting from the event's fun and inclusive environment.

The Security Strategy and Solutions

► Risk Assessment and Planning

A comprehensive risk assessment was conducted in the months leading up to the event, identifying potential threats ranging from public protests to a terrorist risk assessment. A detailed security blueprint was created, factoring in site-specific needs such as perimeter control, parking, and traffic management.

- **Threat Analysis:** Identification of specific threats such as terrorism, or protests from interest groups.
- **Personnel Requirements:** Detailed plans for the number of security personnel required, including security officers, safety stewards, and event-specific teams like VIP protection specialists.

► Physical Security

To secure the venue, a combination of physical barriers, access points, and visible security forces was employed. The venue was divided into various security zones, each with tailored measures based on the level of access required.

- **Perimeter Security:** A combination of fences, barricades, and controlled access points monitored 24/7 by security personnel and surveillance cameras.
- **Security Patrols:** A comprehensive and customised plan for security patrols was designed for the site. This included staggering the start time for patrols for multiple officers, to ensure that vulnerable and key points could be checked multiple times each hour.
- **Access Control:** Security teams with metal detecting wands were deployed at every entry point to ensure only authorised personnel and ticket-holding spectators could access the venue.
- **Bag Checks and Security Screening:** Mandatory checks at all entrances for bags, coolers, and larger items was put in place to ensure prohibited items could not enter the event space.

► **VIP and Athlete Protection**

A dedicated team of close protection officers oversaw access control and assistance to the personal teams to high-profile figures, athletes, and their families, in VIP areas on site.

- **Access Control:** VIPs generally brought their own individual security teams, who accompanied them throughout the venue. Our experienced team of Close Protection officers oversaw access control to VIP areas and assisted personal protection officers always ensuring VIP & athlete safety.
- **Secure Transport:** The client arranged for secure, discreet transport to and from the venue were coordinated, with pre-arranged routes and secure parking areas protected by our officers.

► **Crowd Management and Control**

Given the large number of spectators expected, managing crowd movement while maintaining a positive event atmosphere was essential.

- **Crowd Control Barriers:** Barricades were strategically placed to guide spectators and maintain safe distances from key areas such as the green, stage areas, and VIP zones.
- **Signage and Staff:** Clear signage, safety stewards & security personnel were positioned throughout the venue provided guidance to attendees, helping avoid congestion or confusion, especially in high-traffic areas.
- **Emergency Evacuation Plans:** Detailed crowd evacuation procedures were established, with well-marked exit routes and communication systems in place in case of an emergency.

► Technology Integration

Advanced security technology played a key role in ensuring the safety of the event.

- **Surveillance Cameras:** High-definition CCTV cameras monitored the venue, with operators able to track all major areas of the golf course and surrounding facilities.
- **Electronic Ticketing System:** An electronic ticketing system was used which enabled organisers to monitor spectator numbers for the event in real-time, allowing us to deploy security personnel to high traffic areas when needed.
- **Real-Time Communication:** Organisers deployed the use of Raven Incident Management Software giving the safety and security teams real-time and precise reporting & mapping of hazards, security concerns or incidents. The system is the market leader in providing event technology that enhances integration between key teams needed to stage large events, with command and control brought into one combined system.

► Emergency Response Coordination

An emergency response protocol was developed in collaboration with the safety team, medical teams and emergency services. On-site medical facilities were established, with paramedics and ambulance teams stationed throughout the venue.

- **Emergency Drills:** Simulated emergency drills were held to ensure that all security and medical personnel knew their roles in case of a real incident.
- **Collaboration with Local Authorities:** A closer relationship was maintained with emergency services rapid deployment of support if necessary.
- **Daily Safety Briefings:** Safety briefings and meetings were held daily throughout the tournament with key services and stakeholders to ensure collaboration between different services, open communication and clarification on roles and responsibilities for all parties in regards to safety and emergency response.

The Execution

The security services were implemented seamlessly over the course of the event, with the following highlights:

- ▶ **Crowd Safety:** Thousands of spectators enjoyed the event while security measures kept the crowd orderly, with minimal incidents.
- ▶ **VIP Protection:** All VIPs and athletes were kept safe with close protection teams managing their movements throughout the venue and controlling access to sterile VIP only areas.
- ▶ **Incident Response:** There were no significant security incidents or breaches during the event. Only minor crowd control incidents were reported during the event, which were swiftly handled, thanks to the pre-emptive crowd management strategies and communication systems in place.

The Outcome

The International Series England was a resounding success, with more than thousands of spectators attending the event without major security concerns. The security measures helped to ensure:

- ▶ **Safety for All Participants:** No incidents involving physical harm or security breaches occurred.
- ▶ **Positive Spectator Experience:** Attendees were able to enjoy the event with minimal disruption, thanks to clear instructions and efficient crowd control.
- ▶ **Protection for High-Profile Individuals:** Celebrities, athletes, and sponsors were able to enjoy the event in complete safety, without disruption.

The Lessons Learned

- ▶ **Proactive Security Measures:** Having a robust security plan in place well in advance of the event allows for smooth execution.
- ▶ **Communication is Key:** Effective communication between all safety team, security personnel and the event organisers ensured a rapid and coordinated response to any potential issues.
- ▶ **Technology Integration:** The utilisation of integrated technology systems provided a significant advantage in monitoring large crowds, hazards and other issues even in remote areas of the site.

The Conclusion

By utilising a comprehensive security strategy that combined technology, crowd control measures, physical security, and close protection for VIPs, the Aramco Team Series 2024 was able to ensure a secure, successful event. The seamless integration of these elements demonstrated the importance of strategic planning, technological advancement, and collaboration with all services and local authorities in managing large-scale, high-profile international events.





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This work was undertaken by Total Security and Cleaning Services Ltd, who changed their name to GuardTec Security and Patrol UK Ltd from January 2026.