



Doonbeg scoops top award

by Coim O'Connor

DOONBEG has been named as the European **Golf** Resort of the Year for its "exceptional contribution to the world of **golf** travel."

The prestigious award was made by the International Association of **Golf** Tour Operators (IAGTO) whose more than 300 **golf** tour operators cast votes for this annual award.

The awards were presented at the IAGTO awards gala dinner in Malaga last night.

Previous winners include Turnberry (Scotland), Druid's Glen (Ireland), Praia D'El Rey (Portugal), Dona Filipa & San Lorenzo (Portugal) and Carton House (Ireland).

The **golf** tour operators, representing 49 different countries, cast their votes prior to the awards dinner. Each operator was asked to nominate what they consider to be the best performing **golf** resorts of the year enjoyed by their **golf** travelling clients. There are over 1,000 **golf** resorts in the USA alone and an estimated 2,000 in total worldwide.

Doonbeg general manager Joe Russell said: "We rely on the **Golf** Tour Operators to provide us with a great deal of business and the award is acknowledgement that we are providing the kind of service that they and their clients require. We pride ourselves on our attention to detail and the service we give and I believe this award is an endorsement of both."

Doonbeg features five star accommodations, a Greg Norman-designed championship links **golf** course, restaurants, pubs and a state-of-the-art spa.