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On the Third Playoff Hole: Macionga Celebrates Emotional Home Victory

Owingen, Germany – Philipp Macionga claimed his maiden Pro Golf Tour title on home soil. The player from Augsburg prevailed in a thrilling playoff against France's Louis Bonte at the VcG Bodensee Open, the opening event of the German Swing. Switzerland's Mauro Gilardi and France's Antoine Bachelier shared third place.

It had become clear early on that the race for the VcG Bodensee Open title would be a close one. In the final round of the first event of the German Swing, a head-to-head battle emerged between two players who had already recorded several strong finishes on the Pro Golf Tour but were still searching for their first victory.

One of them was Louis Bonte, who had started the final round as the leader after back-to-back rounds of 65. At Golfclub Owingen-Überlingen, with its spectacular panoramic views across Lake Constance and the Alps, the Frenchman managed to pull away from the field at times on the final day. However, he was unable to convert his advantage into victory. A closing 70 (-1) left him tied at 13-under-par with Philipp Macionga.

The German earned his place in the playoff thanks to three birdies over the final third of his round, signing for a 67 (-4).

The decisive moments came on the 18th hole, though not immediately. On the short par 4, guarded by a pond in front of the green, both Bonte and Macionga opted for the same conservative strategy: an iron off the tee followed by a pitch shot over the water. The approach resulted in matching birdies on the first playoff hole and matching pars on the second.

The gripping duel was finally decided on the third extra hole. Macionga pitched his ball close to the flag and calmly converted from just over a metre. Moments earlier, Bonte had narrowly missed a short putt that would have kept the playoff alive.

[Final results: VcG Bodensee Open 2026](#)

[Order of Merit 2026](#)

Macionga: "It's Absolutely Incredible"

For the 20-year-old, who had to complete the final two holes of his weather-interrupted second round early in the morning, an exhausting day of golf ended with an emotional home victory.

"It's absolutely incredible," said the young talent. "I'd been close a few times over the last few years, but I never managed to get it done. Before the season started, I told myself: 'If there's one place where I'd love to win this year, it would be in Germany. That would be a dream.' The fact that it has actually happened is simply unbelievable."

The support from the local crowd also played a role. "The best thing was the support from the spectators, especially on the back nine today. I definitely felt that they were rooting for me as the German player. That gave me extra motivation. You can feel that



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people want you to win, and that means a lot. The course is only about two hours from home, and my grandparents were here on the first day. That was really special.”

Macionga was equally impressed by the condition of the championship course on the shores of Lake Constance, particularly after the heavy rainfall earlier in the week.

“I don’t know exactly what they did, but they did an outstanding job,” he said, praising the local team. “The greens were incredibly true. If you started the ball on the right line, you knew it had a genuine chance to go in. That made it a lot of fun.”

The victory lifts Macionga to third place in the Order of Merit standings. Dario Antonisse (Netherlands) and Kristof Ulenaers (Belgium) occupy first and second place, while Mauro Gilardi (Switzerland) and Koen Kouwenaar (Netherlands) sit fourth and fifth respectively.

Excellent Start to the German Swing

Special thanks go to Golfclub Owingen-Überlingen and title sponsor VcG (Association of Non-Club Golfers), whose commitment made the event possible and helped shape a memorable week.

“The VcG Bodensee Open was a fantastic start to the German Swing and impressively demonstrated the exceptionally high standard of play on the Pro Golf Tour,” said Marco Paeke, Managing Director of the VcG. “With this tournament series, we want to create additional opportunities for Germany’s young talents to gain experience and develop at a high level. This promising start on a challenging and established championship course leaves us excited for what the next two weeks will bring.”

The German Swing continues on June 16 with the VcG Köln Open at Golf- und Land-Club Köln in Refrath.



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