



<insert date>

BARCLAYS ASIA TROPHY DESIGN REVEALED BY QUEEN'S JEWELLERS

The design of the new Barclays Asia Trophy that will be competed for in Hong Kong later this month has been revealed by the Premier League, Barclays and luxury British brand Asprey in London.

Barclays Premier League teams Liverpool, Portsmouth and Fulham will be joined by South China, winners of the Hong Kong FA Cup, to fight it out to lift the new stunning silverware.

The Premier League commissioned trophy, which is made of sterling silver, stands at 15.5 inches tall, 14.75 inches wide and weighs nearly 4 kilograms. It has been designed by Asprey specifically for the tournament in its own design studio and manufactured in the workshop above their showrooms in Bond Street, Central London.

Asprey was founded in 1781 and was given its first Royal Warrant in 1862 by Queen Victoria. They have held a royal warrant ever since and, as the Queen's jewellers, are now widely regarded as the ultimate British luxury lifestyle brand. Renowned for fine jewellery, watches and clocks, Asprey also produced the Barclays Premier League trophy.

Robert Morrice, Chairman and CEO of Barclays Asia, added: “The excitement in Hong Kong is building strongly ahead of the Barclays Asia Trophy while the images of the newly created design illustrate just what the clubs are competing for. Asprey are a world renowned brand and the quality of their craftsmanship speaks for itself.

“The Barclays Premier League trophy, which was also produced by Asprey, is recognised across the world. I very much look forward to presenting it to the winning captain and his team at the Hong Kong Stadium on 27 July.”

For further information please contact:

The Premier League Press Office on 020 7864 9190 or visit www.premierleague.com

The Barclays Sponsorship Press Office on 020 7116 6153

Amy Tam, Text 100 HK on +852 2821 8699 or email amy.tam@text100.com.hk

Notes to Editors:

The two previous Premier League Asia Trophy competitions were played in Kuala Lumpur (2003) and Bangkok (2005).

The Kuala Lumpur Premier League Asia Trophy featured Birmingham City, Chelsea, Newcastle United and the Malaysia national side – winners: Chelsea (first trophy under Roman Abramovich).

The Bangkok Premier League Asia Trophy featured Bolton Wanderers, Everton, Manchester City and the Thai u23 national side – winners: Bolton Wanderers.

The Hong Kong Barclays Asia Trophy host broadcaster is now TV (PCCW) the new Hong Kong rights holder for the Barclays English Premier League.

Ticketing and travel information for UK based fans will be available via participating clubs' websites shortly.

The Barclays Asia Trophy has been sanctioned by the Asian Football Confederation.

About Barclays

Barclays PLC is a major global financial services provider engaged in retail and commercial banking, credit cards, investment banking, wealth management and investment management services. We are one of the largest financial services companies in the world by market capitalisation. Operating in over 60 countries and employing over 118,000 people, we move, lend, invest and protect money for over 25 million customers and clients worldwide. With over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, Barclays PLC has six major businesses.

UK Banking delivers banking products and services to over 14 million retail customers and 641,000 businesses in the UK. Barclays global retail and commercial banking operation, has over 2 million international clients, in geographies which currently include France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, India, Africa and the Middle East. Absa has an additional 8.0 million retail customers in South Africa. Barclaycard is one of the leading credit card businesses in Europe, and has 11.2 million UK customers and 5.3 million international cards in issue. Barclays Capital, the investment banking division, provides corporate, institutional and government clients with solutions to their financing and risk management needs. Barclays Global Investors is one of the world's largest asset managers and a leading provider of investment management products and services. The total assets under management at June 30, 2006 were \$1.6 trillion. Barclays Wealth serves affluent, high net worth and intermediary clients worldwide, providing private banking, asset management, stockbroking, offshore banking, wealth structuring and financial planning services. At June 30, 2006, total client assets were £84.7 billion.