

Donald Trump gets ready to drive the ball during "Battle of the Sexes" match on Governors Island yesterday. Trump partnered with golf great Tom Watson to win the event at first Manhattan Golf Classic.

Donald, golf pros take on Govs Isle

BY IVAN PEREIRA DAILY NEWS WRITER

DONALD TRUMP made some of golf's best players his apprentices yesterday.

The billionaire teamed up with links legend Tom Watson in a celebrity match against Annika Sorenstam and Natalie Gulbis on Governors Island.

Trump and Watson eked out a victory, winning the charity skins game by 2 points.

"Donald helped me more than I helped him," Watson said. "He hit five laser holes in a row."

"We had a lot of fun," Trump gushed. "Natalie was terrific, Annika is an amazing player, and my partner was wonderful."

The "Battle of the Sexes" match, which ended the first Manhattan Golf Classic, took place on the former U.S. Coast Guard golf course, which was renovated and temporarily reopened for the event.

The players found the island and its beautiful view of the southern Manhattan skyline good for

their game.

"It's a beautiful place," Gulbis said. "You can't ask for a better backdrop."

Officials have solicited bids to redevelop Governors Island, but there are no current plans to reopen the course to the public.



JULIA XANTHOS

LPGA star Natalie Gulbis signs golf ball yesterday.