

Email Newsletter from Mayor of Okayama (119) August 5, 2019 Issue

[Congrats to Professional Golfer, Hinako Shibuya! ]

Shibuya golfer, Congratulations that you won the AIG Women's British Open. You are the second Japanese winner of championship who won an overseas women's open since another player did one in 1977.

She is from Okayama City, and she has been the "Okayama Ambassador of Momotaro Town" since last June; thereby she is appealing Okayama throughout Japan.

The Open was the first overseas tournament for her but the pressure did not even affect her 'bravery' and 'smile'. The playoff in which she rolled the birdie putt on the 18<sup>th</sup> final hole was astonishing! I am so happy and proud of her remarkable accomplishment.

Just one day before that, on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, a summer festival branding "Reconstruction Festival from Heavy Rain in West Japan in 2018-*Gambarou Joto [Cheer-up, Joto]*" was held in Hirajima area in Higashi ward, where she was originated. I joined the festival and I found that many participants joyfully talked about her.

Her accomplishment based on her daily efforts moved many people's hearts and gave wonderful dreams to not only people in Hirajima area but also other citizens of Okayama. I do hope that will stimulate the citizens and accelerate the reconstruction.

I do believe that her cheerful personality will help her further succeed in the future.