



NEWS

FROM THE RESORT

HONDA CLASSIC MOVES TO PGA NATIONAL RESORT & SPA

Event to Have New Home and New Host Organization Beginning in 2007

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL (March 7, 2006) – The PGA TOUR and American Honda Motor Co. Inc. announced a six-year sponsorship extension with The Honda Classic, which in 2007 will move to PGA National Resort & Spa's Champion Course under the direction of a new host organization.

The Honda Classic will also see a change in leadership. The tournament will have a new Executive Director, Ken Kennerly and a new beneficiary, Children's Healthcare Charity, Inc. Barbara Nicklaus is the chairperson of the newly created charitable organization, which will operate The Honda Classic beginning in 2007.

"We are extremely pleased to unveil the new Honda Classic," PGA TOUR Commissioner Tim Finchem said. "We look forward to a bright future as The Honda Classic moves to PGA National's renowned Champion Course and becomes an integral part of the FedEx Cup for years to come. Through the support of Honda and the direction of Children's Healthcare Charity and the support of Barbara and Jack Nicklaus, this championship will continue to grow in this thriving market."

The Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation expects to generate a minimum of \$1 million for charity. This Foundation provides charitable support for activities that enhance the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of childhood diseases and disorders. It supports not-for-profit programs and projects aimed at pediatric health care and health-

related services with the Nicklaus Children's Hospital at St. Mary's Medical Center as a major focal point.

PGA National has a long and storied history of hosting important championships. The Champion Course was the site of the 25th Ryder Cup matches in 1983. Captain Jack Nicklaus led his United States team to victory over the European squad that year, 14½ to 13½ after entering Sunday's singles matches tied with eight points apiece.

The 69th PGA Championship was contested at PGA National in 1987, with Larry Nelson winning his second Wannamaker Trophy in a playoff over Lanny Wadkins. The course has also played host to 18 Senior PGA Championships, five of which were won by the legendary Sam Snead, and five PGA Club Professional Championships.

The Champion Course, which opened in 1981, was originally designed by Tom and George Fazio. It was redesigned by Jack Nicklaus in 1990 and later completely renovated by Nicklaus Design in 2002.

“PGA National has a proud history of hosting significant golf events, and we're pleased to add to that legacy by hosting a PGA TOUR event on an annual basis,” said Llwyd Ecclestone, Chairman of Ecclestone Group Organization, which owns the resort. “We believe the Champion Course will prove to be an outstanding venue for The Honda Classic.”

In addition to changing venues in 2007, The Honda Classic will move one week earlier in the schedule to lead off the newly structured four-tournament swing through Florida. It will be held the week of February 26-March 4 and be followed by the Tampa Bay Championship, Bay Hill Invitational presented by MasterCard and the World Golf Championship-CA Championship at Doral.

Since the tournament was introduced in 1972 as Jackie Gleason's Inverrary Classic, some of the game's great players have won it, including three-time champion Jack Nicklaus and fellow World Golf Hall of Famers Lee Trevino, Hale Irwin, Tom Kite, Johnny Miller, Nick Price and Vijay Singh.

Located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, PGA National Resort & Spa offers a full array of amenities and services that speak to a wide range of interests and agendas. Developed as the centerpiece of a 2,340-acre luxury residential community, the Resort boasts five 18-hole golf courses and an unparalleled history of legendary play as the past site for the 25th Ryder Cup, the 69th PGA Championship and close to two decades of the Seniors Championship. The Resort also features a multi-million dollar, 40,000 square foot Spa, tennis instruction and competition on its 19 Har-Tru tennis courts, a 32,500 square-foot Health & Racquet Club, five croquet lawns, multiple dining options, and a 34,000 square-foot conference wing.

Contact:

Deb Hurd
Director of Marketing Communications
PGA National Resort & Spa
561-227-2511
deb.hurd@pgaresort.com