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## THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP RETURNS TO PONTE VEDRA THIS MARCH

## World-class athletes hit the greens March 12-17 for the iconic THE PLAYERS Championship at TPC Sawgrass

St. Augustine, Fla. (February 9, 2024) – Since 1974, <u>THE PLAYERS Championship</u> has wowed audiences with the best golfers in the world. Now in its fiftieth year, THE PLAYERS returns to Ponte Vedra Beach March 12 through March 17 with one of the most formidable rounds on the pro circuit.

Competing at THE PLAYERS Championship are the most impressive golfers playing today. To be one of the 144 golfers invited to compete, athletes must qualify by meeting certain criteria set to ensure the cream of the crop hits the links. Qualifiers include the top 50 players ranked by World Golf, current leaders in FedEx points, and victors of the competition over the last five years. Last year's PLAYERS was won by Scottie Scheffler, who triumphed in a 3-under 69 to win the richest prize on the PGA TOUR by five shots. The tournament has had numerous notable winners thanks to the high-profile and challenging course. Past champions include Lee Trevino, Davis Love III, Phil Mickelson, and Rory McIlroy. Tiger Woods has two Players Championship titles to his name, while Jack Nicklaus is the only three-time winner. No player has ever repeated as champion in the history of the tournament, with nine defending champions failing to make the cut in their title defense.

The Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach is as well-known as the greats that play on it. It is the world's first true stadium course. Designed by famed golf course architect Pete Dye, the Stadium Course favors no particular style of play, bringing golfers back to the true technique and strategy of the game. It's a balanced course best known for its iconic Island Green on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The hole is notoriously difficult, with it once seeing 50 balls lost to the water in a single round in 2007.

Unlike many other courses, the Stadium Course's design considers the spectator experience and can accommodate 36,000 fans. The course offers superb visibility, easy navigation, and covered bleachers with comfortable seating overlooking game-defining holes like the 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Additional venues offer upgraded seating, beverage service, and more.

The Deck offers an ideal vantage point of the approach shots into the 16th and 18th holes and is the perfect place to entertain. Featuring soft seating and televisions as well as both covered and outdoor viewing, this venue provides guests with complimentary beer, wine, and soda. The Island Suite, a smaller version of the PLAYERS Marquee, offers lounge seating, an inclusive upscale menu, personalized company branding, customizable alcohol options and a personal attendant, with a prime location on Holes 16 or 17. Overlooking the 16th fairway and green, the Championship Club, presented by Lexus, is the perfect location to entertain clients or have an intimate PLAYERS experience with friends and family. Championship Club offers patrons a reserved table, perfect for guests seeking a high-end event

experience that doesn't require a fully private suite. New for fans in 2024 is the Intracoastal Club. Situated between Holes 12 and 13, this open-air facility boasts a sports bar ambiance with ample TV screens, bar-style seating, and options to purchase upscale food and beverages, including beer, wine, and signature cocktails.

THE PLAYERS Championship continues its commitment to the military with special tickets and events. The annual <u>Military Appreciation Day festivities</u> are on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony will feature a performance of the Star-Spangled Banner by Matthew Johnson, winner of THE PLAYERS National Anthem Contest and former contestant on "The Voice," and will culminate with a concert on the Island Green featuring multi-Platinum country star Cole Swindell. Additional military honors include complimentary ticket packages, fan shop discounts, and a job fair.

THE PLAYERS has also partnered with CSX to offer an exclusive military and veteran lounge, the Patriots' Outpost. Service members can bring along one dependent and enjoy a private venue, complete with complimentary snacks and nonalcoholic beverages.

More than golf, fans will be treated to a myriad of culinary delights. Local hotspots like Mojo's BBQ, Cousins Maine Lobster, Bonefish Grill, and The GOAT Tapas will join other food vendors for a smorgasbord of options. Dedicated Kid Zones will provide a playful respite for younger fans. For golf enthusiasts, the PGA TOUR Fan Shop is a must-visit, with over 36,500 square feet of golf merchandise featuring top names in the industry.

Admission and parking <u>tickets</u> must be purchased in advance. On Tuesday and Wednesday (March 12 & 13), admission starts at \$30. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday admissions are \$90-\$100. Throughout the week, each adult ticket admits two youths ages 15 and under for free. Tickets for the Deck are weekly and available Tuesday through Sunday. The Island Suite, Championship Club, and Intracoastal Club tickets must be purchased daily. Special <u>military tickets</u> are available, including FREE admission for active duty, retired, and reserve members, and one dependent for Tuesday, Wednesday, and one competitive day. Parking passes are completely digital and purchased separately <u>here</u> for \$15 on Tuesday and Wednesday and \$30 for all other days.

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