



PGA™

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PGA HISTORICAL CENTER UNVEILS 91ST PGA CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBIT

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. – The 91st PGA Championship, “The Season’s Final Major, Glory’s Last Shot,” is being celebrated at the PGA Historical Center in Port St. Lucie, Fla., with a new exhibit that opens on Thurs., July 30. The 2009 PGA Championship will be held at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn.

The featured display will trace the storied history of the PGA Championship, including its first visit to Hazeltine National Golf Club in 2002, when Rich Beem held off a late charge from Tiger Woods to capture the coveted Wanamaker Trophy.

The PGA Championship was first contested in 1916, with Jim Barnes defeating Jock Hutchison in a match-play format at Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville, N.Y. Over the years, many of golf’s greatest names have captured this major Championship, including Walter Hagen and Jack Nicklaus, who share the record with five titles each. Four-time PGA Champion Tiger Woods returns this year after sitting out 2008 because of reconstructive knee surgery.

Padraig Harrington of Ireland is the reigning PGA Champion, becoming the first European since 1930 to hoist the coveted Wanamaker Trophy, last year at Oakland Hills Country Club outside of Detroit.

This year’s rotating displays at the PGA Historical Center have already included Black History Month in February, the Senior PGA Championship in May, and the PGA Professional National Championship in June. Following the PGA Championship, exhibits for the 24th PGA Cup (September) and 27th PGA Grand Slam of Golf (October) will be featured at the PGA Historical Center.

Other displays recently unveiled at the PGA Historical Center include the actual Ryder Cup trophy that was captured by the United States over Europe last September at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., along with tributes to the 10 PGA Honorary Members and Hagen. Items related to the final round of 2009 Senior PGA Champion Michael Allen’s victory earlier this year – his shirt, visor and sand wedge, and the official scorecard --- are also on display.

“The PGA Historical Center golf museum is dedicated to providing our visitors with new and engaging exhibits that capture imaginations through the essence of golf and the proud 93-year history of The PGA of America,” said Bob Baldassari, PGA general manager, PGA Village, which also encompasses the PGA Golf Club, ranked among the “Top 50 Public Golf Courses in the United States” by *Golf World*, with 54 holes of Championship golf by Tom Fazio and Pete Dye; and the adjacent PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance (formerly PGA Learning Center), a state-of-the-art, 35-acre golf learning, instruction, fitness and technology facility.

The PGA Historical Center is open to the public, and admission is free. Museum hours have been extended to Thursdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. through Christmas Eve; and daily from Dec. 26-Easter. Researchers may access the facility during off-hours by appointment.

Please visit www.pgavillage.com/stlucie or call 800-800-GOLF (4653) for more information.

About PGA Village:

The Ryder, Wanamaker and Dye Courses form a trio of world-class public courses at the PGA Golf Club, at PGA Village in Port St. Lucie, Fla. Named by *Golf Digest* as one of the “75 Best Golf Resorts in North America,” PGA Village also features the award-winning, 35-acre PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance (formerly the PGA Learning Center) and PGA Historical Center golf museum. The PGA Golf Club exists to be one of the premier daily fee facilities in America, and to serve as a home club for our 28,000 PGA Professionals. For more information, please visit www.pgavillage.com.

About The PGA of America:

Since 1916, The PGA of America’s mission has been twofold: to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf.

By establishing and elevating the standards of the golf profession through world-class education, career services, marketing and research programs, the Association enables PGA Professionals to maximize their performance in their respective career paths and showcases them as experts in the game and in the multi-billion dollar golf industry.

By creating and delivering dramatic world-class championships and exciting and enjoyable golf promotions that are viewed as the best of their class in the golf industry, The PGA of America elevates the public’s interest in the game, the desire to play more golf, and ensures accessibility to the game for everyone, everywhere. The PGA of America brand represents the very best in golf.

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