



CHAMPIONS TOUR MAJOR WINNERS LEAD FIELD AT THE ACE GROUP CLASSIC

Tournament offers fans the opportunity to ‘walk inside-the-ropes’

NAPLES, FL (JAN. 31, 2012) – The list of competitors for the 25th anniversary of The ACE Group Classic at The TwinEagles Club, Feb. 13-19, continues to improve as tournament officials announced the additions of several Champions Tour major winners including Olin Browne, Russ Cochran, Fred Funk, Jay Haas and Mark O’Meara today. In addition, tournament fans can register online at www.acegroupclassic.com for an opportunity to walk inside the ropes with a professional.

“The level of talent we have playing in this year’s tournament speaks to the core of what makes Champions Tour golf great – accomplished players and engaging personalities that fans of all ages can enjoy,” said Tournament Director Lesley Baker. “We’re thrilled about what the 25th anniversary of Champions Tour golf in Southwest Florida has in store for the Naples community.”

Defending Senior British Open champion Russ Cochran returns to Naples after finishing T3 in 2011. Cochran will be joined by Mark Calcavecchia, who he beat last July to capture his first major title.

The following week, Olin Browne captured the 2011 U.S. Senior Open crown over Tour veteran Mark O’Meara en route to recording the best season of his Champions Tour career. Browne turned in eight top-10 finishes and finished the year seventh in the Charles Schwab Cup race. O’Meara, the 2010 Senior Players Championship winner, played well enough throughout his 2011 campaign to finish ninth in the Schwab Cup.

Tour favorites Fred Funk and Jay Haas, each with three Tour majors to their credit, also will compete. Funk’s three major titles came in a span of three years – The Tradition twice (2008, 2010) and the U.S. Senior Open in 2009. Haas most recently won the Senior Players Championship in 2009, preceded by the Senior PGA Championship in 2006 and 2008.

Overall, The ACE Group Classic field features 20 different Champions Tour major winners. World Golf Hall of Famer Hale Irwin leads the field with seven major titles, followed by Allen Doyle and Loren Roberts with four majors a piece. Other major winners include Peter Jacobsen, defending champion Bernhard Langer, Graham Marsh and Craig Stadler who each hold two major titles. Single-major winners also headed to TwinEagles are Michael Allen, Brad Bryant, Bruce Fleisher, Tom Kite, Mark McNulty, Jim Thorpe, Bobby Wadkins, D.A. Weibring and Fuzzy Zoeller.

For an exclusive opportunity to walk inside-the-ropes during official tournament play, The ACE Group Classic is also announcing the Honorary Observer Contest presented by the Naples Daily News. Contest winners will get the chance to meet Champions Tour pros, take photos, receive autographs and walk inside-the-ropes during rounds of the tournament. Contest entries are available online at www.acegroupclassic.com and entrants must be at least 12 years or older. The deadline to enter is February 10.

Tickets are available online at www.acegroupclassic.com or by phone (239) 593-3900. Children 17 and under are admitted free all week with a ticketed adult. Admission is free February 13 and 14.





SHARE: @ACEGroupClassic adds multiple @ChampionsTour major winners <http://bit.ly/yBZdis>
Win a chance to walk inside-the-ropes with @ChampionsTour pros! Details here: <http://bit.ly/zm3MPN>

RESOURCES:

PHOTOS- <https://www.facebook.com/media/albums/?id=168458636722>

[Facebook.com/ACEGroupClassic](https://www.facebook.com/ACEGroupClassic)

[Twitter @ACEGroupClassic](https://twitter.com/ACEGroupClassic)

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About the ACE Group

Celebrating 25 years of insuring progress, the ACE Group is a global leader in insurance and reinsurance serving a diverse group of clients. Headed by ACE Limited, (NYSE: ACE) a component of the S&P 500 stock index, the ACE Group conducts its business on a worldwide basis with operating subsidiaries in more than 50 countries. Additional information can be found at: www.acegroup.com.

About The TwinEagles Club

TwinEagles is conveniently located just 6 miles east of I-75 off Immokalee Road in Naples. Additional information on this premier community and club can be found at: www.twineagles.com.

About Octagon Global Events

Octagon Global Events is a division of Octagon, the world's largest sports and entertainment representation and marketing agency. Octagon Global Events focuses on premium event/property management and providing strategic corporate solutions. The division currently manages two Champions Tour events, three LPGA Tour events, and the Toyota Texas Bass Classic. For more information, visit www.octagonglobalevents.com.

About The Champions Tour

Collectively, the Champions Tour has the most recognizable and accomplished players in the game with many of its 30 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame competing regularly in its events and numerous other major championship winners among its members. The Champions Tour is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older. Conceived in 1980 as the Senior PGA Tour, it started with just four events and purses totaling \$475,000. Points earned in official Charles Schwab Cup events in 2012 will determine the Charles Schwab Cup champion, the season-long competition designed to recognize the Champions Tour's leading player. The Champions Tour's primary purpose is to provide financial opportunities for its players, entertain and inspire its fans, deliver substantial value to its partners, create outlets for volunteers to give back, protect the integrity of the game and generate significant charitable and economic impact in communities in which it plays. In 2011, tournaments on all three Tours (PGA TOUR, Champions Tour and Nationwide Tour) generated more than \$118 million for local charitable organizations, bringing the TOUR's all-time total of charitable contributions to more than \$1.7 billion. The Commissioner of the PGA TOUR is Tim Finchem. Mike Stevens is President of the Champions Tour. The PGA TOUR's website is www.pgatour.com, the No. 1 site in golf, and the organization is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Follow us at Facebook.com/Champions Tour and on Twitter @ChampionsTour.

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