



## THE ACE GROUP CLASSIC FIELD IS SET FOR NEXT WEEK

**NAPLES, FL (FEB. 10, 2012)** – The final field for The ACE Group Classic, which tees off next week, has been announced. The field features 35 past PGA TOUR and Champions Tour major champions, who have combined to win 75 major titles. In addition, the top-12 golfers from the 2011 Official Money List and eight members of the World Golf Hall of Fame will compete. Champions Tour professionals had until Friday at 5:00 p.m. to register to participate in the event. Activities will take place all week at The TwinEagles Club leading into championship rounds, Friday, Feb. 17 through Sunday, Feb. 19.

Former World No. 1 golfer and two-time Masters champion Bernhard Langer will defend his title at The ACE Group Classic. Langer's 2011 wire-to-wire win was truly remarkable, as he posted scores of 64-66-66 to finish four shots in front of Fred Funk and set The ACE Group Classic record for lowest total score at 20-under par. Last year's title was Langer's 14th on the Champions Tour.

"We are extremely excited about the field of legends that are competing in Naples next week," said Tournament Director Lesley Baker. "Having our defending champion, Bernhard Langer, return to defend his title will only add to the intrigue of this year's event. We look forward to an outstanding week of golf and the tremendous impact our tournament has on the community and local charities."

The field is highlighted by the 2011 Champions Tour Player of the Year Tom Lehman, as well as John Cook, who captured three titles last year. The ACE Group Classic will also feature notable fan favorites Mark O'Meara, Fuzzy Zoeller, Ben Crenshaw, Nick Price and Peter Jacobsen.

Lanny Wadkins, Gary Koch, John Harris, Mike Hulbert and Kip Byrne received sponsor exemptions into the field. Wadkins, who was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2009, will join his younger brother, Bobby, in this year's field. Koch, who finished in a tie for second place at The ACE Group Classic in 2004, was recently inducted into the Florida Sports Hall of Fame. Seven golfers will earn the last spots into the tournament field through an 18-hole qualifying round on Tuesday, February 14 at Old Corkscrew Golf Club in Estero. Qualifying will begin at approximately 8:00 a.m.

While the tournament officially begins on Friday, Feb. 17, fans will be treated to a full week of activities at The TwinEagles Club. "There is no question that fans will have the chance to see some of the world's best senior golfers at The TwinEagles Club, but they will also have the opportunity to enjoy other tournament related events throughout the week," said Baker.

Monday and Tuesday are both practice days for the pros and admission is free for the public. The First Tee Challenge takes place at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon. The Official Pro-Am tournament will begin at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday and continue through Thursday afternoon. Admission gates will open at 9:00 a.m. Friday – Sunday, with play officially beginning at 10:00 a.m. Pros will tee off on holes 1 and 10 to start their rounds each day.

Tickets to the 2012 ACE Group Classic are available for purchase at the tournament entrance, or in advance at [www.acegroupclassic.com](http://www.acegroupclassic.com), by phone at (239) 593-3900 or in the Naples' PGA TOUR Superstore. Children 17 and under are admitted free all week with a ticketed adult.

For additional information, including a complete schedule, visit [www.acegroupclassic.com](http://www.acegroupclassic.com).





### **2012 The ACE Group Classic – List of Competitors**

Michael Allen  
 Tommy Armour III  
 Andy Bean  
 Chip Beck  
 Jay Don Blake  
 Mark Brooks  
 Olin Browne  
 Brad Bryant  
 Kip Byrne  
 Mark Calcavecchia  
 Jim Carter  
 Russ Cochran  
 Jim Colbert  
 John Cook  
 Ben Crenshaw  
 Allen Doyle  
 David Eger  
 Brad Faxon  
 Vicente Fernandez  
 Bruce Fleisher  
 Dan Forsman  
 David Frost  
 Fred Funk  
 Jim Gallagher, Jr.  
 Bob Gilder  
 Bill Glasson  
 Jay Haas  
 Gary Hallberg  
 John Harris  
 Jeff Hart  
 Morris Hatafsky  
 P.H. Horgan III  
 Mike Hulbert  
 John Huston  
 Hale Irwin  
 John Jacobs  
 Peter Jacobsen  
 Tom Jenkins

Tom Kite  
 Gary Koch  
 Bernhard Langer  
 Tom Lehman  
 Wayne Levi  
 J.L. Lewis  
 Steve Lowery  
 Chien Soon Lu  
 Mark McNulty  
 Larry Mize  
 Gil Morgan  
 Larry Nelson  
 Mark O'Meara  
 Steve Pate  
 Corey Pavin  
 Kenny Perry  
 Nick Price  
 Tom Purtzer  
 Dana Quigley  
 Loren Roberts  
 Jim Rutledge  
 Peter Senior  
 Jay Sigel  
 Scott Simpson  
 Joey Sindelar  
 Jeff Sluman  
 Rod Spittle  
 Craig Stadler  
 Curtis Strange  
 Jim Thorpe  
 Bob Tway  
 Bobby Wadkins  
 Lanny Wadkins  
 D.A. Weibring  
 Mark Wiebe  
 Fuzzy Zoeller  
*7 Event Qualifiers – determined Feb. 14*

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**CONTACT:**

**Lesley Baker**, The ACE Group Classic Tournament Director

(239) 300-2231 or [lesley.baker@octagon.com](mailto:lesley.baker@octagon.com)

**Adam Harris**, Marketing & Communications Director

(919) 531-0500 or [adam.harris@octagon.com](mailto:adam.harris@octagon.com)

**Mallory Beck**, Marketing & Communications Coordinator

(919) 531-0400 or [mallory.beck@octagon.com](mailto:mallory.beck@octagon.com)

**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](http://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](http://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, the Course of the Force and the Toyota Texas Bass Classic. For more information, visit [www.octagonglobalevents.com](http://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](http://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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