

MEDIA RELEASE
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**Brooke Henderson, Lydia Ko, Brittany Lang, Suzann Pettersen, and
Alena Sharp commit to Manulife LPGA Classic**

Charity Challenge at Media Event raises \$103,000

Cambridge, Ontario – World No. 1 & 2, Lydia Ko and Canadian Brooke Henderson will lead the field of 150 players including Brittany Lang, Suzann Pettersen and Alena Sharp when the Manulife LPGA Classic arrives at Whistle Bear Golf Club, August 31- September 4, 2016.

Teenagers Ko and Henderson have made headlines during the 2016 LPGA Tour season, with multiple victories including each claiming a Major title this year.

“Both Ko and Henderson have accomplished so much at such young ages. I’m excited to see what they will do when we welcome them back to the Manulife LPGA Classic,” said Tournament Director Milaina Wright. “It’s likely with this strong field of contenders that the fans will also be watching some newly minted medal winners from the Rio Olympics.”

Brittany Lang, the newly crowned U.S. Women’s Open champion, claimed the third Major of the season over the weekend. In 2012, Lang won the inaugural Manulife LPGA Classic and was recently announced as a Manulife Ambassador. Lang will look to claim another victory at the Manulife LPGA Classic after finishing T2 in 2015.

15-time LPGA Tour winner Suzann Pettersen will defend her title this year. In 2015, the Norwegian player took Whistle Bear by storm and finished with a 22-under par, after shooting all four rounds in the 60s.

Hamilton native Alena Sharp, the top Canadian finisher at the 2015 Manulife LPGA Classic, will return to compete for a fifth time. Sharp commented on the excitement of playing so close to home, “It’s encouraging when my family and friends are able to come out and support me. I’m fortunate that I get to play so close to where I grew up.”

Ko, Henderson, Lang, Pettersen and Sharp will join previously announced LPGA Tour veteran and Manulife Ambassador Stacy Lewis. Lewis's accolades include 11 Tour wins and multiple awards including Player of the Year in 2012 and 2014. More player commitments will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

Tradition of Giving

St. Mary's General Hospital Foundation continues to be the official charity partner of the tournament. Since 2012, the Manulife LPGA Classic has donated over \$1.2 million towards the Regional Cardiac Care Centre at St. Mary's General Hospital. This tradition of giving will continue in 2016.

Manulife has once again launched the Manulife Match campaign where every dollar raised until September 4 will be matched by Manulife, up to \$80,000. Donations can be made online at ManulifeMatch.ca or at the tournament.

Media Day Charity Challenge

On July 11, the tournament added a new charity challenge to its annual Media Day event. Alena Sharp along with community members Adam Tobin, PGA of Canada Head Professional, Whistle Bear Golf Club, Susan Dusick, Vice President, St. Mary's General Hospital Foundation and Gary Dyke, CAO, City of Cambridge took part in the challenge hitting golf balls across the Grand River onto a target. Together they raised \$103,000 for St. Mary's General Hospital Foundation. This will be added to all other donations, including the Manulife Match campaign at the end of the tournament.

For more information on the tournament, tickets hospitality and sponsorship options, or to find out more on how to get involved as a volunteer, visit manulifeclassic.ca.

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About the Manulife LPGA Classic

The Manulife LPGA Classic is one of only two Canadian stops on the LPGA Tour and features a standard eligibility field of 150 players, 72 holes of stroke play and a purse of US\$1.6 million. The 2016 event will take place August 31 – September 4, at Whistle Bear Golf Club near Cambridge, Ontario in Waterloo region, home of Manulife's Canadian Division headquarters. www.manulifeclassic.ca

About Manulife

Manulife Financial Corporation is a leading international financial services group providing forward-thinking solutions to help people with their big financial decisions. We operate as John Hancock in the United States, and Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance and wealth and asset management solutions for individuals, groups and institutions. At the end of 2015, we had approximately 34,000 employees, 63,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving 20 million customers. At the end of March 2016, we

had \$904 billion (US\$697 billion) in assets under management and administration, and in the previous 12 months we made more than \$24.9 billion in benefits, interest and other payments to our customers. Our principal operations are in Asia, Canada and the United States where we have served customers for more than 100 years. With our global headquarters in Toronto, Canada, we trade as 'MFC' on the Toronto, New York, and the Philippine stock exchanges and under '945' in Hong Kong. Follow Manulife on Twitter @ManulifeNews or visit www.manulife.com or www.johnhancock.com.

About Whistle Bear Golf Club

Whistle Bear Golf Club re-opened its clubhouse in July 2014 after a substantial rebuild. With a distinct emphasis on family membership and participation, Whistle Bear has a unique plan to develop into a multi-sport facility; family-friendly and strongly rooted in the community. Unlike traditional clubs, Whistle Bear has no initiation fee and offers an exceptional experience in terms of hospitality and Earth to Table cuisine. For more information please visit whistlebear.ca.

About Sports Properties International

As owner of the Manulife LPGA Classic, Sports Properties International was created to provide an environment where communities and spectacular sporting events can come together, connected by a common interest. More information about Sports Properties International can be found at spint.ca.

About Bruno Event Team

Bruno Event Team (BET) is a Birmingham, Alabama-based sports marketing and event management company formed in 1996 by Ronald Bruno and Gene Hallman. Bruno Event Team is experienced in all facets of event management, employing a year-round staff of 70+ employees in nine offices around the United States and Canada. Bruno Event Team Services each client with expertise in strategic planning, marketing, advertising, public and media relations, ticket and merchandise sales, sponsor relations, hospitality consulting, event operations, event financial planning/accounting, and volunteer coordination. Visit brunoeventteam.com for additional information.

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