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Michelle Wie, Lydia Ko and Natalie Gulbis are headed to Waterloo

Waterloo - Three past LPGA Tour champions join the field for the third annual Manulife Financial LPGA Classic at Grey Silo Golf Course, June 4-8.

"We are thrilled that these top golfers are returning to play in the Manulife Financial LPGA Classic," said Marianne Harrison, President and CEO, Manulife Canada. "The tournament is heating up and we can't wait for the same level of excitement from years past. Hope to see you there!"

Michelle Wie is one of women's golf most recognizable faces. She turned pro just shy of her 16th birthday and is a two-time winner on the LPGA Tour. Her most recent victory came in 2010 at the CN Canadian Women's Open and she will look to recapture some of that magic she found in Canada in this year's running of the Manulife Financial LPGA Classic. Wie has been in the top 16 in all six of her starts this season, most recently falling behind Lexi Thompson at the Kraft Nabisco Championship for second place. She currently sits 24th in the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings.

Two-time LPGA Tour winner Lydia Ko is still looking to capture her first LPGA victory as a member of the Tour. Ko won both the 2012 and 2013 CN Canadian Women's Open, as an amateur and non-member! Ko turned professional in October 2013 and was granted membership for the 2014 season by LPGA Commissioner Mike Whan. Two months after turning professional, Ko won her first event as a pro at the Swinging Skirts World Ladies Masters on the Korean Ladies Professional Golf Association Tour (KLPGA). Currently, Ko sits in the number four spot in the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings.

Natalie Gulbis leapt into the media spotlight in 2005 as one of the most popular female golfers in the United States. Her popularity hasn't lost any steam over the years as Gulbis has an impressive 189,000 followers on Twitter, and proudly supports the Boys & Girls Club of America. In 2013, Gulbis competed in 20 events, making 17 cuts with one top-10 finish. Gulbis recorded a season-best tie for ninth at the RICOH Women's British Open, and currently sits 131 in the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings.

"We have the best fans in the world; they are dedicated, and extremely supportive," Richard Kuypers, Manulife Financial LPGA Classic Tournament Director. "Michelle, Lydia, and Natalie are scheduled to compete in Waterloo. Our fans will have a lot to cheer for in 2014!"

For more information, including ticketing and volunteer opportunities, visit www.manulifeclassic.ca.

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About the [Manulife Financial LPGA Classic](http://www.manulifeclassic.ca)

The Manulife Financial LPGA Classic is back for its third year on the LPGA Tour and will feature a standard eligibility field of 144 players, 72 holes of stroke play and a purse of \$1.5 million. The tournament will take place June 4 - 8, 2014, at Grey Silo Golf Course in Waterloo, Ontario, home of Manulife Financial's Canadian Division. For more information please visit: www.manulifeclassic.ca.

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About [Manulife Financial](#)

Manulife Financial is a leading Canada-based financial services group with principal operations in Asia, Canada and the United States. Clients look to Manulife for strong, reliable, trustworthy and forward-thinking solutions for their most significant financial decisions. Our international network of employees, agents and distribution partners offers financial protection and wealth management products and services to millions of clients. We also provide asset management services to institutional customers. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were approximately C\$599 billion (US\$563 billion) as at December 31, 2013. The Company operates as Manulife Financial in Canada and Asia and primarily as John Hancock in the United States.

Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at manulife.com.

About [Sports Properties International](#)

As owner of the Manulife Financial 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. Sports Properties International can be found on the internet at www.sportspropertiesinternational.com.

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 thirteen 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 www.brunoeventteam.com for additional information.

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