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#ManulifeLPGA

Inbee Park, Michelle Wie, Suzann Pettersen, Lexi Thompson and Lorie Kane are headed to Waterloo

Waterloo - Five past winners on the LPGA Tour join the field for the second annual Manulife Financial LPGA Classic at Grey Silo Golf Course, July 10-14.

"We're delighted that the LPGA's top players are once again supporting the Manulife Financial LPGA Classic," said Marianne Harrison, President and CEO, Manulife Canada. "It's a great indication of the quality of golf we can expect to see as the tournament builds on last year's momentum and entertains us all with world-class competition."

Inbee Park the current number one in the Women's Rolex Golf Rankings is a six-time winner on the LPGA Tour. Of those victories, three have come in 2013, including a major victory at the Kraft Nabisco Championship. This allowed her to unseat Stacy Lewis from the top of the Rankings.

Michelle Wie, the 23-year-old Hawaiian, 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.

Suzann Pettersen, the fourth-ranked player in the Women's Rolex Golf Rankings, has won 17 tournaments as a professional, with 11 of them coming on the LPGA Tour. She is coming off an extremely strong performance in the 2012-2013 season, notching three LPGA victories. The Oslo, Norway native is currently in her 10th season on the LPGA Tour and is currently the highest ranked European player in the world. Pettersen has also enjoyed success on the Ladies European Tour (LET), being named Rookie of the Year in 2001 and has totaled five career victories.

Lexi Thompson turned professional in 2010 at the age of 15. Now 18 years old, Thompson is making strides in the world rankings, currently placing within the top 30. In September of 2011, the teenage phenom set a new record as the youngest-ever winner of an LPGA tournament, at age 16 years, seven months, and eight days, when she won the Navistar LPGA Classic in Prattville, AL.

Lorie Kane who is in her 20th season on the LPGA Tour has come to exemplify women's golf in Canada. The Charlottetown, PEI native is a four-time winner on tour with her most successful season coming back in 2000. As a great ambassador of Canada over the years, she was awarded the Order of Canada in 2006. She is looking for a strong showing in front of the home fans at this year's version of the Manulife Financial LPGA Classic.

"The commitment of these five world-class golfers is exciting as it should make for an extremely competitive field for the second year in a row," says Manulife Financial LPGA Classic Tournament Director Richard Kuypers. "This year's strong showing only highlights the remarkable impression that both Waterloo and our sponsors left on the LPGA players. With similar passion and support as last year by the local community, I'm confident that this tournament can become a tour favourite for years to come."

For information, including ticket pricing, visit www.manulifeclassic.ca or call the tournament office at (519) 884-5742.

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About the [Manulife Financial LPGA Classic](#)

The Manulife Financial LPGA Classic is back for its second year on the LPGA Tour and will feature a standard eligibility field of 144 players, 72 holes of stroke play and a purse of \$1.3 million. The tournament will take place July 10 – 14, 2013, 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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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 [St. Mary's General Hospital](#)

Located in the heart of Kitchener, Ontario, St. Mary's is an adult-acute-care hospital and Regional Cardiac Care Centre. Serving Waterloo Region, Wellington County and beyond, St. Mary's has an established reputation for providing quality, compassionate and innovative care. The hospital's cardiac team provides more than 3,400 cardiac catheterizations, 1,050 coronary angioplasties, 750 cardiac surgeries and 275 pacemaker insertions every year.

St. Mary's patient-centered approach to care is augmented by a strong and dedicated team of more than 500 volunteers who contribute nearly 40,000 hours of service a year in 100 unique roles and programs. www.smgh.ca

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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.

Media Contacts:

Lisa Green
Manulife Financial LPGA Classic Marketing & Communications Manager
Manulife Financial LPGA Classic
519-884-5742 ext. 202
lisa@manulifeclassic.ca

Brooke Tucker-Reid
Media Relations Consultant
Manulife Financial
416-434-0635
brooke_tucker-reid@manulife.com