



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 22, 2016

## **Colin Montgomerie Returns to Shaw Charity Classic with Unfinished Business** Major addition to 2016 field is third World Golf Hall of Famer committed to Calgary

**CALGARY**—The Shaw Charity Classic announced another major addition to its 2016 field as one of Europe's best golfers ever, Colin Montgomerie, will return to Calgary for another shot at the prestigious title on the PGA TOUR Champions circuit.

"Colin was definitely a crowd favourite here in Calgary last year, and it is a huge win for our city to have the opportunity to host him again this summer," said Sean Van Kesteren, executive director, Shaw Charity Classic, who added Montgomerie is now the third member of the World Golf Hall of Fame – joining Tom Watson and Bernhard Langer – to book their tee time for the 2016 Shaw Charity Classic. The tournament also added the newest star of the PGA TOUR Champions, John Daly, to the field last week.

"We have never had commitments from the biggest names on Tour this early in our preparation. I believe that speaks volumes about the quality of our event and of golf fans in southern Alberta. The players enjoy coming to Calgary, they love taking in everything this part of the world offers, and most importantly, want to add a Shaw Charity Classic title on their resumes."

Arguably the greatest Ryder Cup player ever, a winner of 49 events worldwide, captain of the 2010 winning European Ryder Cup squad at Celtic Manor and a three-time major winner on the PGA TOUR Champions circuit, the man affectionately known as "Monty" returns to the Stampede City to settle some unfinished business.

The Scotsman was destined to don the traditional white Stetson annually presented to the Shaw Charity Classic champion one year ago until he made the turn onto the final nine holes of the week. With more than 40,000 fans lining the fairways at Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club to catch a glimpse of Britain's most successful golfer, Montgomerie's only blemish came on the par-3 ninth hole on Sunday where he made double-bogey, leaving him watching Jeff Maggert pull away for a four-shot victory.

"The goal every time we tee it up is to be in contention so I was delighted to be able to do that last year, but the standard here on this Tour is fantastic. You just can't afford any wee wobbles. Week in and week out you've got to play your best, there's no question, and if you don't play your best you will not win – simple as that," said Montgomerie.

"It's no secret this tournament is number one on the list - from the course, the fan base, the locker rooms, the volunteers. I'm anxious to get back to Calgary and have another shot at winning."

Montgomerie has won three times in North America – all major titles – since turning 50 and joining the PGA TOUR Champions. His first victory against the senior Tour came in 2014 when he won the Senior PGA Championship. He backed that victory up by winning the U.S. Senior Open Championship a couple of weeks later, and successfully defended his Senior PGA Championship in 2015. Montgomerie is the first player since Jack Nicklaus to start his career on the PGA TOUR Champions with three major titles. He also won his second straight Senior European Order of Merit in 2015.

Montgomerie became Europe's number one player in 1993 – a position he retained for an unprecedented run of seven straight years where he earned more prize money than any British golfer in history. He added one more European Order of Merit title before switching his focus to teeing it up in senior Tours on both sides of the pond.

Tickets, hospitality and sponsorship packages for the Shaw Charity Classic are available online at <u>www.shawcharityclassic.com</u>. Youth 17-and-under are admitted free with a ticketed adult. For more information on the sponsorship and hosting opportunities at the 2016 Shaw Charity Classic August 31 – September 4, please visit <u>www.shawcharityclassic.com</u>. Hospitality and early bird specials are available until June 30, 2016.





## About the Shaw Charity Classic

The Shaw Charity Classic will host some of the greatest names in the game of golf in Calgary at the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club, August 31 – September 4, 2016. The field, which will consist of 81 stars on the PGA TOUR Champions, will compete for US \$2.35 million in a three-round, 54-hole stroke-play tournament. The winner will receive US \$352,500 and 352 Charles Schwab Cup Points. The only annual PGA TOUR Champions stop in Canada will showcase Calgary to the world through its broadcast on the Golf Channel. Led by a philanthropic Patron Group including Tournament Chairman – Clay Riddell, Vice Chairman – Allan Markin, Keith MacPhail, Jim Riddell, Guy Turcotte, Gary Peddle and PGA Tour Professional – Stephen Ames, along with title sponsor, Shaw Communications, the Shaw Charity Classic won the PGA TOUR Champions prestigious President's Award in 2015 and 2014. The Tournament has raised more than \$8.5 million in its first three years, with a PGA TOUR Champions record setting donation of \$3,942,712 raised in 2015 that was distributed amongst 99 youth- based charities in Alberta. For more information on the event, please visit www.shawcharityclassic.com. Follow the Shaw Charity Classic at facebook.com/shawcharityclassic and on Twitter @shawclassic. The Shaw Charity Classic is managed by Bruno Event Team and Shaw Communications Inc.

## About PGA TOUR Champions

PGA TOUR Champions has the most recognizable and accomplished players in the game, with many of its 34 members in the World Golf Hall of Fame competing regularly in its events. It's where Legends play. The Tour also counts numerous other major championship winners among its members. PGA TOUR Champions 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. PGA TOUR Champions 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. Points earned in official Charles Schwab Cup events in 2015 determined Bernhard Langer as the Charles Schwab Cup champion. In 2016, the newly-introduced Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will identify and recognize the Tour's leading player. The Commissioner of the PGA TOUR is Tim Finchem. Greg McLaughlin is President of PGA TOUR Champions. The PGA TOUR's website is pgatour.com, the No. 1 site in golf, and the organization is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Follow the PGA TOUR Champions at facebook.com/ChampionsTour and on Twitter @ChampionsTour.

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