

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN CENTURY CHAMPIONSHIP TEES OFF AT TAHOE SOUTH, JULY 15--20

Annika, Charles Barkley, Steph Curry, Aaron Rodgers headline field of 86 stars

July 11, 2014 *(South Lake Tahoe Calif./Nev.)* – Star sightings are in the cards and on the course next week for the 25th anniversary of the American Century Championship at Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course, July 15-20 (www.TahoeCelebrityGolf.com). The No. 1 celebrity sports event in the USA is expecting record attendance with the addition of Annika Sorenstam to the field of 86 sports and entertainment stars, a forecast of perfect weather and the area's 24-hour lifestyle.

Fans will find Hall of Famers from the NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, along with entertainment personalities competing for \$125,000 of the \$600,000 purse.

All eyes, however, will be on Annika Sorenstam, the LPGA legend who if based on pretournament wagering is the early favorite. Harrah's and Harveys Race & Sports Book originally installed her as the 2 to 1 favorite, but now lists the 89 time tournament winner -- including 10 major championships, at 5 to 4.

Other marquee names include Charles Barkley, Steph Curry and Aaron Rodgers, NFL Hall of Famers Steve Young, Jerry Rice and John Elway; Larry the Cable Guy, current Kansas City Chiefs and former 49ers quarterback Alex Smith; former major league All-Star Chipper Jones; actor-comedian Kevin Nealon; NASCAR drivers Denny Hamlin and Michael Waltrip; and Bush Center Wounded Warrior Champion Chad Pfeifer. Elway, along with Jack Wagner, Mike Eruzione, and Jim McMahon have played all 25 years

First-timers include Geno Auriemma, head coach of the 9-time national women's champion basketball team at the University of Connecticut; Roger Clemens, 7-time Cy Young Award winner; Alan Thicke of Unusually Thicke and Growing Pains fame.

Tournament and local favorite Charles Barkley will bring his personality and good nature along with his unique golf swing. As usual, he is primed for Tahoe.

Other basketball talents joining the fray are former Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Clippers coach Vinny Del Negro and former Notre Dame basketball coach, Digger Phelps.

The NFL brings Emmitt Smith, Marcus Allen, Marshall Faulk, Jerome Bettis, Tim Brown; and Oakland Raiders kicker Sebastian Janikowski.

The NHL will be checking in with Olympian and St. Louis Blues star T.J. Oshie, New Jersey Devils goaltender Martin Brodeur, Hall of Famer and \$1 million 2011 tournament hole-in-one winner Joe Sakic, and NBCSN in game analyst Jeremy Roenick.

Rounding out the sports stars are MLB Hall of Famers Greg Maddux and Ozzie Smith; former All-Stars Vince Coleman, Kenny Lofton, Fred McGriff, and Kevin Millar; pitchers Tim Wakefield, Bret Saberhagen and Derek Lowe.

NBC and NBCSN will televise the tournament live as follows:

- Friday, July 18: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. ET, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. PT (live) on NBCSN
- Saturday, July 19: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. ET, noon to 3 p.m. PT (live) on NBC.
- Sunday, July 20: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. ET, noon to 3 p.m. PT (live) on NBC.

A re-air of the broadcasts is scheduled on the Golf Channel.

Tournament scoring is based on a modified Stableford format with 10 points for a double eagle, 8 for a hole-in-one, 6 for eagle, 3 for birdie, 1 for par, 0 for bogey, and minus 2 for double-bogey or higher. The celebrities will play 54-holes over the 6,846-yard lakeside course at Edgewood. Inaugural American Century Championship winner Mark Rypien, a two-time NFL pro quarterback, will return along with defending championsh Billy Joe Tolliver, a four-time winner. Other returning champions include Hollywood actor and two-time ACC winner Jack Wagner, and eight-time winner Rick Rhoden.

Tournament title sponsor American Century Investments is a leading, privately-controlled investment management firm serving professionals, institutions, corporations and individuals. Through its ownership structure, more than 40 percent of company profits support research to help find cures for genetically-based diseases including cancer, diabetes and dementia.

In honor of American Century Investments Founder James Stowers Jr., an investment management innovator and philanthropist who recently passed away at the age of 90, the official national beneficiary of the 2014 tournament is the Stowers Institute for Medical Research (<u>http://www.stowers.org/</u>). The Institute is a 550-person, basic biomedical research organization focused on improving our understanding of fundamental biological processes and using this

knowledge to guide the development of innovative approaches to treat, diagnose and prevent disease. The Stowers Institute for Medical Research was established in 1994 through the extraordinary generosity of cancer survivors Mr. Stowers and his wife, Virginia, who dedicated their personal fortune to improving human health through basic research. Each year, more than 40 percent of American Century Investments' profits are distributed to the Institute. Total dividend payments since 2000 now exceed \$1 billion.

Season Passes and daily tickets are available online at <u>www.TahoeSouth.com and</u> <u>www.TahoeCelebrityGolf.com</u>. Season passes are \$60. Tickets are \$15 each day for the Lake Tahoe Celebrity-Amateur on Tuesday, July 16; practice round on Wednesday, July 17; and the American Century Celebrity-Am on Thursday, July 18; and \$25 for each tournament round, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Kids 10 and under receive free admission – limit two -- when accompanied by a paying adult.

Discounted Daily Tickets are available at 127 Raley's, Bel Air or Nob Hill Foods locations throughout Northern California and Nevada. Tickets are \$12 (regularly \$15) for access Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and \$22 (regularly \$25) for Friday, Saturday and Sunday tournament action or \$18 with a grocery purchase of \$50 or more for up to four tickets.

The tournament is also offering complimentary tickets for military members. All active duty, reservists, National Guard and veterans can receive two complimentary tickets, including one for a guest each day of the tournament. All service men and women who would like to attend must apply at https://americancenturychampionship.sheerid.com/ to redeem the special offer. At the events, participants must show photo ID along with the ticket voucher at tournament gates to receive the complimentary ticket(s).

For the latest details, photos, celebrity tweets and fan contests go to @ACChampionship on Twitter and Instagram and <u>facebook.com/LTCelebrityGolf</u>. For tournament information: <u>www.TahoeCelebrityGolf.com</u>.

For real time updates on events, promotions, packages, conditions and events in South Lake Tahoe, visit The Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/TahoeSouth</u>, Twitter: <u>www.twitter.com/SouthShoreTahoe</u> and YouTube: <u>www.youtube.com/LTVA</u>. For information about Lake Tahoe South Shore, call 1-800-AT-TAHOE (1-800-288-2463) or visit <u>www.tahoesouth.com</u>.



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For further information, contact: Steve Griffith Vizion Group 484/433-7757 (East Coast)

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The party on Hole 17 will deliver laughs and fun again for the 25th Annual American Century Championship, July 15-20.

About the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority

Designated the "America's Best Lake" by USA TODAY readers (2012), Tahoe South combines the distinctive appeal of two worlds: spectacular natural beauty and a modern tourism destination with an array of outdoor recreation, entertainment, nightlife and gaming. Tahoe's timeless splendor and an emerging economic diversity toward health and wellness, green business practices and sustainability continue to define its inimitable personality. For information about lodging, recreation and family packages at Tahoe South, call 1-800-288-2463 or log onto www.TahoeSouth.com.

About American Century Investments

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