

Two-Time Masters Champion Jose Maria Olazabal Commits to 2017 Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic

Joins Fellow Hall of Famer Colin Montgomerie in Field

Mississippi Gulf Coast –The **Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic (MGRC)** announced that **Jose Maria Olazabal** has committed to the 2017 tournament. Olazabal is a two-time Masters Champion, in 1994 and 1999, and was elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2009. He captained the victorious European Ryder Cup team in 2012. He is making his first trip to the Mississippi Gulf Coast after joining the PGA TOUR Champions this season.

He joins fellow Hall of Famer and former European Ryder Cup Captain **Colin Montgomerie** in the field. The European Ryder Cup captain before Olazabal, Montgomerie was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2013. He has four PGA TOUR Champion victories, including three majors. He won the Senior PGA Championship in 2014 and 2015, in addition to the 2014 U.S. Senior Open.

Tickets for the MGRC are just \$15 and may be purchased online at www.2017MGRC.com or by calling the tournament office at (228) 896-6365. Children 16 and under are admitted free with a ticketed adult and all active and retired military and their families are admitted free with a military issued identification card.

The 2017 Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic will take place March 30 – April 2 at Fallen Oak in Biloxi. This will be the eighth year that the Mississippi Gulf Coast will host the best players on the PGA TOUR Champions. For the seventh consecutive year, the tournament will be broadcast live on the Golf Channel, with Saturday and Sunday's rounds being aired to over 85 million households throughout the United States.

The Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic is now accepting media applications online at pgatourmedia.com.

About The Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic

The Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic is uniquely funded by a group of consortium partners, who see this event as an ideal way to promote the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The 2017 major contributing partners are: Mississippi Power, C Spire, IP Resort & Spa, F.E.B. Distributing, Hard Rock Biloxi, Harrah's Gulf Coast, Hancock Bank, Coca-Cola and Beau Rivage Hotel & Resort-Fallen Oak. The tournament is administered through the MGRC Foundation, Inc. whose mission is to promote tourism on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

About PGA TOUR Champions

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of golf's most recognizable and accomplished players, age 50 and older, including 32 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame. The Tour's mission 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 and generate significant charitable and economic impact in tournament communities. In 2017, the PGA TOUR Champions schedule includes 26 tournaments in 18 states, Japan, Wales and Canada, with purses totaling more than \$55 million. The Charles Schwab Cup, which includes the Regular Season and the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, is used to determine the season-long champion. All events are televised in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on Golf Channel, the exclusive cable-television partner of PGA TOUR Champions. Internationally, telecasts air live, tape-delayed or in a highlights-package format in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 330 million potential households. The PGA TOUR's web site is PGATOUR.COM, the No. 1 site in golf, and the organization is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Follow PGA TOUR Champions at facebook.com/PGATOURChampions, on Twitter @ChampionsTour and on Instagram @pgatourchampions.

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