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Bernhard Langer is Coming Back to YYC for Shaw Charity Classic

Three-time Charles Schwab Cup winner returns to award-winning tournament after one-year hiatus

CALGARY—The Shaw Charity Classic has landed one of the top men on the PGA TOUR Champions circuit. Bernhard Langer, who did not tee it up at Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club last year, will return to Calgary this summer for the fourth playing of the award-winning tournament, September 2-4, 2016.

“There is no doubt this is one of the best tournaments we play on Tour and there was no way I was going to miss it again this year,” said Langer, who added a conflict in his schedule prevented him from booking a trip to the Stampede City one year ago.

“I enjoyed playing in Calgary two years ago. It is a very impressive, beautiful golf course. I’m an outdoors enthusiast and this part of the world is equally stunning. The fans were fantastic – some of the largest galleries we see on Tour – and I am excited to get back to Canada and try to win another golf tournament.”

The smooth-swinging German has certainly done his share of winning throughout this illustrious career. One of the most successful players in the history of the senior circuit, Langer is currently chasing his fourth Charles Schwab Cup where he sits second in the overall standings to date thanks to his victory at the Chubb Classic along with six, top-10 finishes in seven starts in 2016. Langer became the first player to win the prestigious title three times last year when he locked up his second-straight title.

Langer has won 26 times on the PGA TOUR Champions circuit including five senior majors titles: 2015 Constellation Senior Players Championship; Constellation Senior Players Championship and The Senior Open Championship in 2011; along with both the U.S. Senior Open and The Senior Open Championship in 2010.

A three-time winner on the PGA TOUR including the 1993 and 1985 Masters, Langer booked his plane ticket to Calgary just days after Tournament officials announced World Golf Hall of Famer, Tom Watson, will make his first start at the Shaw Charity Classic this summer.

“The names Bernhard Langer and Tom Watson are synonymous with the greatest in the game. Having two of the most respected guys on our Tour commit to the Shaw Charity Classic this early in the year proves the players have great admiration for our event, Calgary and Canada,” said Sean Van Kesteren, executive director, Shaw Charity Classic. “We are continuously seeking ways to improve the fan experience each year, but one thing is for certain, with Bernhard and Tom leading the way, we will for sure have a world-leading field to entertain Calgarians this summer.”

Boasting 10 major titles between the two of them, Watson and Langer have both turned back the clocks late in their careers while competing in major championships on the PGA TOUR. Nearing his 60th birthday in 2009, Watson led the British Open until the 71st hole where he eventually lost in a playoff to Stewart Cink. Langer also captured the world’s attention earlier this month at age 58 when he sat just two shots off the lead heading into Sunday’s final round at Augusta National.

“I’m a strong believer that we can get better even at my age because we can improve our technique and can get better mentally. I understand more about the golf swing and the golf game now than I did 20, 30 years ago, and so what you lose in strength and flexibility, you hopefully make up with better technique and other things that you’ve learned through experience,” said Langer, who believes Watson swings the club better now in his 60’s than in his earlier days. “There’s going to be a point sometime in our lives where we do decline, and we all go through valleys and peaks, but I think if you’re healthy enough, and you work out a little bit and maintain some kind of strength and flexibility you can still get better at the game in your 50s.”

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-2-

Tickets, hospitality and sponsorship packages for the Shaw Charity Classic are available online at www.shawcharityclassic.com. 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 www.shawcharityclassic.com. 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 Tour, 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 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 the 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.

- 30 -

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