



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
April 17, 2007

Wichita Open adds Newton Pro/Am Golf Tournament to schedule

Roy Turner, director of the Wichita Open, announced today the addition of a PGA Nationwide Tour Pro/Am Golf Tournament at Newton's Sand Creek Station Golf Course on Tuesday, July 31, 2007. Twenty-four teams of four amateurs and one PGA Nationwide Tour pro golfer will take to the links in Newton's first professional golfing event. It will be the only professional golf stop in Kansas outside of Wichita.

"The support and enthusiasm of Sand Creek Station and Newton community leaders has been the key factor in our decision to hold our first ever off-site Pro/Am in our 18-year history," Turner said.

The Greater Newton Community Foundation was invited to be the title sponsor, and the foundation is now seeking sponsor partners and green and tee sponsors to help stage the event. Top Gold Sponsor Partners will contribute \$3,000 each and will be allowed to enter a team of four amateurs, along with other important benefits. Amateur spots not taken by the partners will be open to the public at cost of \$350 each. It will include the green and cart fee, a \$200 value gift package (including a Titlist golf bag and balls), two meals and all beverages, and playing 18 holes with a PGA Nationwide Tour professional golfer.

"Not only are we proud that the Greater Newton Community Foundation and the PGA Nationwide Tour will enable us to host the first major professional sports event ever held in Newton, but we are especially pleased because the charity benefit will help some of our neediest citizens," said Newton City Manager Jim Heinicke. "The Newton Pro/Am will provide the Foundation with much-needed capital for serving the needs of our community."

The Newton Pro/Am Tournament day will start at 8 a.m. with a Junior Clinic led by local golf professionals. The range will open at 10 a.m. for warm-up strokes. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. together with a lunch free to the tournament participants. At 11:30 a.m. City officials and the title sponsor will offer a special message, and the tournament will have a shotgun tee time of

12:05 p.m. Sizzling steaks with all the fixings, prepared by Montana Mike's, will await the golfers as they complete their last round.

The Top Gold Partner sign-up period will continue through April. Twelve Top Gold Partners have already signed up to sponsor this event: 1st Bank, Regier Title, Central National Bank, Newton Medical Center, Stucky & Associates, Excel Industries, Midland National Bank, Hutton Construction, Sand Creek Station Golf Course, The Newton Kansan, Citizens State Bank and T Mobile.

The Silver Green and Tee Sponsor sign-up starts today and will continue through May. A tee or hole sponsorship is \$500; a tee and hole sponsorship is \$1,000. For a sponsor information and sign-up booklet, contact Dennis LeFevre at (316) 283-5474 or Bill Regier at (316) 283-2750.

The following statement was released by Dennis LeFevre, executive director of the Greater Newton Community Foundation:

"For the past 12 years the Greater Newton Community Foundation has hosted a golf tournament to benefit charities. While some have been large and some smaller, what has remained constant over those 12 years is the focus on benefiting the charities and communities we are part of.

"When the Wichita Open and Sand Creek Station inquired about our interest in participating in the first ever professional sports event to come to Harvey County, we decided change would be good! Giving golf amateurs a chance to play with PGA Tour pros will be fun and exciting!

"In addition to benefiting the charities of the Greater Newton area, we'll be showcasing the award-winning Sand Creek Station course, sure to be a community gem for years to come. In addition, we'll be inviting participants to experience the hospitality of the greater Newton community. We hope you'll return again soon!

"The focus of the Greater Newton Community Foundation will continue to be building legacies for the community. We hope you'll be able to join us as we have fun and raise money for the charities of the Greater Newton Community."

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