

For Immediate Release

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## **SIMPSON CUP COMING TO CONGRESSIONAL COUNTRY CLUB**



“Chad Pfeifer, US Team Captain tees off at 2012 Simpson Cup”

**Bethesda, Maryland.** Ret. Cpl. Chad Pfeifer, who lost his left leg above the knee in 2007 when the vehicle that he was travelling in was hit by an IED in Iraq, had never played golf before his accident. Today, he is down to a handicap of 1 and will lead a team of 12 injured American Servicemen and veterans in the third Simpson Cup, to be held at Congressional Country Club October 6-8, 2014.

The Simpson Cup pitches 12 injured Servicemen and veterans from the UK against their American counterparts in a Ryder Cup style competition. All competitors are members of the On Course Foundation (a registered Charitable Organization in the UK and US) which helps wounded, injured and sick Servicemen, women and veterans get back *on course*, both via golf itself and jobs in the golf industry.

The Tournament, which aims to raise funds and awareness for the Foundation, begins Sunday, October 5th with the Official Opening Ceremony followed by a fundraising dinner and Gala Ball. Monday, October 6th features a player/sponsor tournament taking place on the nationally recognized Blue and Gold Courses of Congressional Country Club with a dinner and prize giving for participants. The Simpson Cup is officially underway on Tuesday, October 7th with the four ball matches (two against two, better ball) which will take place on the Gold Course. The event will wrap up Wednesday, October 8th with individual matches on the famed Blue Course followed by the Cup presentation to the winning team, and closing ceremonies to round off the week.

The On Course Foundation, founded by John Simpson (the former manager of Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer and Greg Norman), has been operating in the UK since 2010 and was launched in the US in 2012. Since then, the charity has introduced over 500 injured warriors to the game of golf, with many going on to find work experience and full-time jobs within the golf industry.

“The competition and the events leading up to it are key aspects of the On Course Foundation’s program on both sides of the Atlantic. Golf provides the ultimate level playing field, and through great coaching, the charity is able to rebuild confidence in these deserving individuals as they face new challenges in their lives. Most importantly, we aim to give them opportunities for the future via work experience and employment opportunities in the golf industry,” said Simpson. “The Simpson Cup gives these determined and focused men and women something to work towards - a real target.”

“Last year, I witnessed the competition in the UK, and was deeply moved by the professionalism, pride and poise of the athletes and very impressed by the golf,” said Gregory Lamb, immediate past President of Congressional Country Club and the 2014 Simpson Cup Tournament Chairman.

The Simpson Cup is the marquee event for the On Course Foundation and has been met with great success during the last two years. It was first hosted in 2012 at TPC Sawgrass in Jacksonville, Florida and Royal Lytham & St Annes in Lancashire, UK in 2013. Team USA will be looking to turn the tables on their home turf in 2014 after their British counterpart’s secured impressive victories in the previous two tournaments.

Golfing legend and On Course Foundation Patron, Arnold Palmer, has been a keen supporter since the charity's beginnings and has offered his support to both teams:

"I am delighted that the 2014 Simpson Cup is taking place at Congressional Country Club," said Mr. Palmer. "It fills me with great joy that these injured Servicemen can enjoy our wonderful game. I continue to be profoundly moved by their courage and determination."

#### **Schedule of Simpson Cup Events:**

Sunday, October 5: Official Opening Ceremony followed by Fundraising Dinner & Gala Ball

Monday, October 6: Player/Sponsor tournament play. Location: Blue & Gold Courses

Tuesday, October 7: Simpson Cup Tournament Day 1 (Four Ball matches). Location: Gold Course

Wednesday, October 8: Simpson Cup Tournament Day 2 (Singles matches). Location: Blue Course

Wednesday, October 8: Cup presentation and Closing Ceremony

#### **THE ON COURSE FOUNDATION:**

**ABOUT THE ON COURSE FOUNDATION:** *The On Course Foundation (OCF) is a registered charity in the UK and a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization in the USA. OCF provides long-term benefits for wounded, injured and sick (WIS) Servicemen personnel and veterans via golf tuition, work experience placements and jobs in the golf industry. Endorsed by the R&A and US PGA Tour, with His Royal Highness The Duke of York and Arnold Palmer as Patrons, OCF has an ever-growing number of injured members and the Foundation has secured full-time employment for numerous ex-Servicemen in the golf industry, with many more undertaking work experience placements with a view to full-time employment.*

#### **THE SIMPSON CUP:**

**ABOUT THE SIMPSON CUP:** *The Simpson Cup is an annual Ryder Cup styled tournament between 12 injured Servicemen and veterans from Great Britain and the USA. Named after the Chairman and Founder of the On Course Foundation, John Simpson, the event demonstrates the unique position of golf as one of the few sports where players of all skills and abilities can play together on a level playing field, because of the official golf handicap system. The competitors involved are all members of the On Course Foundation, a charitable organisation on both sides of the Atlantic which aims to support the recovery of injured Service personnel and veterans via golf tuition and jobs in the golf industry. The aim of this unique event is to raise the awareness of both charities, and to raise funds to support the programme of activities both in the UK and the US.*

#### **CONGRESSIONAL COUNTRY CLUB:**

**ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL COUNTRY CLUB:** Congressional Country Club, rich in history and traditions, is a full amenity private club in Bethesda, Maryland. Since opening in 1924, its Blue Course has hosted three U.S. Opens, a PGA Championship and several other PGA and USGA tournaments of note. Tournament winners at Congressional include: Rory McIlroy, Ken Venturi, Ernie Els, and Tiger Woods, among others. Founding life members of Congressional include Presidents: William H. Taft, Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover.

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