

GEORGIA PGA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 25, 2019

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Roswell, (GA) --- For the fourth consecutive year the DripFusion Pro-IV Georgia Open presented by Red Hare Brewing and E-Z-GO will be contested at The Ford Plantation in Richmond Hill next week. The tournament dates are August 1<sup>st</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup>, with the sold out Pro-Am set for Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Georgia Open annually attracts a diverse field, with mini-tour pros and amateurs joining Georgia PGA professionals. Since Stephen Keppler won back-to-back tournaments at Lake Oconee courses in 1994 and 1995, current or recent tour players have won the Georgia Open 19 of the last 22 years. The only exceptions were Georgia PGA members Tim Weinhart, winning at the Legends at Chateau Elan in 2004, and Jeff Hull, who won at Champions Retreat Golf Club in 2007. In both cases, Weinhart and Hull edged out players currently competing on the PGA Tour. Weinhart finished one shot ahead of Kris Blanks, at the time an assistant pro at The Landings in Savannah, with Hull also winning by one stroke in 2007 over Luke List, who now competes on the PGA Tour.

In last year's championship, current PGA Tour Latino America member Tim O'Neal of Savannah won the title at The Ford Plantation by five shots over mini-tour professional Barrett Waters of Dallas after posting a final round of 8-under par 64. O'Neal is scheduled to defend his title.

Other professionals expected to contend for the title include 2017 Georgia Open champion and reigning Georgia Section Player of the Year, Paul Claxton of Claxton who played on one of the PGA Tours for nearly twenty years. Sonny Skinner, the five-time PGA of America senior player of the year is expected to contend. Skinner's best finish was in 2006 at Reynolds Landing when he placed third. Georgia Southern University graduate Scott Wolfes, of St. Simons Island, finished in a tie for third place last year and should once again be in the hunt for his first Georgia Open title.

Amateurs that are expected to vie for the title include David Noll, Jr. of Dalton, Georgia Southern University rising sophomore Colin Bowles from Albany, and 2019 Atlanta Open Champion, Eli Scott from Hartwell.

The Ford Plantation is one of the finest havens in the country as named by *Town & Country* magazine; this 1,800-acre private community on the banks of the Ogeechee River offers a select few members the best of every day. Alongside a spectacular Pete Dye golf course, it offers sport fishing, riding, shooting and fine dining, a relaxed southern lifestyle provides a respite from the outside world, among acres of protected wetlands, abundant wildlife and the serenity of graceful Live Oaks. Ford's story is told through simple details and personal interactions on every level. It's a lifestyle you won't find anywhere else.

DripFusion's Pro-IV is the solution for anyone living with inflammation and chronic pain. Pro-IV is collaboration of world-renowned athletes and world-renowned physicians that create IV micronutrient therapies to improve the safety, performance, and quality of life for anyone living an active life style. Pro-IV is based in Braselton, GA.

On Labor Day weekend, 2011, Red Hare Brewing opened its doors to the public for tours and tastings. Soon, Red Hare beer was only available at restaurants and pubs in Marietta, Decatur and Atlanta. Now you can find Red Hare throughout Georgia, Alabama, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Now, situated in a 15,000 sq. ft. warehouse, Red Hare Brewing Company has a 40-barrel, three vessel brewhouse. Making every day beer for beer fans everywhere, Red Hare's flagship beers are Long Day Lager, Classic Pilsner, Rewired IPA, and SPF 50/50. Red Hare also brews a line of seasonal beers, as well as a craft soda line!

The Georgia PGA is one of the 41 Sections of the PGA of America. Its membership includes nearly 890 PGA professionals working at over 260 golf courses, clubs, and ranges throughout the state. Additionally, more than 35 Georgia PGA members compete on one of the PGA Tours. In keeping with the fundamental objectives laid down by its founders, one of the Georgia PGA's primary goals is promoting the game of golf through clinics, junior and minority golf programs, consumer programs, and print, radio and television media.