



**Quicken Loans National Media Day
May 16, 2016**

MIKE ANTOLINI: Good morning. Welcome to Quicken Loans National Media Day. My name is Mike Antolini and I'm the Vice President of Championships for the Tiger Woods Foundation.

What a beautiful day here at Congressional Country Club. I would like to thank Jeffrey Kreefel and his terrific team here at the Congressional Country Club for welcoming us so warmly today.

I would also like to thank our great partners at Montgomery County for their continued support of the Quicken Loans National as well as the tournament's founding partners, AT&T, CDW, and Lockheed Martin for its support as our military services partner since 2007. Lockheed will again be proudly providing more than 30,000 complimentary tickets to military service members and their family for the tournament.

I would like to recognize Cliff and Dottie Thomas, two very passionate Quicken Loans National volunteers who are representing the tournament as part of the PGA Tour's Volunteer Challenge. We have a great group of volunteers with the Quicken Loans National.

I'd like to thank our dedicated chairs for their leadership throughout the year and during the tournament. We're of course always looking for new volunteers and you can visit our website at QLNational.com to learn more.

We're just 35 days away from the Quicken Loans National. We have a terrific field shaping up. I'm happy to share some early commitments that we've received from players. Last year's champ, Troy Merritt, poised to defend his title here at Congressional next month. 2013 champ and former FedEx Cup champion Bill Haas will tee it up, as will former U.S. Open champ Jim Furyk. The 12th-ranked player in the world, Patrick Reed, is scheduled to play. Former FedEx Cup Champion Vijay Singh. We're happy to announce that defending U.S. Amateur champ and recent turned pro, Bryson DeChambeau will be playing here as well as will recent PGA Tour winners Tony Finau, Jim Herman, James Hahn and Charley Hoffman.

Tickets are on sale and going fast. No surprise with the tremendous support that we continue to receive from Montgomery County and the local region. There are several ticket options still available and again you can visit our website at QLNational.com for more information. Of course, proceeds from the Quicken Loans National benefit the Tiger Woods

Foundation.

2016 is a very special year for TWF as we're celebrating our 20th year anniversary. We've provided resources and educational support to more than 150,000 students since our inception and we have ambitious plans to provide support for millions more in the future.

It's also a banner year for us because we're celebrating the tournament's 10th anniversary and returning here to Congressional Country Club where the tournament began in 2007. Locally, we generated nearly \$25 million through the Quicken Loans National leading to the creation and opening of three Tiger Woods Learning Centers in the D.C. region, as well as supporting more than 25 local students through our Earl Woods Scholarship Program. We're proud of this impact that we're able to make through the tournament and here in the D.C. region, and we are also proud to be associated with a club so rich in history as Congressional Country Club.

And here on behalf of the club and its board, please welcome Rick Sullivan. Rick?

RICK SULLIVAN: Thanks, Mike.

Once again, Congressional Country Club is looking forward to hosting the 2016 Quicken Loans National next month. We are proud of our place in the tournament's history as the National celebrates its 10th anniversary back where it started in 2007.

Congressional has a storied tradition of hosting the finest golf tournaments on our famed Blue course and challenging the skills of the world's best golfers.

This being the seventh year that Congressional has hosted the Quicken Loans National, we thoroughly enjoy our partnership with the Tiger Woods Foundation and we applaud and support their commitment to our community; most notably, their commitment to children and their focus on the men and women in our military.

We are excited to continue to be part of the tournament's future when the Quicken Loans National returns to Congressional in 2018 and 2020. Congressional takes great pride in sharing our club with the PGA Tour players, fans, volunteers, sponsors, media, and the entire community whose support helps makes this tournament so special. We also look forward to showcasing Congressional to the millions more from all over the world who tune into the broadcast.

Tiger, it's great to see you up and about. Welcome to Congressional. Speaking for golf fans around the world, we hope to see you playing competitive golf in the not-too-distant future.

As many of you will see today, thanks to our superintendent Mike Giuffre and his staff, the course is in fantastic condition and the greens, having been recently aerified, are going to be in great shape for the tournament. We have no doubt that the world's best players will both enjoy and appreciate the test of golf that faces them during the Quicken Loans National.

Have fun today. We look forward to seeing you all again for the tournament and we hope that you enjoy Congressional as much as we do.

MIKE ANTOLINI: Thank you, Rick, and thanks again for your great partnership with this tournament as host club.

I touched on the tremendous impact that this tournament is able to make here in the community, and it wouldn't be possible without the commitment from our title sponsor in Quicken Loans. We've had the great pleasure of partnering with Quicken Loans for the last three years, and each year is more exciting than the next thanks to their creative approach and engaging programs.

Now to tell us more about what's in store for this year's tournament, please welcome Vice President of Marketing and Sponsorships for Quicken Loans, Art Steiber.

ART STEIBER: Thanks, Mike. First of all, I would certainly like to thank the Tiger Woods Foundation for being such a great host to us these last three years since we got involved in the sport. They're been terrific partners. We're very happy to be back here at Congressional, so Rick, thank you for hosting us, it's great to be back.

Since we've been in this sport, in addition to being the title sponsor at Quicken Loans National, we've also sponsored with Rickie Fowler. Rickie's been a great ambassador to our company, so I'm happy to announce that Rickie will be returning to play the Quicken Loans National and it will be very exciting to see him compete and to represent Quicken Loans here among the world-class field that will be joining us in June.

As many of you know, honoring our military is an important part of the Quicken Loans National. It's an important mission of our organization as well. So to help thank those folks that serve, we will be joining with the Tiger Woods Foundation and operation home front to relaunch our Shot for Heroes campaign which was so successful last year.

And in addition to what we'll do at the tournament, we're actually going to kick it off at some select courses in Montgomery County. Every weekend now through the tournament some fans can come to the driving range at select courses and try to hit a hole-in-one on a special hole that we'll have on the driving range. For every hole-in-one, Quicken Loans will donate \$10,000 to help military families, and that fan will also get \$10,000. And just for participating, we'll donate \$10 for every fan that comes out and attempts. Last year the Shot for Heroes raised \$235,000 for military families, so we're really hoping with the support of the local golf community here that we can beat that number this year. In fact, we're going to tee it off here in just a little bit to get that campaign started.

And lastly, we get asked a lot about our million dollar hole-in-one and I'm pleased to say we are bringing that back. It will be here on No. 10. We hope to make one fan a millionaire. If we get a Tour player that gets a hole-in-one during the tournament, we'll draw a name and

make somebody a millionaire.

As Mike said, we're just happy to be here, do some exciting things. I would like to thank the Foundation again, like to thank Rick and the folks at Congressional, and hope to see everybody back here in June. Thank you.

MIKE ANTOLINI: Great. Thank you, Art. Some exciting news. We're very excited to be kicking off the Shot for Heroes campaign today. Now we'll hear from the man who will get us started in just a few moments.

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome two-time Quicken Loans National Champion, tournament host, and founder of the Tiger Woods Foundation, Tiger Woods.

TIGER WOODS: Thank you, everybody. Thank you. Well, first off, I want to thank Congressional, Quicken Loans, everyone who's involved in this event. This is our 10th year here, it's hard to believe this happened so fast.

I remember our first year here having President Bush, we had Green Berets that were here that just got back from overseas, just got back from deployment and they were kind enough to come out. It was just an incredible day. The Golden Knights jumped in and it was just a celebration of my upbringing, being a part of the military. Congressional came out and really supported the military and I think that initiative itself has gone throughout the entire PGA Tour.

This golf course itself has been one hell of a test for us as players, whether it's the U.S. Open or it's just the Quicken Loans event, it's still just an amazing test.

Quicken Loans, what they've done for the Hole-in-One Challenge, giving hopefully somebody a million dollars. Well, first, we've got to make it on probably the hardest par 3 on the planet. It's certainly going to present a challenge for us. The people that come out here, I don't know if you all remember, some of you probably were here during the derecho that came through here. That was -- it was pretty interesting because I made a couple birdies and absolutely no applause. (Laughs.) It was a testament to not only the volunteers that worked tireless hours, my foundation staff, but all the Congressional members, they were out here with saws and picking up leaves and debris so everyone could be safe. It was a little bit harried, but certainly the entire club made it possible.

So for me and the rest of the players who have played here, we want to say thank you, thanks for having us back. This is going to be another great test, another challenging field and looking forward to it.

MIKE ANTOLINI: Great. Thank you, Tiger. At this point we'll open up the floor to media members for some questions. We have a few microphones roaming, so if you do want to ask a question, please just raise your hand and announce your name and news outlet before you ask a question.

Q. Can you give us an update on your health and whether you can play either this event, The Open, what's next going forward?

TIGER WOODS: Health? I feel good, thank you. My kids are sick, but I'm good. (Laughs.)

No, on a serious note, I have been practicing at home and I'm progressing nicely. I'm hoping to play. I don't know if I'm going to play. That's the overriding question I keep hearing, when are you coming back, when are you playing? I get it all the time.

If I knew, I would tell you because it would be fun to know. It would be nice to know that I am going to play on such a date, but I don't know. I'm still trying to get stronger, I'm trying to get more pliable. I'm hitting the ball better. Everything about my game is coming around. Now it's just a matter of being consistent with it, and then be able to do that not only at home against the boys at Medalist and try to take their cash, but try to come out here and do it against the best players in the world is a completely different deal.

Q. Tiger, with everything you've been through, and you mentioned the health and all that, a lot of fans wondering can you regain your prior form? How much longer do you expect to play? And is Jack's record still in sight? I know it was once a goal of yours, and with everything that you've been through now, is it still a goal of yours and reasonable?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, I think that his major championship record I think is certainly still attainable. I got him on the regular wins already, but the major one, yeah, that's certainly up there. It's Sam's record I would like to get as well. There's certainly -- I'm number two on both lists so it would be nice to end up one on both lists. That's a long way away because that's going to take time to get to that point, but hopefully I can get out here and compete at that high level and maintain that level.

I like what Jason's doing right now. You have to have all facets of your game running at the same time, and on your bad days, your bad days can't be 74, 75, 76s. They've got to be to be 69s, 70s and 71s. That's the difference. I just need to get back to that.

Q. I'm sure you're hearing a lot of what we all hear, which is anyone, armchair, he's done, he'll never win another tournament, we'll never see him again.

TIGER WOODS: Um-hmm.

Q. I'm curious, do you pay attention to that at all? And when you hear things like that, be it from media members or just the average fan on Twitter or whatever, what's your reaction to that thought that he's done, he just simply cannot do it again? Thank you.

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, I get that asked a lot, whether it's, Great seeing you, I thought you

were dead. No, I'm right here in front of you. (Laughs.) So people have written me off. I'm not -- not that part, I'm not fertilizer.

So as far as my golf, I'm progressing, I'm getting better. Just give it a little time. And I'm looking forward to being out here and competing against the guys. I miss the guys. These are -- this is like a fraternity out here.

The turnover rate is what's blowing my mind out here. When I look at our fields, probably I'm guessing probably maybe a third of them I don't really know because of, one, I've been injured, and two, you don't have the Q-School guys coming through, everybody goes to the Web.com. Looking at the Champions Tour list, I played with all those guys. Not only competed, but played with all of them. That's just the turnover of generations, how it's kind of happened. I'm kind of right in the middle right about now.

But no, I'm excited to hopefully get back out here to play, to compete, win golf tournaments. I miss being out here inside the ropes and I miss competing against these guys. Even though they're friends of mine, there's nothing better than beating your friend, and hopefully I can do that.

Q. We're glad the reports of your demise are greatly exaggerated. Talk a little bit if you would please about the future of this event. It's hopscotching back and forth between Congressional and RTJ. Would you like to find a permanent home for it?

TIGER WOODS: We're going back and forth. We have a wonderful relationship with Congressional, with RTJ, TPC Potomac. So we're going to be moving it around. It's going to stay in the D.C. area. This is where this tournament belongs, this is where it started.

As I was saying earlier about when we first had it 10 years ago, how important it was to have the military involvement here. Over 30,000 tickets are given away each and every year to people who are men, women in the service and all their dependents. So it means a lot to us.

We have three Learning Centers here. This is basically our East Coast home. This is our event, and so for us, whether it's here at Congressional or it's at RTJ or it's at Potomac, either one, either one of those sites, it has to stay here. This is where it all started for us.

This was a big move for us to have this event. We used to have the tournament at Sherwood, the World Challenge. That's now been moved to the Bahamas. But this was our first PGA Tour event, and for us to have it in the D.C. area, the D.C. community, how much they've come out and supported this event, all the volunteers, the crowds we get even though it could be 100 degrees here, the people still come out in droves and really support this event. So to us it's very important to keep it here and we have a long-term commitment here.

Q. You mentioned Jason Day and what he's been doing right now, and he's talked openly about you being sort of a mentor for him. How's that last year been watching

him and what he's done, and are you still in contact with him on a regular basis?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, JD and I talk quite a bit either via text or telephone call. Some of it's advice, most of it's just to give each other crap. So we love to needle each other a lot and that's the fun part about our relationship.

But also then again it can switch roles, too, where he'll ask me a bunch of questions about how his game can get better. All I say is, I'm not going to tell you how your game can get better; ask it the other way around of how I did it and I'll answer it that way because I don't want to say you should do this, you should do that. I don't think that's the correct way of going about it.

When I came up through the game, I had a chance to learn from so many different players like a Seve, like a Raymond, different guys from different generations, like O'Meara, John Cook, guys who took me under their wings but never really told me to do it their way. This is how I do. I impart my own, I guess, touch to it in my own way and I own it, I make it my own.

And that's what Jason's doing. Jason asks great questions, very in-depth questions and he wants to get better. He has a great family with his two kids there, and he works extremely hard and he's trying to figure out how he can get better as a player, especially with having a family and traveling. It's not easy.

Now Dash is getting old enough where he's going to be in school here soon. That's going to be another challenge, leaving home. That's always -- it gets harder when you have kids and it gets a little bit more complicated, it gets harder. They don't want you to leave. He hasn't quite gotten to that point yet, but it's coming very soon and it's tough. So that's just a transition, what he's going through.

And I just think it's fantastic how he's playing, how he's handling himself, how focused he is and how committed he is to improving. You see a lot of guys just come out here and just play just for playing sake. He practices with a purpose and you can see it when he plays.

Q. Talk about the military getting involved with this tournament and what it means to you and your family, the tournament?

TIGER WOODS: Well, the tournament -- well, the military is very important. We used to have this on July 4th on our nation's birthday. So for us to have the military, it was an integral part of my life. I grew up around servicemen, women. I grew up around Spec Op warriors all my life, and my home golf course was Navy Golf Course. So I got a chance to see and witness what they go through and it's not easy. The deployments, sometimes nine months, sometimes overlap and they go to 12 or they get extended.

It's tough on the families. I've seen it, I've witnessed it, and we just want to say thank you for what they do for us keeping us safe here at home. Look at the life we live here and what we're able to do on a daily basis where in other countries it's not like that.

Some of the guys have just been wounded or hurt or killed doing some pretty dangerous stuff to keep us safe, so nothing happens to us. We need to honor that more, we need to say thank you more often. In my opinion, I don't think we do that enough.

Q. So back to you and what you've been doing swing-wise to progress, and then also, when would you know? What will be your signal to say, oh, I'm ready now?

TIGER WOODS: I think it's trying to get stronger and, as I said, to recover day by day and be able to go out there and practice, have full practice sessions and feel good at the end of a practice session and recover the next day and do it again.

You know, I'm -- I'm one of those guys who used to hit a lot of golf balls, used to sometimes practice eight, 10, 12 hours a day. That won't happen again. I won't be doing that, I won't be running five, six miles every day like I used to. That's not happening either.

So things are changing. Things have to be altered. My practices certainly are much more focused because they have to be. I have to be more committed on each and every shot because I can't go ahead and hit 500 golf balls in a row, I have to get a lot out of it in a shorter span of time.

So that part has been good for us as far as my focus and training and getting ready for being out here, but still I need to be able to go out there and play and recover each and every day and until I get to that point where I feel comfortable doing that, then I'll make that decision then.

Q. A few events coming up that ordinarily if you were healthy you would be expected to play, the Memorial, the U.S. Open and here. How frustrating is it for you to be getting into the heart of the summer and still not know when you'll be ready to compete?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, that is frustrating because I've played well at Jack's place, I won there a handful of times. I've won a few U.S. Opens. I've won here. Firestone's right after this event, I won there eight times, I think, and I'm not exempt there.

So you're coming into golf courses that I've done well on. Even Oakmont I finished one shot out of a playoff with Cabrera, but also that's probably the best day of my life at the same time because Sam was born that night.

So this year you're coming right into the heart of where I've really had a lot of success. Yeah, has it been frustrating, yeah, not to be able to play some of these events like Augusta, Bay Hill, Doral; places that I've really played well at over the years.

And I want to play. Trust me, I want to. Now, whether I can or do, it's a different story. And if I could tell you, I would, but I can't, not yet. I'm still working, I'm still trying to get stronger,

and still need to try and recover.

Q. Will it be a last-minute type decision?

TIGER WOODS: It could be, it may not be. It may be just say, hey, the plan is to get well and whether that's by next week or that's a year from now, I don't know. That's the hard part. Me telling you, I don't know. My doctors don't know, I don't know. All we know is I just need to keep progressing, keep getting stronger, which I am, and that's the good part.

Q. Tiger, you mentioned just how the workouts are changing obviously at the point in your life. Where does this rank in the challenges for you in your entire career this past year in dealing with the significant amount of time and realizing that you have to do different things now even though maybe mentally you still want to go back to what you've done?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, I'm 40 now, but I probably act more like an eight-year-old. I still think I can still do all those things. When I first came out on Tour I was running 30 miles a week. It didn't really matter. I'd run five, six miles and go play a golf tournament, go win a golf tournament. It wasn't that hard.

Now this is different. I've had knee surgeries before, and trust me, I would much rather have a bad knee than a bad back. The nerve damage or nerve pain, anybody who's ever had nerve pain in their back or neck or anywhere in their spinal column, it is no fun. That's been the hardest part is sitting still is how you get better, okay? That's not in my nature. But now I'm to a point now where I can progress and now work out to get strong and to start developing. But the initial part of it, sitting still and doing nothing was really, really hard. Those were hard times. And unfortunately, I've had to go through it three times now and hopefully that will be it.

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