



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Support Families of Fallen Heroes
During The Nation's First Patriot Golf Day
At The Wilderness at Fortune Bay**

(TOWER, Minn.) – The Wilderness at Fortune Bay will participate in the nation's first Patriot Golf Day on Saturday, Sept. 1, a joint initiative of The PGA of America and the United States Golf Association.

Golfers across the country and at The Wilderness have the unique opportunity to donate \$1 to Wounded Warriors, Inc., which benefits the Fallen Heroes Foundation to support families of those who have become disabled or lost their lives in the line of military duty. The Wilderness (www.thewildernessgolf.com) will request an additional \$1 for each green fee that is processed on , Sept. 1.

“As a veteran myself, it is a wonderful opportunity to give back to those who have given to us. We look forward to making a difference in the lives of our service men and women”
said Wilderness General Manager Tom Beaudry.

Wounded Warriors, Inc.'s mission is to provide support to the families of those who have been wounded, injured or killed during combat operations. The organization owns family-friendly resort condominiums in Orlando, Fla. and Galveston, Texas, where war-torn families can retreat to restore peace and solace to their lives after the trauma they have endured.

Patriot Golf Day is spearheaded by PGA Professional Dan Rooney of Stillwater, Okla. Rooney, an F-16 pilot in the 125th Fighter Squadron of the Oklahoma Air National Guard, has logged two tours of duty to Iraq. Following his most recent tour, he began to think of ways he could stay involved in the war effort. Rooney is also in the process of establishing The Fallen Heroes Foundation, which will pay for the education of children who have lost a parent in Iraq or Afghanistan.

For more information about Patriot Golf Day or to make a donation, visit www.PlayGolfAmerica.com or www.FallenHeroesFoundation.org.

The PGA of America is the world's largest working sports organization comprised of 28,000 men and women golf Professionals who are the recognized experts in growing, teaching and managing the game of golf while serving millions of people throughout its 41 PGA Sections nationwide. Since its founding in 1916, The PGA of America has enhanced its leadership position in a \$62 billion-a-year industry by growing the game of golf through its premier spectator events, world-class education and training programs, significant philanthropic outreach initiatives, and award-winning golf promotions. Today's PGA Professional is the public's link to the game, serving an essential role in the operation of golf facilities throughout the country.

The **USGA** is the national governing body of golf in this country and Mexico, a combined territory that includes more than half the game's golfers and golf courses. The Association's most visible role is played out each season in conducting 13 national championships, including the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open and U.S. Senior Open. Ten additional USGA national championships are exclusively for amateurs, and include the U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Women's Amateur. The USGA also writes the Rules of Golf, conducts equipment testing, maintains an official Handicap System and administers an ongoing "For the Good of the Game" grants program, which has allocated more than \$53 million over 10 years to programs that seek to grow the game. For more information about the USGA, visit www.usga.org.

The **Wilderness at Fortune Bay**, located three hours north of Minneapolis in northeast Minnesota, was unveiled in 2004 by nationally renowned golf course architect Jeffrey D. Brauer. Literally blasted out of a giant granite ridge, the 18-hole Wilderness weaves its way through 7,010-yards of majestic pine forests and abundant wildlife spread out along the curving shores of Lake Vermilion. The Wilderness has garnered several major awards since it opened including Best Course You Can Play In Minnesota 2007, *Golfweek*; America's Best New Upscale Public Course for 2006, *Golf Digest*; Top 10 Best New Places to Play, *Golf Magazine*; and 10 Best New Public/Resort Courses in America, *Travel & Leisure Golf*. The Wilderness is owned and operated by the Bois Forte Band of the Chippewa.

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