



• MEDIA ADVISORY •

Third Annual Salute Military Golf Tournament held June 1 at Army Navy Country Club (Fairfax)

*The tournament raises money to provide combat-wounded service men and women
golf lessons, playing opportunities and golf equipment*

The third annual SMGA Golf Tournament will be held June 1 (Monday) at Army Navy Country Club in Fairfax, Va. The SMGA was created by PGA Professional and former Tour player Jim Estes (Director of Golf at Olney Golf Park) in 2007 to help bring golf to combat-wounded service men and women as a form of mental and physical rehabilitation. Its mission is to provide rehabilitative golf experiences for wounded veterans in an effort to improve their quality of life. The SMGA has provided golf equipment, lessons and playing opportunities for more than 300 wounded service members.

WHEN:

Monday, June 1, 2009

- **11 am – Registration**
Gift bags, raffle tickets, mulligans, silent auction preview, lunch, practice, putting contest
- **12:30 pm – Welcome Address**
Presentation of colors/ Star Spangled Banner (live presentation by guest singer)
- **1 pm – Shotgun Start**
Scramble/ Captain's Choice format, Complimentary beverages, Beat-the-Pro Long Drive, Closest-to-the Pin prizes and Hole-in-One prizes including cars and a chance to win \$50,000, Champion & Runner-Up Team trophies and prizes
- **5:30 pm – Jet Blue Challenge** (immediately following play)
All closest to the pin winners compete for a chance at \$50,000 (18th hole)
- **6 pm – Cocktail Hour/ Appetizers**
Open bar, dinner, Silent auction (open immediately after play & closed upon sitting for dinner)
- **7 pm – Dinner & Awards Reception**
Guest Speakers: Lieutenant General James D. Thurman, Army Operations Officer (G-3) at Department of the Army and Major Ed Pulido, Executive Director of the Folds of Honor; Awards & Raffle Presentation

WHERE:

- Army Navy Country Club • 3315 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030 • (703.359.5825)

WHO:

- PGA Professional Jim Estes, Director of Golf at Olney Golf Park, SMGA Founder
- Disabled soldiers from Walter Reed Hospital will be playing in the tournament
- Three star Lieutenant General James D. Thurman is the former Commanding General, Multi-National Division Baghdad (4th Infantry Division) during Operation Iraqi Freedom (2006). He is currently the Army Operations Officer (G-3) at Department of the Army.
- Major Ed Pulido is the Executive Director of the Folds of Honor Foundation, which provides scholarships for dependents and spouses of service members killed or disabled as a result of their military service. Pulido, a Purple Heart recipient, lost his left leg after he drove over a road-side bomb while serving a combat tour in Iraq in 2004. Pulido will present educational scholarships to the four children of Ramon Padilla on behalf of the Folds of Honor Foundation. Padilla was serving with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Afghanistan in July, 2007, when a rocket-propelled grenade severed his left arm and cracked his skull, leaving him with a traumatic brain injury. He is a participant in the PGA Military Golf Program hosted by Jim Estes at Olney Golf Park.

WHY:

- The SMGA was founded by Jim Estes, Director of Instruction at Olney Golf Park in Olney, MD, when he saw first-hand the positive effects the game of golf could have on combat-wounded soldiers. The tournament raises funds for golf equipment, lessons, etc. The SMGA has:
 - Equipped more than 75 soldiers with properly fitted golf clubs since 2004.
 - Offered free lessons and rangeballs to nearly 400 combat-wounded soldiers.
 - Enabled the rehabilitative benefits of golf to improve the mental and physical condition of every soldier who has participated in a SMGA golf program.
 - Provided injured soldiers with individualized player development programs--offering golf clinics, personal lessons and specialized equipment

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