



Johnstone designates funds from The Presidents Cup to BirdLife South Africa

Johannesburg, 22 March 2016:

Well known Zimbabwean professional golfer, Tony Johnstone, recently designated \$18,750 USD (more than R280,000) to BirdLife South Africa. This contribution is a portion of the charitable proceeds generated from The Presidents Cup 2015 at Jack Nicklaus Golf Club in Songdo IBD, Incheon City, Korea, in which Johnstone participated as a captain's assistant for the International Team.

The Presidents Cup is a unique golf event in that there is no purse or prize money. Players are not paid for their participation; instead, each competitor, captain and captain's assistant allocates their portion of the proceeds generated to chosen charitable causes. BirdLife South Africa was selected by Johnstone along with the Zimbabwe Medical Project, Wilderness Foundation Africa, ZANE, Zimbabwe Pensioner Supporter Fund and Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force as his designated charities to receive these funds.

Johnstone is a knowledgeable birdwatcher and dedicated conservationist, and he raises awareness about the environment through television's Bush Hacking (www.bushhacking.com). He is an avid supporter of BirdLife South Africa, a bird conservation NGO which focuses its efforts on the conservation of threatened species and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas.

A total of \$6 million-plus will be distributed via the players, captains and captains' assistants to charitable causes around the world from The Presidents Cup 2015, part of the more than \$38.4 million raised since the inception of the event in 1994. More than 450 charities in 15 countries have benefitted from charitable donations via The Presidents Cup.

The Presidents Cup is a biennial match-play competition between the United States Team and the International Team, which was first contested in 1994. The International Team includes the world's best players from non-European countries. The 2015 playing of the event took place from 6-11 October 2015 at Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea as part of the event's first time being hosted in Korea.

Led by iconic captains Jay Haas and Nick Price, the U.S. and International Teams provided yet another thrilling week of head-to-head competition as 24 of the world's best golfers squared off in one the most highly anticipated events on golf's global calendar. The U.S. Team captured The Presidents Cup for the sixth consecutive time and ninth overall in a dramatic finish on the last hole. In the final match Bill Haas clinched the victory over Bae, to give the U.S. Team a 15.5 to 14.5 victory over the International Team.

The U.S. holds a 9-1-1 record in The Presidents Cup overall. The International Team last won The Presidents Cup in 1998 when it was held outside the United States for the first time at Royal Melbourne Golf Club. A historic 17-17 tie came in 2003 when the event was held in South Africa.

The Presidents Cup 2017 will be held at the Liberty National Golf Club in Greater Metropolitan New York / New Jersey area from 25 September to 1 October. For more information on The Presidents Cup, visit www.PresidentsCup.com.

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