



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2008



Melwood Prince George's County Open Introduces Innovative Fundraising Program, "TICKETS Fore CHARITY;"
100-Percent of Ticket Revenue to Benefit Local Organizations

UPPER MARLBORO, MD - Melwood Prince George's County Open Tournament Director Teo Sodeman today introduced an innovative fundraising program called "TICKETS Fore CHARITY" that will enable local non-profit organizations to sell and keep 100-percent of the profits from discounted tickets to this year's event. The 2008 tournament will return to the Country Club of Woodmore in Mitchellville on May 19-25.

"We are pleased to contribute 100-percent of all ticket sales to participating charities. Together, with their help, we are striving for new heights with respect to the tournament's positive impact on our community," said Sodeman, who operates the Washington, D.C./Baltimore region's annual Nationwide Tour event.

Non-profit organizations interested in participating in the program, should contact the tournament office at (301) 599-2732 or log onto www.melwoodgolf.org for more information.

Local organizations, such as the First Tee of Prince George's County and Special Olympics Maryland, expressed interest and excitement about the unique opportunity:

"For the tournament to give up 100 percent of their ticket revenue for charity is such a unique and innovative gift," said Mark Weiss, Director of the First Tee of Prince George's County. "The sky is now the limit for charities to take advantage of this opportunity. We are ecstatic about taking advantage of this program to raise money for the First Tee of Prince George's County."

"Special Olympics Maryland is grateful for the opportunity to partner with The Melwood Prince George's County Open in this Tickets Fore Charity opportunity. This provides a great grassroots fundraising opportunity for our local programs, helps promote Special Olympics Maryland and will result in bringing more fans out to see exciting Nationwide Tour players compete at the tournament," said Tom Waite, Senior Vice President for Sport, Special Olympics Maryland.

Last year's inaugural event, held at the highly-regarded Country Club at Woodmore, drew universal praise from Nationwide Tour officials, players and an estimated 30,000 spectators, while generating a significant amount of news and media coverage. One-hundred and fifty-six professional golfers will be competing for their share of the \$650,000 purse this year.

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More than just a professional sporting event, the Melwood Prince George's County Open is a week-long community event featuring a high school tournament and junior clinic, multiple Pro-Am events, a popular private sponsor's party at Six Flags America, and various social events.

ABOUT MELWOOD:

Melwood Horticultural Training Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving more than 2,100 people with disabilities with job training, employment, housing and recreation in the Washington D.C. area. Melwood employees support more than 65 contracts made possible by the AbilityOne Program, which encourages federal agencies to contract with approved, qualified organizations that provide job training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities. This federal effort is emphasized by the fact that 62 percent of Americans with severe disabilities are unemployed. For additional information about Melwood capabilities and services for people with disabilities, call Melwood at (301) 599-8000, or visit www.melwood.org.

ABOUT NATIONWIDE TOUR:

Part of the PGA TOUR family, the Nationwide Tour was launched in 1990 and sends its 25 leading money winners to the PGA TOUR each year. Nationwide is currently in its fifth year as the umbrella sponsor of this tour and has an agreement with the Tour through 2012. The PGA TOUR is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and its website is www.pgatour.com.

ABOUT NATIONWIDE

Nationwide, based in Columbus, OH, is one of the largest diversified insurance and financial services organizations in the world, with more than \$160 billion in assets. Nationwide ranks No. 104 on the Fortune 500 list. The company provides a full range of insurance and financial services, including auto, motorcycle, boat, homeowners, life, commercial insurance, administrative services, annuities, mortgages, mutual funds, pensions and long-term savings plans. For more information, visit www.nationwide.com.

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