



FOR RELEASE: August 13, 2020

CONTACTS:

Laura Vescovi, PGA TOUR, 904-465-5924, <u>lauravescovi@pgatourhq.com</u> Alissa Kiktavy, Falls, 216-696-0229, <u>akiktavy@wearefalls.com</u>

Area charities to receive \$750,000 as a result of the 2020 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

AKRON, Ohio – Tournament officials announced today that \$750,000 in charitable funds has been generated from the 2020 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship which returns to Firestone Country Club this week, August 12-16. Combined with contributions raised at the major championship's 2019 debut at Firestone Country Club, the tournament has generated over \$1.5 million for deserving charities in Northeast Ohio to date.

"Professional golf in Northeast Ohio has always been about more than just golf, and in the face of a pandemic that mission stands true more than ever," said Executive Director Don Padgett. "For decades professional golf has aided in developing a charitable footprint in our region that positively impacts worthy causes. Although the 2020 tournament looks and feels different with fans unable to attend, we are proud to continue making a difference that will be felt by each of the deserving non-profit organizations. Thank you to our title sponsor Bridgestone, Founding Partners Westfield and FirstEnergy and all tournament supporters for making this possible."

Although the annual Ambassador of Golf Event presented by the FirstEnergy Foundation was not able to be held this year due to COVID-19, the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS continues to raise funds and awareness for charities including Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Akron Children's Hospital, The First Tee of Greater Akron, Summa Health System, Cleveland Clinic Akron General, University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, United Way of Summit & Medina Counties and the Lebron James Family Foundation.

As a whole, the PGA TOUR and its tournaments have surpassed \$3 billion in all-time charitable giving, including a record \$204.3 million in 2019 alone. This includes donations made by tournaments across the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry Tour, Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica and PGA TOUR Series-China.

Contributing to the record-setting numbers is the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, with a combined \$1,575,000 during its first two years as major championship on PGA TOUR Champions. Over \$30 million has been generated by professional golf events held at Firestone Country Club since 1984.

For more information on the 2020 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS, fans are encouraged to visit <u>BridgestoneSENIORPLAYERS.com</u>.

ABOUT THE BRIDGESTONE SENIOR PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

The Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS is one of five major championships contested annually on PGA TOUR Champions for eligible professionals age 50 and over. The 2020 tournament will be held the week of August 10-16 and continues professional golf's 67-year tradition at Firestone Country Club. This tournament started in 1983 at the Canterbury Golf Club. In total, the tournament has been played in nine different cities at some of the country's top venues including The Philadelphia Cricket Club, Caves Valley Golf Club, Fox Chapel Golf Club, Westchester Country Club and Exmoor Country Club. A field of 81 professionals will compete for a share of the \$2.8 million purse with the champion earning a \$420,000 prize and an exemption into THE PLAYERS Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

ABOUT PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older, including 33 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame. The Tour's mission is to provide financial opportunities for its players, entertain and inspire its fans, deliver substantial value to its partners, create outlets for volunteers to give back and generate significant charitable and economic impact in tournament communities. All events are televised in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on Golf Channel, the exclusive cable-television partner of PGA TOUR Champions. Internationally, telecasts air in excess of 170 countries and territories, reaching more than 340 million potential households, and distributed in 15+ markets via GOLFTV. Follow PGA TOUR Champions online at PGATOUR.com, at facebook.com/PGATOURChampions, on Twitter @ChampionsTour and on Instagram @pgatourchampions.

ABOUT BRIDGESTONE

Bridgestone Corporation, headquartered in Tokyo, is the world's largest tire and rubber company. In addition to tires for use in a wide variety of applications, it also manufactures a broad range of diversified products, which include industrial rubber and chemical products and sporting goods. Its products are sold in over 150 nations and territories around the world.

ABOUT BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS, INC.

Nashville, Tennessee-based Bridgestone Americas, Inc. (BSAM) is the U.S. subsidiary of Bridgestone Corporation, the world's largest tire and rubber company. BSAM and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market a wide range of Bridgestone, Firestone and associate brand tires to address the needs of a broad range of customers, including consumers, automotive and commercial vehicle original equipment manufacturers, and those in the agricultural, forestry and mining industries. BSAM also is engaged in retreading operations throughout the Western Hemisphere and produces air springs, roofing materials and industrial fibers and textiles. BSAM also operates the world's largest chain of automotive tire and service centers. Guided by its global corporate social responsibility commitment, Our Way to Serve, the company is dedicated to improving the way people live, work, move and play in all of the communities it calls home.