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Wells Fargo Nebraska Open set for 29th year in September; Pro-am event cancelled but scholarships for colleges continue

Columbus, Neb.- The 29th Wells Fargo Nebraska Open, set for Sept. 11-13 at Elks Country Club in Columbus, will have a completely different look this year. The usual kickoff event, that starts on Thursday as a Pro-Am coordinated by Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), will not be held due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Open itself will have a distinct Nebraska flavor.

"With the recent COVID-19 surges and various travel restrictions made across the country, the tournament will be restricted to all Nebraska PGA Professionals, amateurs, and non-PGA Professionals. These players must currently reside within the geographic boundaries of the Nebraska Section PGA to be eligible to compete. Any player that does not currently reside within the boundaries during the dates of the Wells Fargo Nebraska Open will not be eligible to compete," said David Honnens, CEO of the Nebraska Section PGA. The Pro-Am event traditionally held the day before the 54-hole tournament, pairing tournament sponsors and professionals, will not be held.

"With the pandemic situation facing the country, it was decided that the pro-am portion of the Nebraska Open would not be held this year for the safety of all those who planned to participate," said Nebraska Open Event Organizer and NPPD Communication Specialist Christy Avery. Since 1991, more than \$1.6 million has been given through scholarships to students who attend one of the five community colleges in Nebraska. "Now more than ever, these scholarships are essential to help these aspiring scholars fulfill their dreams of obtaining a college degree," added Central Community College Foundation Executive Director Dean Moors.

The Nebraska Open will start its annual run on Friday, Sept. 11 with a field of Nebraska players being limited to no more than 132 golfers. "We understand that this year's tournament will look quite different than in years past but with tremendous talent we have in Nebraska I am excited to see this event unfold," Honnens commented. "Most importantly, I am thrilled that we will continue to provide scholarships for the five community colleges in Nebraska." Registration for the tournament can be done at <u>www.nebraskapga.com</u> The deadline to register is Friday, Sept. 4.

The Wells Fargo Nebraska Open is endorsed and operated by the Nebraska Section of the PGA and coordinated by Nebraska Public Power District. Its proceeds are donated to the Nebraska Community College Foundation, which awards scholarships to hundreds of needy Nebraska students attending five community colleges in the state. These colleges include Central Community College, Southeast Community College; Northeast Community College, Norfolk; Mid-Plains Community College, and Western Nebraska Community College. For more information on the tournament, including a list of all participants, tee times and past results, please visit www.nebraskapga.com.

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