

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# Bermuda's Brian Morris Accepts Sponsor Exemption to Play in the Butterfield Bermuda Championship

Five Bermudians to compete in this year's PGA TOUR event

**SOUTHAMPTON**, **BERMUDA** (October 11, 2021) – The Butterfield Bermuda Championship announced today it has extended the tournament's first sponsor exemption to Brian Morris, who will make his first professional start at this month's event, which returns to Port Royal Golf Course in Southampton, October 28 to 31.

Morris will realize his dream to compete in a PGA TOUR event and represent his country. For the Ocean View Golf Club head golf professional, golf is his passion. Morris, who has terminal stage 4 brain cancer, does not let his diagnosis keep him from the game.

"It feels absolutely fantastic to be able to walk the links and compete with some of the greatest players in the world. I hope the Bermuda public are as excited as I am. I want them to have just as much fun as I do. I would like to thank the Butterfield Bermuda Championship team for this opportunity and the PGA TOUR for allowing me the use of a cart because without it this is impossible."

With his positive attitude, Morris exemplifies determination and perseverance. When on the course he does not think of being sick, the focus is on golf. He credits his late father for introducing him to the game, having accompanied him to the golf course most Sundays as a child. Morris played with the Bermuda Junior Golf Association in his early teenage years. He has competed in the Bermuda Open, Bermuda Goodwill, Gosling's Invitational, Johnnie Walker Golf Classic and the Bermuda Professional Golfers' Association event, the Lobster Pot Classic. Morris is an avid Pro-Am participant, travelling for many overseas Pro-Ams, including Las Vegas with the same team and wives for the past ten years.

For Morris, his greatest achievement is playing 180 holes for 24 hours on three separate occasions to raise over \$200,000 for families in need of medical assistance for family members with cancer. During the week, he fulfilled a Make a Wish dream for a young boy. Jack, who had been diagnosed with cancer, wanted to visit Bermuda and play with a Pro, and they spent the week together. Even before his battle, Morris had a connection to the cause, having experienced the loss of his mother from cancer when he was 19. He has also carried out many charitable fundraisers in aid of several different causes.

"The Butterfield Bermuda Championship is more than golf, it's about this community," said Tournament Director Justin Belanger. "We are thrilled to welcome Brian to join us in the field for this year's event and be a part of his professional debut. It will be great to see the island join us in supporting his dream and cheering him on."

Earlier this year, Morris attempted to qualify for the US Senior Open in Omaha, Nebraska. The qualifier took place at Crown Colony Golf & Country Club in Fort Myers, Florida, where he was joined by his Uncle



Blip and friends Alex Madeiros and Alan Lindo. Now he prepares to tee it up in Bermuda with the support of his hometown crowd.

"It was a dream of mine to try one and it so lived up to my expectations," Morris said. "Not just the competitive arena but the fact that we were all together fulfilling this dream of mine. My Aunties were there and as usual my wife. We didn't make it but it has given me the desire to try one again. All of us are in for next May in Ft Myers! The way it was run and organized was something I have never experienced coming from little Bermuda. I can only imagine what the Butterfield Bermuda Championship will bring."

"My next big goal is to do well in the Butterfield Bermuda Championship. I want everyone that comes to watch to share in the excitement. I want them all to enjoy it as much as I do! My wife and kids and family and friends are already proud so that box is checked! From there I'm going to try out a few Monday Qualifiers for the Tour Champions next year. I looked up to all those players as I was coming up and it would be cool to tee it up with them. I will do a US Senior Open Qualifier again no doubt. Ocean View means a lot to me as well so in my Head Professional capacity I want the club to continue to grow. For us to attract more members. To keep on passing on my knowledge and experience to my assistants. To keep growing this wonderful game that has blessed me with the opportunities I have!"

Four additional Bermudians will join the field, earning their spot through the Local Qualifier taking place Tuesday, October 12 and Wednesday, October 13, at Port Royal Golf Course.

Thursday at the Butterfield Bermuda Championship is Hope brought to you by Digicel Business. Spectators are encouraged to wear pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Show support throughout the island by wearing pink for the opening day of the Championship. Activations will help raise additional funds for Bermuda Cancer and Health Centre, including a text to donate feature.

Tickets for the Butterfield Bermuda Championship are available in limited supply per day, with weekend tickets already sold out. Daily general admission tickets are available online only through the tournament website for \$35 and will not be sold at the gate. All spectators two years of age and older must have a ticket to access the grounds of Port Royal Golf Course. The public is encouraged to act quickly as tickets will sell out in advance.

For the latest Butterfield Bermuda Championship information, visit <a href="https://www.butterfieldbdachampionship.com">www.butterfieldbdachampionship.com</a>.

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# **About Butterfield Bermuda Championship**

The Butterfield Bermuda Championship is an annual stop on the PGA TOUR. To date, the tournament has raised over \$400,000 for local charities. This is the first PGA TOUR event ever held in Bermuda, highlighted by a field that



includes a minimum of four Bermudians who qualify to compete via a Local Qualifying event. Scheduled for October 28 to 31 at Port Royal Golf Course in Southampton, the 2021 Butterfield Bermuda Championship will feature a field of 132 players, 72 holes of stroke play and a purse of US \$6.5 million. This official FedEx Cup event will showcase Bermuda to the world with 14 hours of live Golf Channel broadcast. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.butterfieldbdachampionship.com">www.butterfieldbdachampionship.com</a> and connect with the tournament on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.

#### **About Butterfield**

Butterfield is a full-service bank and wealth manager headquartered in Hamilton, Bermuda, providing services to clients from Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Guernsey, and Jersey, where our principal banking operations are located, and The Bahamas, Switzerland, Singapore, and the United Kingdom, where we offer specialized financial services. Banking services comprise deposit, cash management and lending solutions for individual, business, and institutional clients. Wealth management services are composed of trust, private banking, asset management and custody. In Bermuda, the Cayman Islands and Guernsey, we offer both banking and wealth management. In The Bahamas, Singapore, and Switzerland, we offer select wealth management services. In the UK, we offer residential property lending. In Jersey, we offer select banking and wealth management services. Butterfield is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol: NTB) and the Bermuda Stock Exchange (symbol: NTB.BH). Further details can be obtained from our website at: <a href="https://www.butterfieldgroup.com">www.butterfieldgroup.com</a>.

#### **About Bermuda Tourism Authority**

The Bermuda Tourism Authority (BTA) is an award-winning, accredited destination marketing organisation that promotes Bermuda internationally and works to empower our tourism industry stakeholders. For more information visit: www.gotobermuda.com/bermudatourism.

### **About PGA TOUR**

By showcasing golf's greatest players, the PGA TOUR engages, inspires and positively impacts our fans, partners and communities worldwide.

The PGA TOUR, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, co-sanctions tournaments on the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry Tour, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada and Forme Tour. Members on the PGA TOUR represent the world's best players, hailing from 28 countries and territories outside the United States (90 international members). The PGA TOUR has domestic distribution partnerships for broadcast coverage on CBS, NBC and Golf Channel. Internationally, PGA TOUR coverage is available across 216 countries and territories in 28 languages via 48 local broadcast partners, in addition to the digital streaming service platform GOLFTV powered by PGA TOUR. Virtually all tournaments are organized as non-profit organizations to maximize charitable giving, and to date, tournaments across all Tours have generated more than \$3.2 billion.

Fans can follow the PGA TOUR on <u>PGATOUR.COM</u>, the No. 1 site in golf, on the <u>PGA TOUR app</u> and on social media channels, including <u>Facebook</u>, Instagram

(in English, Spanish and Korean), LinkedIn, Twitter, WeChat, Weibo, Toutiao, Douyin and LINE.

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