



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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TOP SHELF SERVES \$10K IN-KIND HOLE-IN-ONE AT SEPT. 2 TOURNEY

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Top Shelf Wines & Spirits is stepping up to serve a \$10,000 in-kind credit as a hole-in-one prize for the 2023 Marianas Tourism Golf Classic on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023, at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort west course.

Top Shelf GM John Jones and tournament organizers have their fingers crossed for a robust and perfectly balanced tee-off on hole #17 that will have one lucky golfer walking away rich with merchandise from the hole sponsor.

Proceeds of the tournament will go to fund the education work of the non-profit organization Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC), which focuses on community outreach and school tourism MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Clubs. MTEC marks its 22nd anniversary this year.

“I’m happy to support MTEC. Tourism is our main and only industry now,” said Jones. “Saipan is already a great tourist destination, but anything we can do to make it better....we’re happy to support.”

Registration is \$120 until August 25, 2023. After August 25, registration increases to \$140. Optional play is \$30. Only 144 players will be registered. No refunds will be issued after August 25. Registration - including payment – is accepted at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort (credit card or cash only) and the Marianas Visitors Authority office (cash or check only) on Beach Rd., Garapan, in the Gold Beach Hotel building. Checks should be made payable to Marianas Tourism Education Council. Registration forms and sponsorship details are now available on The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com.

The tournament format will be medal play. Flight categories are Championship (0-5), A Flight (6-10), B Flight (11-16), C Flight (17+), Ladies, Senior (ages 55-60), and Super Senior (ages 61 and above). Showtime on game day is 6 a.m., with a shotgun start at 7 a.m. The awards luncheon will immediately follow the tournament.

For more information, contact Marianas Tourism Golf Classic Committee Chairman Martin Duenas at mduenas@mymarianas.com or committee member Jack Aranda at jaranda@mymarianas.com or call 1.670.664.3200/1.



Top Shelf Wines & Spirits General Manager John Jones, second left, presents a selection of wine and a \$10,000 in-kind hole-in-one prize on Aug. 11, 2023, in Gualo Rai, Saipan, for the Marianas Tourism Golf Classic to be held on Sept. 2, 2023, at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort. Proceeds of the tournament will benefit Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) and school MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) clubs. From left, MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente, Jones, former MY WAVE club member and tournament committee member Franco Santos, and tournament committee vice chairman Glenn Policare.

The Marianas is an archipelago of 14 islands - including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota - in the Western Pacific. The Marianas are home to indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people, as well as over 20 different ethnicities from around the world who live and work in this harmonious tropical paradise. Ancient latte stone limestone monoliths, traditional nature-based ocean navigation not reliant on modern technology, and a culture seasoned by East and West influences are just a few of the experiences found in The Marianas, where pristine sea, sand, and skies are only a 3–4-hour flight from major Asian gateway cities. From South Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights to Saipan from Seoul-Incheon, and Jeju Air also flies seasonally from Busan. United Airlines flies three times a week from Tokyo-Narita, Japan, and daily from Guam. Interisland travel between Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is provided by Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit www.mymarianas.com, Facebook/VisitTheMarianas, or Instagram @themarianas.

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