



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 FOUR WINDS INVITATIONAL TO BE HELD JUNE 8-10

Seventh annual tournament will take place at Blackthorn Golf Club in South Bend

SOUTH BEND, Ind. – February 28, 2018 – The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and its Four Winds® Casinos are pleased to announce that the 2018 Four Winds Invitational will be held from Friday, June 8 through Sunday, June 10 at Blackthorn Golf Club, located at 6100 Nimtz Parkway, South Bend. The seventh annual tournament will feature a field of professional women golfers from around the world competing on the Symetra® Tour – Road to the LPGA®. The 2018 tournament will include 144 golfers who will be playing for a \$150,000 purse.

“We are proud to bring back the Four Winds Invitational to South Bend for the seventh straight year,” said John P. Warren, Chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. “We’ve watched as this event has grown in popularity for the players, and for the community. Through this growth, we’ve been able to donate significant proceeds for valuable, lifesaving equipment at Beacon Children’s Hospital.”

In the past six years of the Four Winds Invitational, more than \$430,000 in tournament proceeds have been donated to Beacon Children’s Hospital. Additionally, more than \$1 million in prize money has been awarded to athletes playing in the tournament. 50 golfers who competed in South Bend have graduated from the Symetra Tour and moved on to the LPGA Tour, including 2015 tournament winner and Major Champion Brooke Henderson and 2016 winner Jackie Stoelting.

“A tremendous thank you to the Pokagon Band, Four Winds Casinos, our sponsors and every volunteer who work tirelessly over the past six years to ensure that the Four Winds Invitational continues to be among the best tournaments on the Symetra Tour,” said Tim Firestone, Owner and General Manager of Blackthorn Golf Club. “This year we’ll introduce a new event taking place the week of the tournament. In the coming weeks and months, we’ll release additional details on that and all events surrounding the tournament.”

The Four Winds Invitational is one of four Symetra Tour events that is part of the fifth annual Potawatomi Cup, which has a total prize pool of \$40,000. It awards Symetra Tour players a bonus based on performance at events sponsored by four Potawatomi nations’ casinos.

About the Four Winds Invitational

The Four Winds® Invitational was established in 2012 as part of the Symetra® Tour - Road to the LPGA®, and is sponsored by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Four Winds® Casinos. It is held at Blackthorn Golf Club, located at 6100 Nimitz Parkway, South Bend, Ind. The tournament features a field of professional women golfers from around the world. More information is available at fourwindsinvitational.com.

About The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians' sovereignty was reaffirmed under legislation signed into law by President Clinton in September of 1994. The Pokagon Band is dedicated to providing community development initiatives such as housing, education, family services, medical care and cultural preservation for its approximately 5,000 citizens. The Pokagon Band's ten-county service area includes four counties in Southwestern Michigan and six in Northern Indiana. Its main administrative offices are located in Dowagiac, Mich., with a satellite office in South Bend, Ind. In 2007, it opened Four Winds Casino Resort in New Buffalo, Mich., followed by Four Winds Hartford in 2011 and Four Winds Dowagiac in 2013. Four Winds South Bend opened January 16, 2018. It owns and operates a variety of business via Mno-Bmadsen, the tribe's non-gaming investment enterprise. More information is available at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov, www.fourwindscasino.com and www.mno-bmadsen.com.

About Four Winds Casinos

Four Winds New Buffalo, located at 11111 Wilson Road in New Buffalo, Mich., Four Winds Hartford, located at 68600 Red Arrow Highway in Hartford, Mich., Four Winds Dowagiac, located at 58700 M-51 South in Dowagiac, Mich., and Four Winds South Bend, located at 3000 Prairie Road in South Bend, Ind., are owned by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. Four Winds New Buffalo offers 130,000 square feet of gaming with more than 2,600 slot machines, 50 table games, five restaurants, entertainment bars, retail venues, a pool, and a 415-room hotel, making it the premier gaming resort in the Midwest. Four Winds Hartford features more than 550 slot machines, nine table games, a 74-seat restaurant, and a 15-seat bar. Four Winds Dowagiac features 400 slot machines, seven table games and one restaurant. Four Winds South Bend has 55,000 square feet of gaming space, 1,800 games, four restaurants, three bars, a players lounge, a coffee shop, and a retail outlet. Please play responsibly. You must be 21 years of age to gamble. For more information on Four Winds Casinos, please call 1-(866)-4WINDS1 (866-494-6371) or visit www.fourwindscasino.com. Additionally, be sure to like Four Winds Casinos on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fourwindscasino and follow on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/fourwindscasino.

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