

NEWS



Ascension CHARITY CLASSIC

presented by **EMERSON**



#1 Norwood Hills Country Club Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63121
Media Inquires: 614.519.1873

Twitter: @AscensionCCG
Instagram/Facebook: @AscensionCharityClassic
Website: www.ascensioncharityclassic.com

Missouri Division of Tourism announced as a Founding Partner of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson

Missouri Division of Tourism joins Centene Corporation as co-presenting sponsor of inaugural Legends Luncheon featuring golf greats Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson

TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS SEVERAL NEW OFFICIAL PARTNER COMMITMENTS

ST. LOUIS (July 22, 2021) – Officials of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson announced today its newest Founding Partner, Missouri Division of Tourism. Both the State of Missouri and the tournament are committed to supporting the region, including generating meaningful charitable dollars in North St. Louis County and the surrounding areas that are working to foster hope and better communities.

“I am very pleased that the State of Missouri will join other distinguished sponsors in support of this event,” said Missouri Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe. “I am grateful for the Ascension Charity Classic’s on-going philanthropic efforts and support of the North St. Louis County region. This official PGA TOUR Champions event will be a great opportunity to promote some of Missouri’s greatest tourism assets with the world.”

Additionally, Missouri Division of Tourism has joined forces with Centene Corporation to serve as a co-presenting sponsor of the Ascension Charity Classic’s Legends Luncheon set to take place later this month on July 29 at Norwood Hills Country Club. As a result, the name of the tournament’s new charity event is now the Legends Luncheon presented by Centene and Missouri Division of Tourism.

“The Ascension Charity Classic creates a terrific opportunity to share Missouri with a global audience, and further enhances our state’s reputation as a premier travel and golf destination,” said Stephen Foutes, Director of the Missouri Division of Tourism. “Golf fans, and viewers, are sure to enjoy watching this field of Champions Tour players in action, while also appreciating the tournament’s charitable components that help make this event a big win for Missouri.”

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In related news, the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson is proud to highlight the tournament's most recent additions as official sponsors, including Michelob Ultra (Official Beer Partner), Christian Hospital (Official First-Aid Partner), Major Brands (Official Wine and Spirits Partner), Essence Healthcare (Official Volunteer Sponsor), Heartland Coca-Cola Bottling Company (Official Non-Alcoholic Beverage Sponsor), and Le Meridien St. Louis Clayton (Official Hotel Partner).

"We are gratified to see the extraordinary level of engagement and commitment by so many leading corporations and area organizations," said Nick Ragone, Ascension EVP & Chief Marketing and Communications Officer. "The momentum is building and we're expecting an inaugural tournament that will surpass everyone's expectations in terms of being able to give back to our charities and the entire North St. Louis County community."

The Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be one of the premier Regular Season events on the PGA TOUR Champions in 2021, which will give way to the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs — a season-ending, three-tournament series used to determine the TOUR's season-long champion. Due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, PGA TOUR Champions has combined its tournaments in 2020 and 2021 to form one season, and the next Charles Schwab Cup champion will be crowned in November 2021 at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Recent PGA TOUR Champion winners include "rookie" sensations Phil Mickelson, Ernie Els, and newly minted 2021 U.S. Senior Open Champion Jim Furyk. Other winners from last season include names like Darren Clarke, Miguel Angel Jimenez, and Bernhard Langer.

The first playing of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson is set for the week of Sept. 6-12, 2021, after being forced to reschedule from October 2020 due to the global pandemic.

Tickets for the tournament can be purchased at ascensioncharityclassic.com. Two types of weekly admission options are available, a Clubhouse Ticket as well as a Grounds Ticket. Daily tickets are also offered. Tickets start at \$20, and kids 16 and under can attend for free with a ticketed adult.

All three rounds of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be broadcast on Golf Channel. Internationally, telecasts air in excess of 170 countries and territories, reaching more than 340 million potential households, and distributed in 15+ markets via GOLFTV.

For more information about the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson, including ticket, pro-am and hospitality availability, visit the Ascension Charity Classic website at ascensioncharityclassic.com. For the latest news and updates on social media, follow the tournament on Twitter at @ascensionccg, on Facebook at facebook.com/ascensioncharityclassic and Instagram at @ascensioncharityclassic.

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About Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson

The Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson is an official event on the PGA TOUR Champions operated by Tournaments for Charity, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. This 54-hole stroke play golf tournament features 81 PGA TOUR Champions professionals competing for a \$2 million purse at historic Norwood Hills Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri. The event is designed to showcase the best golf on the PGA TOUR Champions for the enjoyment of spectators and to benefit local charities in the North St. Louis County area and beyond. All three official rounds will be internationally televised on the Golf Channel. For more information, visit ascensioncharityclassic.com.

About Ascension

Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. In FY2020, Ascension provided \$2.4 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. Ascension includes more than 160,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 146 hospitals and more than 40 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, while providing a variety of services including clinical and network services, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management, and contracting through Ascension’s own group purchasing organization.

About Emerson

Emerson (NYSE: EMR), headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri (USA), is a global technology and engineering company providing innovative solutions for customers in industrial, commercial and residential markets. Our Automation Solutions business helps process, hybrid and discrete manufacturers maximize production, protect personnel and the environment while optimizing their energy and operating costs. Our Commercial & Residential Solutions business helps ensure human comfort and health, protect food quality and safety, advance energy efficiency and create sustainable infrastructure. For more information visit Emerson.com.

About PGA TOUR Champions

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers 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](https://twitter.com/ChampionsTour) and on Instagram [@pgatourchampions](https://instagram.com/pgatourchampions).

About HNS Sports Group

HNS Sports Group is a Dublin, Ohio-based LLC founded in 2000. The company offers over 125-plus years of collective experience and is committed to providing professional, efficient and effective client representation in the categories of sponsorship consultation, event management, hospitality management, sales representation and tournament operations within the golf market. To learn more about HNS Sports Group, visit hnssports.com.