

Lake Area United Way

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2009 Horseshoe Casino Classic at Lost Marsh Golf Course Will Benefit the Lake Area United Way

Griffith, Indiana - The Lake Area United Way will be the recipient charity for the 2009 Horseshoe Casino Classic. This world class special event will be held at Lost Marsh Golf Course in Hammond June 26-28.

The annual golf tournament is for professional women golfers on the Duramed FUTURES Tour, which is the official developmental tour of the LPGA and the largest of its kind internationally. The tour is committed to developing the skills and dreams of women golfers, establishing role models for youth and creating the LPGA stars of tomorrow.

The Horseshoe Casino Classic is a 54-hole event including a pre-tournament pro-am, giving local amateur golfers a rare chance to play with professional tour golfers. Players come from around the globe to compete on the FUTURES Tour. This year's purse is \$100,000, with \$14,000 for the winner and \$10,000 for the runner-up.

Since 2006, the event has been held at the Lost Marsh Golf Club, an 18-hole public golf course in Hammond, Indiana. It features 6,643 yards of golf course from the longest tees for a par of 72, and has a challenging 9-hole executive course.

"Lost Marsh is a beautiful course with first class facilities for golfers and their families which makes for an altogether enjoyable experience," said Rick Mazer, regional president and general manager at Horseshoe Casino Hammond. He and his wife Aria are serving as Lake Area United Way's 2009-10 Community Campaign Co-Chairs.

"This event has brought golfers from around the world to Northwest Indiana since 2003 and it's now one of the most sought after trophies on the Tour. This is a great occasion that showcases the area's outstanding quality of life," added Mazer.

The 2008 champion, Vicky Hurst, from Melbourne, Florida, competed full-time on the FUTURES Tour, winning five times and setting a Tour record for single season earnings with \$93,107. She earned her LPGA membership last year and will be competing in this year's LPGA Tour. The 2008 runner-up was Jin Young Pak from Kang Leung, South Korea, who has been a member of the LPGA Tour since 2007.

Daily pass tickets and tournament gallery multi-day passes are available. For more information on purchasing tickets, becoming a corporate sponsor, or to register to volunteer, please visit www.horseshoecasinoclassic.com.

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