



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO LTC # **314-2011**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: December 15, 2011

SUBJECT: The South Beach International Amateur Golf Tournament

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
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This Letter to Commission is being sent to inform you that the City of Miami Beach will be hosting the inaugural "South Beach International Amateur Golf Tournament" on Sunday, December 18th through Friday, December 23rd, 2011, at the Miami Beach and Normandy Shores Golf Clubs. The Co-Chairmen of this amateur championship will be world famous Golf Instructor Jim McLean and Johnny LaPonzina, past President and Hall Of Fame Inductee of the South Florida PGA. Johnny LaPonzina is the President of Professional Course Management (PCM), the current operator of Miami Beach Golf Club and Normandy Shores Golf Club. The idea to host this tournament was developed by Johnny LaPonzina and the PCM team in conjunction with our Parks and Recreation Department Director, Kevin Smith.

The South Beach International Amateur's field features 28 "top 500" world ranked players from 14 countries, led by current US Amateur Champion Kelly Kraft (#5) of Denton, Texas. The field will be the highest-ranked inaugural worldwide amateur since field strength has been measured, according to Scratch Players Rankings (SPWAR). Scratch Player is the world's most respected amateur ranking system which covers over 3,000 tournaments and ranks the top 6,000 worldwide amateur players. The tournament field is made up of 166 amateur golfers with handicaps of three or less. Seventy-two (72) players move on to the final two rounds at the Miami Beach Golf Club. Registration is open to all amateur golfers throughout the world. The following is the events schedule for this exciting tournament.

SOUTH BEACH INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR – TOURNAMENT ITINERARY

- Sunday December 18 – Practice rounds begin at 10:00 am on both courses
- Monday December 19 – Practice rounds all day on both courses
- Monday December 19 – 5:00 pm Clinic featuring Jim McLean, Tim Rosaforte of The Golf Channel & Golf World magazine and Eric Compton of the PGA Tour
- Tuesday December 20 – Round 1 tee times begin at MBGC & NSGC, 8:00 am
- Wednesday December 21 – Round 2 tee times begin at MBGC & NSGC, 8:00 am
- Thursday December 22 – Round 3 tee times at MBGC, 8:00 am
- Friday December 23 – Round 4 tee times at MBGC, 8:00 am
 - Awards Ceremony at approximately 4:30 pm

Based on the strength of the field, the South Beach International Amateur will be the highest ranked inaugural event ever, and is already currently ranked as the 45th top amateur event in the world. We are all extremely excited to be hosting the world's best amateur golfers and look forward to seeing them on our world class facilities.

Please join us as our guest at the Monday evening 5:00 pm golf clinic/welcome event at the Miami Beach Golf Club, and on the courses for the remainder of the tournament to see world class amateur golf on your world class golf courses.

If you have additional questions please contact Kevin Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation at 6579.

JMG/HMF/KS

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