

Daily Marianas Variety Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

March 24, 2006

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PRIZES are slowly being lined up for the 11th Tournament of Champions this year, which is scheduled for Aug. 6 and 7 at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort.

This year's TOC will have three hole-in-one prizes worth \$174,199 as organizers start their preparations in Saipan's biggest golfing event.

Two hole-in-one prizes will be offered by AON Insurance with participants of the two-day golf fest getting the chance to win \$75,000 on a designated hole in the East and West courses.

AON Regional Director Rodney Rankin always looks forward to the TOC every year both as a sponsor and a player.

"The (TOC) offers great exposure for my company and more importantly it allows me to support the Saipan Beautification fund," Rankin said.

Another hole-in-one prize is a brand new 2007 Toyota Camry LE worth \$24,199 donated by Microl Toyota.

Microl Toyota General Manager Doug Brennan, a advocate and supporter of various sporting events on the island, said his company and other businesses on Saipan are proud to be part of the TOC.

"For many years the TOC has been a great honor for many in the Saipan business community. It shows what can be done when people work together to achieve a common goal," Brennan said.

Brennan added that the TOC brings out the best golfers on Saipan, with the primary aim being to raise money for the Saipan Beautification Fund.

"As good corporate citizens, the staff and management of Microl enjoy being able to give back to the community."

In 2004, B Flight participant Alex Aquiningoc made a hole-in-one at hole No. 17 to win a brand new Ford Escape donated by Joeten Motors Co.

Aside from getting the chance to win exciting prizes, this year's Championship Flight winner will earn a slot in the 2007 Johnnie Walker Classic ProAm Golf Tournament.

Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho was the first CNMI golfer to play in the Johnnie Walker Classic which was held in Beijing, China in 2005 while Sasaki Oliver earned this year's ticket to Perth, Australia.

The TOC, since its inception in 1996, has able to raise \$400,000 to support Saipan Beautification projects.

The money has been used for the traffic medians from Garapan to Hotel Nikko, the revival of the Garapan special district, the beautification of Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Beach Road Pathway and other beautification projects.

For more information on sponsorship in the TOC, call Andy Tidwell at 234-1305.