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AT&T CHAMPIONS CLASSIC WILL RETURN TO VALENCIA COUNTRY CLUB IN 2008

VALENCIA, CA – The 2008 AT&T Champions Classic will be held at Valencia Country Club it was announced today by Brian Fitzgerald, executive director of the tournament, and Jim Fitzsimmons, general manager of Valencia Country Club.

Champions Charities, which operates and manages the event on behalf of AT&T, exercised its option on a contract to return the Champions Tour event to the Santa Clarita Valley and the Valencia Country Club next year. AT&T announced earlier in the year its sponsorship of the event for 2008 with the PGA Tour.

“What we’ve tried to do is get our host club contracts to mirror our agreements with the PGA Tour, so our current commitments with the PGA Tour run through 2008,” Fitzgerald said in making the announcement. “Our relationship with Valencia Country Club has been an exceptional one. We firmly believe this golf course is one of the top clubs on the Champions Tour. We look forward to returning next year. The city and the community and the business community that supports this event is the reason we want to come back.”

A recent economic impact report revealed an annual direct impact to the Santa Clarita Valley of \$8.3 million and an estimated \$19.2 million to the greater Los Angeles area.

“I would like to thank the members of Valencia Country Club. They get behind this tournament and because of their support we are able to do this, so they deserve a lot of the credit,” Fitzsimmons said. “This is fun for us. We enjoy doing this tournament, and the members enjoy the camaraderie of the tournament with the players. It never ceases to amaze me how much bigger it gets each year and how much more support we get.”

The AT&T Champions Classic moved to Valencia Country Club in 2001 after five years at Rancho Park Golf Course in Los Angeles (1990-94) and six years at Wilshire Country Club (1995-2000) in Los Angeles. This year’s seventh annual event starts Friday on the par-72 layout just north of Los Angeles with Tom Kite as the defending champion.

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