

For Immediate Release:

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KAPALUA'S PLANTATION COURSE REOPENS WITH NEW PUTTING SURFACES

KAPALUA, Hawaii (August 1, 2005) -- Kapalua Resort on Maui has just completed various improvements to The Plantation Course in preparation for the PGA TOUR's winners-only, season-opening Mercedes Championships, January 2-8, 2006.

The course reopened on August 1, with players putting on Ultradwarf TifEagle® greens. The new Bermuda grass can be maintained with lower mowing heights allowing for a truer roll on the greens. The renovation project also included a re-contouring of several greens enabling more hole locations for tournament and daily operations.

Additionally, 30 fairway bunkers were renovated to the original Coore & Crenshaw design characteristics and new bunkers were added on Holes No. 15 and 16. The teeing areas on Holes No. 2, 4, 8, 11 and 17 were expanded and the No. 15 fairway was also reshaped to give players an improved second-shot landing area. Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, the original architects, and Kapalua Superintendent Craig Trenholme, supervised all renovations of the par (73), 7, 411-yard championship golf course. Originally opened for play in 1991, The Plantation Course has been host of the season-opening PGA TOUR Mercedes Championships since 1999.

"We are excited about reopening The Plantation Course with the competitive improvements made the past four months. The new greens, renovated bunkers, larger teeing areas and playable enhancements to various parts of the golf course will increase the experience of our resort guests and the world's best players in January," said Gary Planos, senior vice president of resort operations.

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2006 Mercedes Championships

Page 2

In addition to the enhancements of The Plantation Course, a GPS system was added to the golf carts to provide yardages from anywhere on the golf course for amateur players.

“The Plantation Clubhouse also underwent major renovations that offer a new standard of excellence,” added Planos. The renovations include new carpeting, paint and furnishings with colors that emphasize nature and ocean hues. Other enhancements were also made to the golf shop, locker rooms and the Plantation House Restaurant that overlooks the 1st and 18th holes.

Kapalua is considered by many as the “*The #1 Golf Resort in Hawaii.*” Its three 18-hole layouts – The Bay, The Village and The Plantation Courses – have decorated the resort with top rankings that include *GOLF Magazine’s* Gold Medal Award (nine-time recipient) and *Golf Digest’s* Best Courses in the State.

To reserve a tee time, please call toll-free 1-877-KAPALUA or (808) 669-8044. For more information regarding the 2006 Mercedes Championships, please call (808) 669-2440.

The Kapalua Resort is a 23,000-acre master-planned resort community set amidst a working pineapple plantation on Maui's northwest coast. The resort is renowned for its three world-class golf courses - The Bay, The Village and The Plantation Courses; nine residential communities; two premier hotels - The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua and the Kapalua Bay Hotel; a villa rental program, The Kapalua Villas; a luxury home rental program, Kapalua Luxury Homes; a tennis complex; three white sand beaches; and a myriad of restaurants and shops. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-KAPALUA or visit the web site at www.kapaluamaui.com.

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