



NEWS RELEASE

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Registration open for Fifth Annual Play Golf – Fight Cancer Tournament Presented by IBA

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Player registration is open for the Fifth Annual Play Golf-Fight Cancer Central Florida Golf Classic presented by IBA to benefit proton therapy and research at the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute. The tournament will be held Oct. 13 near Orlando at Heathrow Country Club, Heathrow, Fla., and players can register online at <http://www.floridaproton.golfreg.com/>.

The Play Golf- Fight Cancer tournament is open to individual golfers as well as corporate teams that represent a company, church, media group, health care facility or club. The format is a four-person modified scramble, and awards will be given for each of the six flight winners, longest drive, closest to the pin, Hole-in-One contests, and more. Hole-in-One prizes include two BMW cars, a Parker boat, a Yamaha motorcycle and Nike irons.

During the past four years, the tournament has raised more than \$600,000 for the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute, located on the campus of Shands Jacksonville. Since the facility treated its first patient in 2006, all tournament net profits have been used to fund research.

“Proton therapy research is of utmost importance at the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute,” said Dr. Nancy Mendenhall, the UF Proton Therapy Institute’s medical director. “It’s what enables us to learn how to use proton therapy to its full potential.”

[Proton therapy](#) is a precise radiation treatment that destroys cancer cells and minimizes damage to healthy tissue. That means patients experience reduced cancer treatment side effects and are at less risk of developing complications from the treatment later in life. This is especially beneficial for treating [cancer in children](#) and in adult cancers located in sensitive areas.

For more information about the tournament, please contact Tournament Chairman Larry Shertz at 2007 Alaqua Lakes Blvd., Longwood, FL 32779, e-mail lshertz@cfl.rr.com, call 407-804-0507 or fax 407-833-8557. For information about corporate sponsorship opportunities, contact Merry Mac Watson at 352-265-0111 or watsonmm@ufl.edu.

University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute, a 501 (c) 3 organization, is affiliated with the University of Florida College of Medicine, a national leader in cancer treatment and research. A team of radiation oncologists, physicists, engineers and computer scientists, all faculty members at UF, delivers state-of-the-art cancer treatment and strives to set new standards for treating and curing the disease. More than 27,000 treatments have been delivered since opening in August 2006. For more information about UF Proton Therapy Institute, please visit www.floridaproton.org.

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