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## **Lake Nona Golf & Country Club turns 25 this year**



***Lake Nona Golf & Country Club's Tom Fazio-designed championship golf course, which opened in 1987.***

**ORLANDO, FLA. (June 22, 2012)** – Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Lake Nona Golf & Country Club set new standards for golf communities when it opened in 1987. Lake Nona Golf & Country Club was fashioned on a 600-acre parcel of land in a remote area of southeast Orlando blanketed by towering oaks, pines and native cypress trees and surrounded by 1,000 acres of sparkling freshwater lakes.

Once deemed too rural for residential development, the area offered an ideal landscape for an 18-hole golf course. Considered by many as one of Tom Fazio's best early designs, Lake Nona was carefully routed through its natural surroundings to ensure the golf course was given top priority. Since 2004, the world-

ranked golf course has been a regular host of the PGA Tour-sanctioned Tavistock Cup, a global country club championship between the touring professional members of the world's best golf clubs.

Today it is also recognized as one of the most inviting private golf and country club communities in the world offering a wealth of amenities that includes a Bath & Racquet Club with fitness center, tennis facilities, a resort-style pool and a children's playground, and a 40,000-square-foot clubhouse with a formal dining area, grill room and lounge, well-appointed golf shop, conference room and an 18-room guest lodge. In addition to its deep traditions of golf, Lake Nona Golf & Country Club's surrounding lakes provide outstanding freshwater fishing and boating opportunities. A splendid array of luxury residences and neighborhoods, with unparalleled lake and golf course views, showcase the south's leading custom builders.



**Lake Nona Neo-Georgian style clubhouse.**



**Team Lake Nona celebrated its fourth consecutive win at the 2012 Tavistock Cup held at Lake Nona.**

Twenty-five years ago, Lake Nona consisted of just a golf course and a handful of residences. When Tavistock Group acquired Lake Nona in 1993 from the UK-based Sunley Group, the developer made several enhancements to the residential golf community by adding 24-hour security and concierge services, a year-round children's program, a formal dining area and casual dining options. Those enhancements attracted families from 32 countries, including a number of top executives and professional athletes, currently including 18 professional golfers. The significant number of pro golfers who reside within Lake Nona Golf & Country Club inspired the developer to create a signature tournament for the community nine years ago.

Since the inaugural Tavistock Cup matches were played at Lake Nona in 2004, the tournament has been bringing the best golf and country clubs together in an annual team competition. Dubbed one of the most distinctive sporting events in the world, the Tavistock Cup provides a no-ropes experience that allows guests the rare opportunity to get up close and personal with some of golf's biggest names, as tickets to the Tavistock Cup are not sold to the general public. In addition, the two-day tournament is aired live on the *Golf Channel* in the U.S., Canada and Japan and on international affiliates throughout the United Kingdom, Latin America and South Africa.

But Lake Nona Golf & Country Club is more than just a luxury golf community with a premier golf course; the community forms a cornerstone to Tavistock Group's innovative 7,000-acre mixed-use Lake Nona development, which includes education, research and medical facilities, diverse workspaces and housing, retail centers and entertainment choices, and trails, parks and recreational amenities.

The 650-acre health and life sciences park known as Lake Nona Medical City is a landmark for the Lake Nona community. Carefully planned and laid out, Lake Nona Medical City represents a deliberate and recent strategy to create a centralized focus of sophisticated medical treatment, research and education in Central Florida. In the next decade, Lake Nona Medical City will be home to some of the nation's top hospitals, universities, research institutions and life science companies. But the Medical City's anchor institutions – including the UCF College of Medicine, Sanford-Burnham Institute for Medical Research,

Nemours Children's Hospital and the Orlando VA Medical Center – are already forming networks and synergies that are making Lake Nona a global destination for health care, research and medical education while creating an economic development and job creation tool for the region.

With a 1-million-square-foot open-air mall and town center planned in Lake Nona, Lake Nona Golf & Country Club will be steps from an enticing array of retail, dining and entertainment options. More than 40 percent of the Lake Nona community is being preserved as parks, lakes or open spaces that can be enjoyed from its planned 44-mile trail system, with 20 miles already on the ground. Lake Nona Golf & Country Club is also perfectly positioned with optimal access to everything else the surrounding region and state has to offer, including a nearby international airport, the city's top attractions, Disney World and Universal Studios, the Atlantic coast beaches and Florida's most important metropolitan areas. Accessible from nearly all of Central Florida's major roadways, Lake Nona's prime geographic location connects the community to the state's most important cities and resources.

"Beside great golf, beautiful homes and unparalleled services, our annual lineup of events and celebrations, like the Tavistock Cup, are one of the finest amenities in Lake Nona and what makes this community such a vibrant and exciting place to live," said Andy Odenbach, Tavistock Cup tournament director and vice president of Lake Nona Golf & Country Club. "The growth and transformation taking place outside of our gates is destined to make this area one of the most attractive and interesting destinations in the world."

#### **ABOUT LAKE NONA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

Lake Nona Golf & Country Club is a 600-acre private residential golf club community set amidst pristine freshwater lakes and a canopy of tall oaks, pines and native cypress trees. Lake Nona is located in southeast Orlando just 20 minutes from downtown Orlando, 10 minutes from the Orlando International Airport and 30 minutes from the Atlantic beaches. This hidden jewel features a world-ranked 18-hole championship golf course designed by Tom Fazio. Lake Nona Golf & Country Club boasts a splendid array of neighborhoods and residences, priced from \$1 million to more than \$7 million, constructed by some of the leading custom builders in the south. Lake Nona Golf & Country Club forms a cornerstone holding to Tavistock Group's 7,000-acre mixed-use Lake Nona development highlighted by a life sciences cluster becoming known as Lake Nona Medical City. More than 40 percent of the Lake Nona community is being preserved as open space, parks or lakes that can be enjoyed on a 44-mile trail system. For more information, please visit [www.lakenona.com](http://www.lakenona.com) or call (407) 851-9091.

#### **ABOUT TAVISTOCK GROUP**

Tavistock Group is an international private investment company founded by Joe Lewis. With investments in more than 200 companies across 15 countries, Tavistock Group's holdings are diverse and significant in scale and include sports, restaurants, real estate including resort properties and private clubs, master planned communities, life sciences, finance, energy, consumer products and retail. Headquartered in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Tavistock Group has offices all over the world, including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, The Netherlands, Poland, Bulgaria, Mexico and Argentina. For more information, visit [www.tavistock.com](http://www.tavistock.com).

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