



MEDIA KIT

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HAWAII PEARL OPEN 2013

January 23, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

35th HAWAII PEARL OPEN TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 8-9-10, 2013, IN MEMORY OF MR. TSUGIO OGATA

HONOLULU – The 35th annual Hawaii Pearl Open, featuring an international field of approximately 176 golfers from Hawaii, Japan, the mainland United States, and Korea, will be played February 8, 9 and 10, 2013, at the Pearl Country Club on Oahu. This year's tournament is dedicated to the memory of Pearl Country Club's longtime president and tournament co-founder, Tsugio Ogata, who passed away in May 2012.

Each year, approximately half (80) of the Hawaii Pearl Open field comes from Japan, including tour professionals and some of the country's top amateurs. The other half of the field (80) will mainly be comprised of top pros and amateurs from Hawaii, as well as the U.S. mainland and Korea. There will be 8 sponsor's exemptions, and the final 8 spots in the tournament field will be determined via an 18-hole qualifying round at Pearl Country Club on Tuesday, February 5.

The field will be cut to the top 72 players (and ties) after two rounds for the final 18 holes of play on Sunday. By policy, the top 15 amateurs will advance to the final round. The tournament purse of \$81,160 represents the richest prize of any locally run tournament in Hawaii. Professionals play for \$77,500 in cash awards, while amateurs will vie for \$3,660 in merchandise certificates. The winner takes home the \$12,000 first-place prize money and two round-trip tickets to Japan compliments of Japan Airlines. As an added incentive, the person shooting the lowest gross each day will win \$500 (if pro; amateurs receive a \$500 gift certificate). A 2013 Honda Accord is also up for grabs for the first hole-in-one made on the 16th hole on Sunday.

Special 35th Anniversary Prizes

This year's 35th Anniversary Champion (low professional) will earn a bonus of 500,000 yen (approximately \$5,600 U.S. at current exchange rate), sponsored by Pearl County Club. Also adding to the drama, an additional 500,000 yen prize will go to the pro who hits the second shot closest to the pin on the 18th Hole on Sunday; closest amateur wins a \$750 gift certificate sponsored by Pearl Country Club.

(continued)

Hawaii Pearl Open Pro-Am Promotes International Goodwill

An 18-hole pro-am event will be held on Thursday, February 7, preceding the 54-hole tournament. Proceeds from this year's Pro-Am event will be donated to "Rainbow for Japan Kids," a project that brings students who have suffered through the earthquake and tsunami in Japan to Hawaii for physical and emotional relief and recovery.

Hawaii Pearl Open Demo Day

One of the most popular features of the Hawaii Pearl Open every year is Demo Day. This year's Demo Day will be held on Sunday, February 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Pearl Country Club driving range. The public is invited to try out the very latest in golf technology from some of the game's top manufacturers at no charge. Representatives from Cleveland, Cobra, TaylorMade, Titleist and Nike will be on hand to fit golfers and answer questions. A 25 percent discount will apply to any purchases made at Demo Day.

The public is welcomed to attend. Admission to the Hawaii Pearl Open is free, as is parking at Pearl Country Club.

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2013年ハワイ・パール・オープン

第35回ハワイ・パール・オープンが2月8日から10日まで
ハワイ・パール・オープンの功労者、尾形次雄氏を偲んで

(ハワイ・ホノルル発)

今年で35回目となるハワイ・パール・オープン・トーナメントが、2月8日から10日まで地元ハワイをはじめ日本、アメリカ本土そして韓国から176人の選手たちを迎えてオアフ島のパール・カントリー・クラブで3日間の熱戦が繰り広げられる。今年のトーナメントは、去年の5月に亡くなったパール・カントリーの社長であると同時にこのトーナメントの生みの親の一人でもあった故・尾形次雄氏を偲ぶ特別の大会でもあります。

毎年、出場選手のおよそ半分の80人近くは日本からのツアープロ、トップアマチュアの選手で、残り半分が地元ハワイ、米本土、韓国からのプロ、トップアマチュアなどで構成されています。さらに8人はスポンサー枠での出場、また2月5日の火曜日に行われる「チューズデー・トーナメント」からのトップ8人が選出されます。

本選は8、9日の2日間36ホールでの予選を通過した72人(同スコアの場合は増える可能性も)で争われますが、これまでの規則によってトップ・アマチュアは15人までが本選出場の資格を得ます。

ハワイで行われる地元の大会では最も大きな賞金総額は81,160ドルで、そのうち77,500ドルがプロ選手への賞金で、3,660ドルはアマチュア選手への商品券となっています。

プロ選手への優勝者には12,000ドル優勝賞金と日本航空から日本への往復航空券が2人分贈呈されます。

また3日間のトーナメントを通じて、その日のベスト・スコアの選手には500ドルの賞金(アマチュアの場合は同額の商品券)が、そして最終日の本選では16番のショート・ホールで最初にホール・イン・ワンを出した選手には「2013年型のホンダ・アコード」車がプレゼントされます。

35周年特別賞

今年の35周年を迎えるにあたり、パール・カントリー・クラブから優勝者にはさらに50万円(現在の為替レートでは約5,600ドル相当)のボーナスが追加されます。

また最終日の18番ホールで第2打目をピンに最も近い位置につけたプロの選手に50万円が、アマチュア選手の中で最も近い位置につけた選手には750ドルの商品券がそれぞれ贈られます。

プロ・アマ大会の売上金は東日本大震災寄金に

ハワイ・パール・オープンのトーナメントに先立って、2月7日の木曜日にパール・カントリー・クラブでプロ・アマの大会が開催されます。今年の売上金は、2011年3月11日に起きた東日本大震災と津波で、肉体的にも精神的にも大きな被害を受けた東北地方の子供たちをハワイに呼び寄せる「レインボー・フォー・ジャパン・キッズ」のプロジェクトに寄付されます。

ハワイ・パール・オープンでのゴルフ・クラブのデモンストレーション

毎年、好評を頂いているハワイ・パール・オープン・トーナメントでの行事が一日限りの「デモ・デイ」です。

今年は最終日の2月10日の日曜日、午前10時から午後2時までの4時間、例年通りパール・カ

ントリークラブのドライビング・レンジで行われます。

最新のテクノロジーを駆使したゴルフ・クラブをお試し下さい。もちろん無料です。今回はクリーブランド、コブラ、テイラーメイド、タイトリスト、ナイキからのクラブが展示され、どんな質問にもお答えできるようスタッフが待ち構えています。この日に限り25%のディスカウントで購入できます。

ハワイ・パール・オープンは入場無料です。お誘いあわせの上ご家族、ご友人など一緒にお出かけ下さい。パーキングも十分にあります。世界のトップ・プロを身近に見るチャンスです。

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HAWAII PEARL OPEN 2013

Schedule of Events

- Tuesday, Feb. 5** **Qualifying Round**
A field of up to 96 non-exempt pros and amateurs compete over 18 holes at Pearl CC for a minimum of 8 spots in the tournament field. Qualifying starts at 7 a.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 7** **Pro Am Tournament & Banquet**
Teams of four amateurs and one pro entered in the Hawaii Pearl Open field tee off at 11:30 a.m. in this international goodwill event, which culminates in a gala awards banquet at the Pearl CC Clubhouse. For the second year, proceeds raised at this year's Pro Am will be donated to "Rainbow for Japan Kids," a project that brings students who have suffered through the earthquake and tsunami in Japan to Hawaii for physical and emotional relief and recovery.
- Friday, Feb. 8** **First Round**
A full field consisting of 176 players from Hawaii, Japan, the U.S. mainland, and Korea will tee off from both 1st and 10th tees starting shortly after 7 a.m. Pairings and tee times sheets will be available for the public each day.
- Saturday, Feb. 9** **Second Round**
Full field competition continues with golfers striving to make the 36-hole cut. The top 72 places and ties will advance. The top 15 amateurs will advance. Those making it to the final round return on Sunday will compete for the \$81,160 total purse. Pros compete for \$77,500 in prize money; amateurs compete for \$3,660 in merchandise certificates.
- Sunday, Feb. 10** **Final Round, Demo Day, Awards Ceremony**
Some of golf's top manufacturers (Cleveland, Nike, TaylorMade and Titleist are confirmed at this time) will be at the Pearl CC driving range from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. offering their very latest gear to try out. A 25 percent discount will be offered for all orders placed during the Demo Day promotion.
- Tournament leaders battle to the finish. Awards Ceremony will be held immediately following play on the 18th green (weather permitting).
- Adding to the excitement of this year's 35th Anniversary tournament, the Champion (low professional) will earn a bonus of 500,000 yen. An additional 500,000 yen prize will go to the closest to the pin second shot on the 18th Hole on Sunday (professionals); closest amateur takes home a \$750 gift certificate.



2013 Hawaii Pearl Open Prize Money

The total purse for the 2013 Hawaii Pearl Open is \$81,160. Professionals compete for \$77,500 in cash, while amateurs play for \$3,660 in merchandise certificates. See also, Special Prizes, below.

1	\$12,000	19	\$ 800
2	\$ 9,000	20	\$ 750
3	\$ 7,000	21	\$ 700
4	\$ 6,000	22	\$ 650
5	\$ 5,000	23	\$ 600
6	\$ 4,000	24	\$ 550
7	\$ 3,500	25	\$ 500
8	\$ 3,000	26	\$ 450
9	\$ 2,500	27	\$ 400
10	\$ 2,200	28	\$ 375
11	\$ 1,900	29	\$ 350
12	\$ 1,600	30	\$ 325
13	\$ 1,400	31	\$ 300
14	\$ 1,300	32-40	\$ 200
15	\$ 1,200	41-50	\$ 100
16	\$ 1,100	51-70	\$ 75
17	\$ 1,000	71+	\$ 55
18	\$ 900		

Special Prizes

- Champion will receive round-trip tickets for two to Japan, compliments of Japan Airlines.
- Champion will receive a 14kt gold and diamond championship pendant from Designs 'n Gold.
- Daily Low Gross Winner Professional - \$500 or Amateur - \$500 Gift Certificate. One winner only.
- Hole-in-one on Sunday, Feb. 10, on the 16th Hole - 2013 Honda Accord. First hole-in-one only.

Additional 35th Anniversary Prizes

- This year's 35th Anniversary Champion (low professional) will earn a bonus of 500,000 yen (approximately \$5,600 U.S. at current exchange rate), sponsored by Pearl County Club.
- Also, an additional 500,000 yen prize will go to the closest second shot on the 18th Hole on Sunday (professionals); closest amateur wins \$750 gift certificate sponsored by Pearl Country Club.

A Brief History of the HPO

2012: Park Wins 34th HPO in Playoff

Last year's Hawaii Pearl Open will be remembered for the thrilling two-hole playoff between Korean Tour pro Jun Won Park and Hawaii amateur John Oda before Park finally captured the 34th Hawaii Pearl Open. Park (71-70-68—209) and Oda (71-70-68—209) completed 54 holes of regulation play tied at seven-under-par. The pivotal hole—as is so often the case at the HPO—was the par-5 17th hole.

Oda, a 15-year-old Moanalua High School sophomore, eagled the 17th to vault himself into the lead. Faced with a 175-yard second shot, Oda fired a seven iron to within six feet of the hole and calmly stroked the putt in for a dramatic eagle.

Park, 25, playing in the group behind Oda, then birdied the 17th to tie him at seven-under-par, but could not birdie the 18th for the outright win. Third round leader Joji Nakamura, playing in the final group of the day, also birdied the 17th and needed to birdie 18 to join the playoff, but his birdie putt came up just short of the hole.

On the first playoff hole, Park stuck his second shot within birdie range, only to have Oda match it with an equally accurate wedge to the green. Oda putted first and drained his birdie, shifting the pressure back to Park, who proved up to the challenge and also made his uphill birdie putt.

The two played the 18th again, but Oda's approach shot trickled over the back of the green. He chipped past the hole and missed the comeback par putt. Park two-putted for a par to take the title, while Oda took home low amateur honors.

A number of players either led or flirted with the lead at various points during the final round, including Nakamura (73-65-72—210), Leilehua and UH Hilo alum Nicholas Mason (70-70-71—211), San Jose State alumnus Mark Hubbard (71-68-72—211), Korea's Dong Seop Maeng (71-69-72—212), and Japan's Norihiko Furusho (67-74-71—212).

2011: Ellis Captures Rain-shortened 33rd HPO

Severe flooding on Friday forced organizers to shorten the 33rd Hawaii Pearl Open from 54 to 36 holes. In the end, John Ellis, a 31-year-old golf professional from San Jose, Calif., survived an intense challenge from a group of about a half dozen golfers on Sunday's final. Ellis, who led the tournament going into the final round, faltered a bit on the front nine then posted nine pars on the back. His even-par 72, combined with his first round 64, gave him a two-stroke margin of victory over defending champion Akinori Tani (68-70—138) and Nicholas Mason (69-69—138). It was Ellis' first win at the HPO in four tries, never finishing worse than sixth. In 2008, Ellis won three tournaments on the Canadian Tour and was awarded the Canadian Tour's Order of Merit.

Canadian pro Nick Taylor (67-76—143) and Turtle Bay Resorts star Tony Finau (67-74—141), both shared second place after the first round, but fell off the pace. Taylor was ranked as the number one amateur in the world in 2009 before turning pro; Finau and his brother, Gipper, starred in The Golf Channel's "Big Break" reality series.

Hawaii's Matthew Ma (70-71—141) captured low amateur honors at 3-under par and T7 overall. Ellis was the senior captain of the University of Oregon golf team when Ma joined them as a freshman.

2010 – Akinori Tani, a 35-year-old pro from Hyogo, Japan, eagled the par-5 17th hole on Sunday’s final round to leapfrog early leader Nicholas Mason, who parred the same hole. Tani shot a closing round 67 for a 12-under-par total of 204. Mason had led by as many as three-shots earlier in the day. He shot 69 and finished one stroke back in a tight, seesaw struggle that at times included seven or eight players. Korean pro Hyung Sung Kim (70-65-71—206) took sole possession of third place.

Ryutaro Kato, 16, shot 72-68-72—212 to take low amateur honors by one stroke over fellow Japanese amateurs Yosuke Asaji and Kouki Furuta, who both finished at 3-under 213.

2009 – Jesse Mueller, a 25-year-old pro from Arizona, holed out twice for eagle on the par-4 8th and par-4 11th holes in the final round of the 31st Hawaii Pearl Open. Mueller shot a 7-under-par 65 to finish at 19-under par. It was enough for an eight-stroke victory, tying the record low for the tournament.* Mueller is a former Arizona State Amateur Champion and graduate of Arizona State University. He has played on both the Nationwide and Gateway tours. In 2008, he won four times on the Gateway Tour.

Second place went to Japanese pro Makoto Endo, 27, who held the first round lead (64-72-69—205). Endo was tied with John Ellis, the No. 1 player on the Canadian Tour, until Ellis bogeyed the par-5 17th hole and Endo birdied it.

For the second year in a row, low amateur honors went to Punahou junior Bradley Shigezawa (71-71-68—210).

**Mueller’s 19-under tied a mark set by Japanese pro Katsumasa Miyamoto in 1998.*

2008 - Sixteen-year-old Japanese megastar Ryo Ishikawa drew the largest galleries and an impressive corps of international media at the 30th HPO, but it was Azuma Yano, a 30-year-old pro from Japan, who fired 66-69-69—204 to fashion a wire-to-wire victory.

Kiyoshi Murota, 52, shot a final round 69 to put pressure on Yano and finish at 10-under-par. Murota tied for second place with 30-year-old Hidemasa Hoshino, who fired a sizzling 6-under par 66 final round to move to 10-under as well.

Ishikawa, meanwhile, finished at 6-under and sole possession of 10th place. He was outdone by another 16-year-old, Punahou sophomore Bradley Shigezawa (71-69-68—208) earned low amateur honors.

2007 - A month after making the cut and finishing 20th at PGA Tour’s Sony Open in Hawaii, Tadd Fujikawa captured the 29th annual HPO by a shot over professional Gregory Meyer. Fujikawa, a 16-year-old Moanalua High sophomore, shot a final-round, 4-under-par 68 and 11-under 205 total to become the first amateur since Damien Jamila in 1992 to win the HPO. Meyer collected \$12,000 and a trip to Japan as the low pro.

2006 - Japan’s Tomohiro Maruyama fired a final-round 5-under-par 67 for a 201 total and a two-stroke victory over Arizona pro Andy Barnes and Minnesota pro Don Berry in the 29th HPO. Maruyama, a three-time winner in Japan, started the final round two shots behind Barnes, who shot 71 and finished tied for second at 202 with Berry.

2005 - Will Yanagisawa, a 33-year-old professional from California and former teammate of Tiger Woods at Stanford, defeated Tetsuji Hiratsuka with a par on the first playoff hole to pocket the top prize. Yanagisawa and Hiratsuka finished tied after 54 holes at 14-under 200.

2004 - Gregory Meyer successfully defended his title with a 54-hole score of 13-under 203. Meyer, who won back-to-back championships in 1987 and 1988, rallied from a three-stroke deficit with a final-round 5-under 67, which included a birdie-birdie-eagle run (the par-4 10th, 11th and par-5 12th) to beat two-time HPO champion Kiyoshi Murota (1997 and 2002), who finished second at 205.

2003 - Gregory Meyer captured his third HPO. Meyer, a regular member of the Japan Golf Tour Organization (JGTO), shot a final-round, 2-over-par 74, for 7-under 209 total to hold off Utah pro Steve Schneider and Japan pro Hiroyuki Naito, who both shot even-par 72 and finished at 210. Punahou eighth-grader Michelle Wie, playing in her second HPO, finished tied for 43rd place at 77-225. The 13-year-old missed the cut in 2002.

2002 - Japan pro Kiyoshi Murota shot a final-round 65 to win by five shots over Fiji's Dinesh Chand. At the turn, Murota was six under, a shot ahead of Chand and two up on Gregory Meyer. Murota birdied Nos. 11, 12 and 13 to pull away for his second HPO victory. Japan's Hiroaki Munetsugu (70-217) was low amateur and tied for 18th overall. Punahou seventh-grader Michelle Wie, the first female to play in the HPO, missed the cut.

2001 - Japan pro Hidemichi Tanaka and Hilo's Gregory Meyer turned the tournament into a two-man shootout. Tanaka won, soaring ahead with an eagle on the next-to-last hole. He closed with an 8-under-par 64, for a 54-hole total of 15-under 201. Tanaka, a two-time Japan Open champion, finished 7th on Japan PGA money list in 2001, and fifth in 2000.

2000 - Hilo's Kevin Hayashi, who worked at Pearl from 1984-1991, won his second HPO by one shot over Japan's Tatsuo Takasaki. Hayashi shot 67 on the final day for a 14-under 202.

1999 - Indianapolis pro Jeff Cook birdied the final three holes to beat Jerry Mullin, Kevin Hayashi and Tomohiro Maruyama by a shot.

1998 - Katsumasa Miyamoto shot a final-round 7-under 65 to beat Hiroyuki Fujita (68-198) by one shot. Miyamoto's 19-under 197 was four shots better than the previous record, set by David Ishii in 1989.

1997 - Kiyoshi Murota beat Gregory Meyer with birdie on the second hole of sudden death. Murota, Meyer and Hiroyuki Fujita finished regulation at 3-under 213.

1996 - Shinichi Yokota, 24, capped off a sizzling 7-under-par 65 with an eagle-3 at the par-5 17th for a 204 total and a one-stroke victory over Tom Dempsey from Arizona.

1995 - Lance Suzuki birdied two of his final three holes to beat defending champion Kevin Hayashi. Suzuki shot a final-round 3-under-par 69 for a 54-hole total of 6-under 210 and a one-

stroke victory over Hayashi (70-211), playing in the final group behind Suzuki.

1994 - Sparked by a hole-in-one at the par-3 16th, Kevin Hayashi completed a final-round 69 for a 7-under 209 total and a two-stroke victory over Japan's Hisayuki Sasaki (74-211).

1993 - Lance Suzuki won the first of his two HPO titles, beating Fujio Kobayashi with a birdie on the first playoff hole.

1992 - Damien Jamila of Waimanalo became the first amateur to win the HPO. Jamila also won the Hawaii State Amateur championship.

1991 - David Ishii won his third consecutive HPO championship and sixth overall with a 2-under 70 for a 14-under 202 total and a five-shot victory over Japan's Koichi Moriguchi.

1990 - Windy conditions sent scores soaring. David Ishii made it two in a row with a 4-under 212.

1989 - A tournament record 15-under 201 total boosted David Ishii to the first of his record-setting three consecutive victories.

1988 - Pearl Country Club assistant professional Gregory Meyer captured his second straight HPO title with a 204 total.

1987 - Gregory Meyer, a Hilo native, shoots 206 for 54 holes and wins his first HPO title.

1986 - Japan's Akiyoshi Ohmachi, who later played on the American and Japan PGA tours, wins with a 206 total.

1985 - Chris Santangelo, the 1983 Hawaii State Amateur champion, claimed a two-shot victory with a 206 total.

1984 - Namio Takasu won his second HPO title with a 204 total.

1983 - David Ishii sets a tournament record of 13-under 203 in winning his second straight and third HPO championship.

1982 - An 8-under 208 broke the tournament record by four strokes and gave David Ishii his second HPO title.

1981 - Japan's Norio Adachi shot 212 to claim the championship.

1980 - David Ishii, who turned professional 11 months before the tournament, won the first of his six HPO titles with a 214 total.

1979 - Namio Takasu of Japan won the inaugural \$10,000 tournament with a 215 total. Hawaii's David Ishii finished as low amateur with a 226 total.