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CHARLOTTE COUNTY OPEN: Smuggler's Enterprise new title sponsor

By Staff Report

The Story

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Staff report

Charlotte County Open president Brian Gleason announced today that the title sponsor of the 10th annual Charlotte County Open will be Smuggler's Enterprises. The tournament has been renamed the Smuggler's Charlotte County Open.

Smuggler's Enterprises owns or manages five restaurants in Charlotte County, including The Captain's Table, Harpoon Harry's, John Hall's Goal Post, Rick Treworgy's Muscle Car City Diner and the soon-to-open Lashley Crab House. The company also operates Smuggler's Culinary Catering Services.

The Charlotte County Open board of directors also approved the appointment of Smuggler's operations manager Chris Evans to the board.

"Smuggler's is a great company with a strong brand. They have a long track record as smart businesspeople and generous community boosters," Gleason said. "Smuggler's support will help us continue to grow this event as we head into our 10th year."

Evans called the decision to sponsor the tournament "a no-brainer."

"The Charlotte County Open is a first-class golf tournament that we are proud to be associated with. We look forward to working with the board of directors to make a super event even better in 2009 and beyond," Evans said. "This arrangement allows us to grow our businesses, expose more people to the Smuggler's experience and generate revenue for our charitable efforts through the Smuggler's Enterprises Foundation."

The Charlotte County Open board of directors also announced the dates and sites for the 2009 Smuggler's Charlotte County Open. The tournament will be played Saturday, Oct. 10 at Rotonda Golf & Country Club Long March Golf Club and Sunday, Oct. 11 at Riverwood Golf Club.

For the past three years, Peace River Distributing's Michelob Ultra brand was the title sponsor of the tournament.

"Robert and Chris Wenzel and Gregg Tubbs from Peace River Distributing were wonderful partners and Gregg continues to serve on our board. The tournament wouldn't be where it is today without their support," Gleason said.

For more information, please contact Brian Gleason at 941-206-1133 or gleason@sun-herald.com.