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GOLF CHANNEL'S POPULAR REALITY SERIES *BIG BREAK* WRAPS FILMING AT THE RENAISSANCE ESMERALDA IN INDIAN WELLS

The Renaissance Esmeralda to be featured in upcoming reality show, Big Break Indian Wells, Golf Channel's popular reality series premiering May 16.

INDIAN WELLS, CALIF. –The <u>Golf Channel</u> recently wrapped filming its 15th season of its popular reality series, <u>Big Break Indian Wells</u>, held at <u>Indian Wells Golf Resort</u>, home to multi-award winning championship golf courses and the <u>Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa</u>. Set to premiere May 16 at 9:30 p.m. ET, the 10-episode series will feature 11 competitors playing for the opportunity to compete for the most valuable prize in *Big Break*-series history: a tournament exemption to a 2012 PGA TOUR event and cold, hard cash.

Just thirteen miles outside of Palm Springs, the Renaissance Esmeralda is a distinctive desert resort <u>hotel</u> <u>in Indian Wells, CA</u> set against the beautiful Santa Rosa Mountains. The resort played host to contestants during the competition, providing meals and offering the golf courses at neighboring Indian Wells Golf Resort for each challenge.

"We have always been a popular destination for golfers because of the courses' convenient location and variety of courses offered," said Kathy Daw, director of sales and marketing. "The Big Break cast and crew really enjoyed their time at the resort, from our fabulous <u>Indian Wells restaurants</u> on-site and full-service spa to the relaxing pool area that proved to be a favorite destination during their down time. This season promises exciting new challenges and some unexpected twists, which unfolded throughout their stay."

The Indian Wells Golf Resort's courses on which the players will compete are located within walking distance of the Renaissance Esmeralda. Among its many accolades, the Indian Wells Golf Resort holds the distinction of being the only 36-hole public golf facility to be named among <u>Golfweek's Top 20 "Best</u> <u>Courses You Can Play" in California</u>.

Golf Channel's Tom Abbott and Stephanie Sparks will reprise their roles as co-hosts for the series. The *Big Break* show concept pits highlight skilled golfers against each other in a variety of challenges that test their physical skills and mental toughness. Filmed on location in January, *Big Break Indian Wells* will eliminate once competitor per week, with the last man standing crowned *Big Break Indian Wells* champion and awarded the most valuable prize in *Big Break* history.

About the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa:

The Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa, a member of the Marriott group, allows guests to discover the extraordinary within a distinctive desert setting, unlike any other hotel in the area. Located in the prestigious desert community of Indian Wells and nestled into the foot of the Santa Rosa Mountains, the four-star Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa is a highly sought after location for social events and meetings, boasting 560 beautifully appointed rooms and suites along with more than 100,000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor function space, all of which feature breathtaking views of the mountains or pool area. The property also offers award-winning cuisine and a talented culinary team, full-service spa and salon, state-of-the-art fitness center, Camp Oasis kids club and world-class tennis and golf facilities nearby. The Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa, 44-000 Indian Wells Lane, Indian Wells, CA 92210-8708, (760) 773-4444. www.renaissanceesmeralda.com

About Golf Channel:

Golf Channel is a multimedia, golf entertainment and services company based in Orlando, Fla. The Golf Channel cable network, co-founded by Arnold Palmer and part of the NBC Sports Group, is available in more than 120 million homes worldwide through cable, satellite and wireless companies. Exclusive partnerships with the world's top tours allow Golf Channel to feature more live golf coverage than all other networks combined, added to a programming schedule distinguished by golf's best news, instruction and original programming. Golf Channel's digital platform of businesses is led by <u>www.GolfChannel.com</u>, a leading golf destination on the Internet, delivering unmatched coverage of the world of golf, as well as services that help the recreational player with how to play, what to play and where to play golf.

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