

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Cliffs to Host 2016 Clemson Invitational on Lake Keowee Top student athletes in golf from across the U.S. to participate

**SALEM, S.C.** – For the first time in the history of the NCAA and Clemson University, the men's and women's golf teams will co-host a tournament for the top student athletes in golf, with The Cliffs' award-winning championship golf course to test their skills. Together, representatives from Clemson and The Cliffs announced the <u>Clemson Invitational on Lake Keowee</u> on Tuesday at a news conference in the West End Zone at Clemson University's Death Valley Stadium. The tournament is scheduled for March 31 – April 3.

"The Cliffs is proud to be the host course for Clemson University's inaugural Invitational, the first NCAA coed golf tournament in history," stated Brian Peeples, PGA Professional and Director of Golf Operations for The Cliffs. "The Cliffs at Keowee Falls has been recognized as one of the top-ranked courses in America and will prove to be a challenging track for the men's teams. Our hospitality team plans to elevate the experience for the student athletes and their families, and we are genuinely excited to further our longstanding relationship with Clemson through the lens of an event of this caliber."

"We're very excited about the Clemson Invitational next April," stated Larry Penley, Clemson Men's Head Golf Coach. "This has been a long time coming, and we wanted it to be the right fit before we put our name on a college tournament. These courses are part of our golf family. The men's teams will find that The Cliffs at Keowee Falls is one of the top venues in the country. I know our players are very excited about having a home tournament, and it will really add something special to our spring schedule. Our goal is to make it the best regular season tournament in the country, one that will be a memorable event for all the players participating."

The Clemson Invitational on Lake Keowee is scheduled for Thursday, March 31 through Sunday, April 3, 2016, and will feature simultaneous tournaments, with the men playing on The Cliffs at Keowee Falls' Jack Nicklaus Signature Design Golf Course. The women will play on a neighboring Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course at The Reserve on Lake Keowee.

Play begins with a practice round and College-Amateur on Thursday, March 31, followed by three rounds of competitive play among collegiate athletes from across the country on Friday, April 1 through Sunday, April 3.

Joining Clemson University's men's golf team will be the men's golf teams from Boston College, Georgia Tech, Michigan State, Notre Dame, University of Louisville, Furman University, University of North Carolina Greensboro, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Winthrop University, and Elon University.

Clemson's women's golf team will host the following women's golf teams from around the country: Texas A&M University, Vanderbilt University, University of Tennessee, University of Florida, Michigan State University, Furman University, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Kennesaw State University, University of Houston, Virginia Tech University, University of Oklahoma, Georgia Regents University Augusta, and Boston College.

The Cliffs at Keowee Falls is one of seven championship, award-winning golf courses at The Cliffs, all of which are connected through a single <u>club membership</u>, and one of The Cliffs Clubs' two Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Courses. Spanning 160 acres on the banks of Lake Keowee, The Cliffs at Keowee Falls golf course has been recognized as a Best New Course by *Golfweek*, Top 10 Best New Private Courses by *GOLF Magazine* and Best in State (South Carolina) by *Golf Digest*.

<u>Keowee Falls</u> is named for Falls Creek, which winds its way through seven of its holes. The par 72 layout stretches 7,171 yards from the back tees and takes players on a challenging experience across mountainous terrain with numerous elevation changes, tree-lined fairways, streams, ponds, and lengthy par 3s, all surrounded by woods and wildflowers. Bermuda grass tees and fairways with Champion ultra-dwarf greens keep things interesting on the course.

## **About The Cliffs**

The Cliffs is a collection of seven premier, private residential golf club communities located between two of the nation's top award-winning cities for quality of life, Greenville, South Carolina and Asheville, North Carolina, and Clemson, SC – home to top-ranked Clemson University.. Members of The Cliffs have access and privileges to all seven of The Cliffs' clubs. The golf experience at The Cliffs includes seven award-winning, championship 18-hole golf courses, including two by Tom Fazio, two by Jack Nicklaus, and one each by Gary Player, Ben Wright and Tom Jackson. The Cliffs' golf courses have been honored in the Top 100 Best Modern Courses in America and Top 100 in America by *Golfweek*, among the "Best of the Best" of America's Premier Properties by *LINKS*, and in the Best New Private Courses by *Golf Digest* and *GOLF* Magazine. To learn more about The Cliffs' golf experience, visit <a href="www.cliffsliving.com">www.cliffsliving.com</a> or <a href="watch">watch this brief video</a>. Homes at The Cliffs range in price from \$500,000 to \$4 million+; homesites, from \$150,000. Contact The Cliffs at <a href="mailto:866.411.5771">866.411.5771</a> or <a href="mailto:info@cliffsliving.com">info@cliffsliving.com</a> to arrange a Discovery Tour.

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