25TH ANNIVERSARY FUTURES® TOUR
THE OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENTAL TOUR OF THE LPGA

NEWS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release:

Lee, Nirapathpongporn, Bae, Castrale and Yoo exempt for 2006 LPGA Tour

YORK, Pa., Aug. 28 - Five players qualified today as exempt LPGA Tour members for the 2006 season by finishing in the top five on the FUTURES Tour Money List. Those Tour graduates are: Seon-Hwa Lee of Chonan, Korea; Virada Nirapathpongporn of Bangkok, Thailand; Kyeong Bae of Seoul, Korea; Nicole Castrale of Palm Desert, Calif.; and Sun Young Yoo of Seoul, Korea.

This is the seventh year in the 25-year history of the FUTURES Tour that players have received automatic exemptions onto the LPGA Tour and the third year that five exemptions were presented. Previously the number of awarded cards was three.

Also today, the next 10 players on the money list, excluding any LPGA non-exempt members, received automatic entry into the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament on Nov. 30 - Dec. 4 at LPGA International in Daytona Beach, Fla. Those players, in order of finish, are: Julieta Granada of Asuncion, Paraguay; Lori Atsedes of Ithaca, N.Y.; Hye Jung Choi of Seoul, Korea; Sarah-Jane Kenyon of Queensland, Australia; Cristina Baena of Pereira, Colombia; Alena Sharp of Hamilton, Ontario; Kristy McPherson of Conway, S.C.; Meaghan Francella of Port Chester, N.Y.; Charlotte Mayorkas of Temecula, Calif.; Jin Young Pak of Kang Leoung, Korea; and Jamie Stevenson of Mayfield, Utah.

Zayra F. Calderon, president and CEO of the FUTURES Tour, said, "All the players moving to the LPGA Tour have worked incredibly hard. Every year, the players who leave our Tour are dedicated, tenacious and talented golfers -- and these women are certainly no exception. But perhaps more than any year in FUTURES Tour history, this group has shown breakthrough talent. They are among the youngest group in our history, and I'm confident that they will add a terrific new level of excitement to the LPGA because of their extraordinary ability, as well as their energy and fan appeal."

Lee, who is in her second season on the FUTURES Tour, recorded 13 top-10 finishes including seven top-three finishes this year. She played in all 18 tournaments and made every cut. In mid-July, this fifth-year professional won her first FUTURES Tour tournament, the Albany FUTURES Pro Golf Classic in Albany, N.Y. She tops the FUTURES Tour Money List with $59,567 and wins the FUTURES Tour Player of the Year award.

"This year was a lot easier than last year," said the 19-year old, who in 2003, finished third on the Korean LPGA Money List. "My mind is comfortable right now. I had a lot of confidence this year and felt no pressure."

Nirapathpongporn is in her second full season on the FUTURES Golf Tour. In 15 starts on the FUTURES Tour this year, the 23-year old recorded seven top-three finishes, including two wins. Her wins came at the Jalapeno FUTURES Golf Classic in McAllen, Texas, and at the CIGNA Chip in For A Cure Connecticut FUTURES Golf Classic in Bloomfield, Conn. With $54,919 in season earnings, Nirapathpongporn finished second on the money list.

"I couldn't wait to hold up this card," said the winner of the 2002 NCAA Women's Championship individual title and the 2003 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship. "Last year, I

saw pictures of my friends with their LPGA cards and I wanted to go to the LPGA Tour with them. It was very inspiring to me."

Holding on to the No. 3 position was second-year professional Bae, who posted 12 top-10 finishes in 18 starts. The 20-year old won twice, at the IOS FUTURES Golf Classic in El Paso, Texas, and at the Laconia Savings Bank FUTURES Golf Classic in Concord, N. H. She earned $49,810 this year.

Bae, who finished eighth on the 2004 FUTURES Tour Money List, said, "I'm so happy and excited about playing on the LPGA Tour next year. It has been a dream for a long time."

Castrale, who was a member of the LPGA Tour for two years in 2002 and 2003, will return to the Tour with exempt status. On the FUTURES Tour this year, she recorded eight top-10 finishes, including back-to-back wins at the Northwest Indiana FUTURES Golf Classic in Merrillville, Ind., and at the Quality Concepts Kankakee FUTURES Golf Classic in Kankakee, Ill. The 26-year-old Californian finished in the No. 4 position with $43,059.

Castrale, who competed previously as Nicole Dalkas, said, "I won my first two professional events out here. I feel that to win twice against these players is a great accomplishment."

The youngest player in the top five, 18-year-old rookie Yoo, had 10 top-10 finishes this season, including one runner-up finish and one win. Her first professional win came two weeks ago at the Betty Puskar FUTURES Golf Classic in Morgantown, W. Va. She earned $42,007 in earnings and captured FUTURES Tour Rookie of the Year honors.

"I'm very excited about winning my LPGA card," said Yoo. "I wasn't sure if I could do it this year. I'm looking forward [to 2006] and having a chance to play with the best on the LPGA."

About the FUTURES Tour

The FUTURES Golf Tour, "the official developmental tour of the LPGA," has become the largest international developmental tour and the second largest women's golf tour in the world. Since 1989, FUTURES Tour events have raised more than $3.2 million for charitable organizations. Throughout its 25-history, membership has increased from approximately 150 North American players to more than 300 players from 27 different nations. The Tour now conducts 18 tournaments in 13 states. The top five players on the 2005 FUTURES Tour Money List at the end of the season will earn automatic exemptions for the 2006 LPGA Tour. There are more than 240 FUTURES Tour alumnae who are members or past members of the LPGA Tour and through 2004, they have won a total of 283 LPGA titles, including 30 major championships. The FUTURES Tour is committed to developing the skills and dreams of women golfers, establishing role models for youth and creating the LPGA stars of tomorrow. For more information, please visit www.futurestour.com.

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Contact: Tracy L. Kerdyk, vice president of business development and communications, (305) 794-2538 or tracy@futurestour.com, if you need more information or need help with a picture of the five LPGA Tour card winners.

Card Winners' Photo: Available for download at the following address: http://futurestour.com/2006CardWinners.jpg.