

For Immediate Release

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Stewart Cink Signs on in Support of Georgia Golf and the Environment

Hartwell, GA - Former British Open champion and five-time U.S. Ryder Cup player Stewart Cink has joined the Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation as honorary ambassador. In the role, he will help promote foundation efforts to enhance the industry's environmental sustainability. The foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization raising funds for educational, scientific and charitable purposes that serve golf and the environment.

Cink, 38, is a Georgia Tech graduate who lives at TPC Sugarloaf in Atlanta. His six PGA Tour wins include the 2009 British Open Championship. He has also played on four U.S. Presidents Cup teams.

"Golf is a great way for people to get outside and appreciate nature," he says. "I am proud that the Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation is committed to making the game the best possible environmental citizen it can be. I'm honored to be involved in this effort because I really believe in what the foundation is doing."

Cink's support of the foundation's mission is the latest star on golf's environmental horizon in the Peach State. Earlier this year, certified golf course superintendent Mark Esoda from Atlanta Country Club was inducted to the Georgia Golf Hall of Fame in large part due to his pioneering work on water conservation for the state and the golf industry. Esoda's efforts and those of the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association were instrumental in establishing a road map for conservation now being used in many other states across the nation.

More recently, Georgia GCSA president, Anthony Williams, CGCS from Stone Mountain Golf Club in Atlanta, was named Environmental Communicator of the Year by the Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association. It was his second national honor of its kind. In 2010 he won the President's Award for Environmental Stewardship from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

That level of recognition coupled with Cink's sign-on lends considerable momentum to the work of the Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation which formed in 2004.

"Golf courses provide green space, wildlife habitat and play an important role in filtering run off and cooling the atmosphere," Cink says. "Of course, we can always do better and that is why the foundation funds research and education to find and communicate those ways to improve. It's great work that benefits our game and our environment."

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“Stewart will be a tremendous asset to the work of the Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation,” foundation president, Tim Cunningham, says. “He is one of the best known and most likeable guys on golf’s professional stage and is very genuine in his commitment to support the foundation. Having him come on board is a major step in the growth of the foundation’s work.”

Cunningham, certified golf course superintendent at Coosa Country Club in Rome, says Cink’s involvement is heartfelt. “I understand one of the only questions he had about accepting the role was whether he could do enough,” Cunningham says. “He cares a lot about the game and touting what we are doing in terms of golf course maintenance, agronomy and research.”

Georgia Golf Environmental Foundation executive director, Tenia Workman, says Cink’s contacts and reach within the golf industry and among golf followers will be a major asset. “This is huge for us,” she says. “Stewart has the ear of a lot of people in the industry and of course amongst the golfing public. He is serious when he says he wants to do all he can help. Having somebody of his profile stand behind the work and the goals of the foundation lends considerable credibility.”

Universally recognized as one of the “nicest guys” on Tour, Cink indeed commands a considerable social media presence. The *New York Times* reported recently that he has 1.2-million followers on *Twitter*, putting him among the 20-most followed athletes in sport.

For more information -

Tenia Workman, GGEF executive director

(706) 376-3585.