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# NEWS

## PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Big Ten Match Play Swings into Palm Beach County**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL – NCAA Big Ten Match Play Championship swings into town, February 10-12, 2011 at PGA National Resort and Spa on the Champion Course. After practice rounds on Thursday, February 10, match play will begin on Friday, February 11 and continue with semi-finals and championship rounds on Saturday, February 12.



All 11 men's conference golf teams will be participating including University of Illinois, Indiana University, University of Iowa, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue and University of Wisconsin. Six members from each team will compete. Seven of the preseason top 35 teams hail from the Big Ten. Illinois won its second straight Big Ten Championship last

season and is selected as Golfweek's preseason No. 18. Golfweek also named Michigan as preseason No. 30. Scott Langley of Illinois also received individual preseason recognition slated as No. 4 golfer in the country. Langley is the defending individual NCAA Champion and Big Ten Golfer of the Year. 2010 British Open competitor, Eric Chun of Northwestern, will also compete in the tournament. Steve Stricker and Jeff Overton, along with Palm Beach County residents Jack Nicklaus and Luke Donald, are just a few of the Big Ten golfers that have gone on to play on the PGA Tour.

2011 marks the third year of the Big Ten Match Play Championship and the first year the event will be held in Palm Beach County at PGA National. "It's great to have the opportunity to play at such a high-quality facility with great name recognition—and to have the opportunity to play at the same course, just two weeks prior to The Honda Classic", said Pat Goss, Director of Golf at Northwestern University.

For no admission, catch the Big Ten Match Play Championship and the stars of tomorrow at PGA National Resort and Spa on February 11-12. The 2011 Big Ten Match Play Championship marks the sixth national telecast of golf on the Big Ten Network. The Big Ten Network is in over 75 million households.

### **About Palm Beach County Sports Commission**

The Palm Beach County Sports Commission is a private, not-for-profit organization contracted by Palm Beach County to promote and market the county as a sports and sports tourism destination. The Commission brings sporting events and activities to the county, enhances economic impact, stimulates bed tax revenues (primarily in the off-season) and maximizes utilization of county facilities. The Commission offers a full range of event service support, corporate partnerships, sponsorships and a local membership program that supports its goals. Local, regional, national and international marketing efforts are ongoing by the Commission with sports organizations and event owners. The Commission also produces sports-related programs for the residents of Palm Beach County including the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame, the Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker Award and the Kids Fitness Festival of the Palm Beaches and awards. For more information on the Palm Beach County Sports Commission go to [www.palmbeachsports.com](http://www.palmbeachsports.com).

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