

# Sea Island

2003 Scottsdale  
2005 Palm Beach  
2007 Sea Island

2004 Orlando  
2006 Scottsdale  
2008 Sea Island

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007

Mr. Michael G. Palmore  
9015 Tarrytown Drive  
Richmond, VA 23229

Tournament Players,

Hope all is well. I first want to give credit to all former Ponce de Leon Chairmen including the Emeritus. The Ponce would not be entering its sixth year (five years with sixteen players) if not for their hard work and organization. Messrs. Thomson, Klim, Rankin, Garnett, and McAllister should be commended. The Ponce has come a long way, and I promise to do my best this year.

Our tournament has reached a prestigious level and has a lot of momentum. I reviewed five proposals from top-notch golf facilities around the country to host our tournament in 2008. In fact, one of the golf resorts had actually “heard” of our group through the golf grapevine. We should be proud of that fact.

I not only looked at several different hosting venues, but also a date change as well for this year’s Invitational. We have always known that we limit our potential hosting venues by our current choice of dates. Pinehurst, St. Andrews, Hilton Head, Bandon Dunes, The American Club, The Homestead, etc are venues we simply can’t play in January. The difference in price is staggering when you try to move the event into the spring/summer at resorts we’ve become accustomed.

Jackson Hole, Pinehurst, and the TPC at Sawgrass are a few of the names that I reviewed for this year’s tournament. All of which, would make great tournament venues in the future. After all of my research and discussions with Neil, I kept coming back to one place.

I am pleased to announce that we have worked out an extension with The Sea Island Resort to be the tournament sponsor and host for the 2008 Ponce de Leon, January 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Sea Island is the #1 golf resort in North America.

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Voted best golf resort in North America by *Golf Digest 2006*, The Lodge, a Mobil 5-Star property, is home to 54 holes of world class golf.

Now I know what you are thinking. The weather we had during the 2007 Ponce was too good to be true. It was. We stole one last year. To have every day be in the 70s was truly unbelievable. We have to remember that even when we've been to warm weather areas, the weather has still gotten the best of us. At the end of the day, I can't guarantee the weather, but what I can guarantee is that we're staying at the #1 Golf Resort in North America.

I have talked to and read about other groups similar to ours that travel around the country and have their own tournament. One thing stands out, whenever cold or wet weather is brought up... you put on your big boy pants and you go out and play golf. And if on the unfortunate chance, we cannot play one day, we'll simply enjoy hanging out in our 40,000 square foot men's locker room watching the NFL playoffs and playing cards.

The Ponce was originated to emulate a Ryder-Cup feel. That same team/partner focused golf will be re-emphasized at this year's tournament. Emeritus and I are getting together in August for a session to finalize the format.

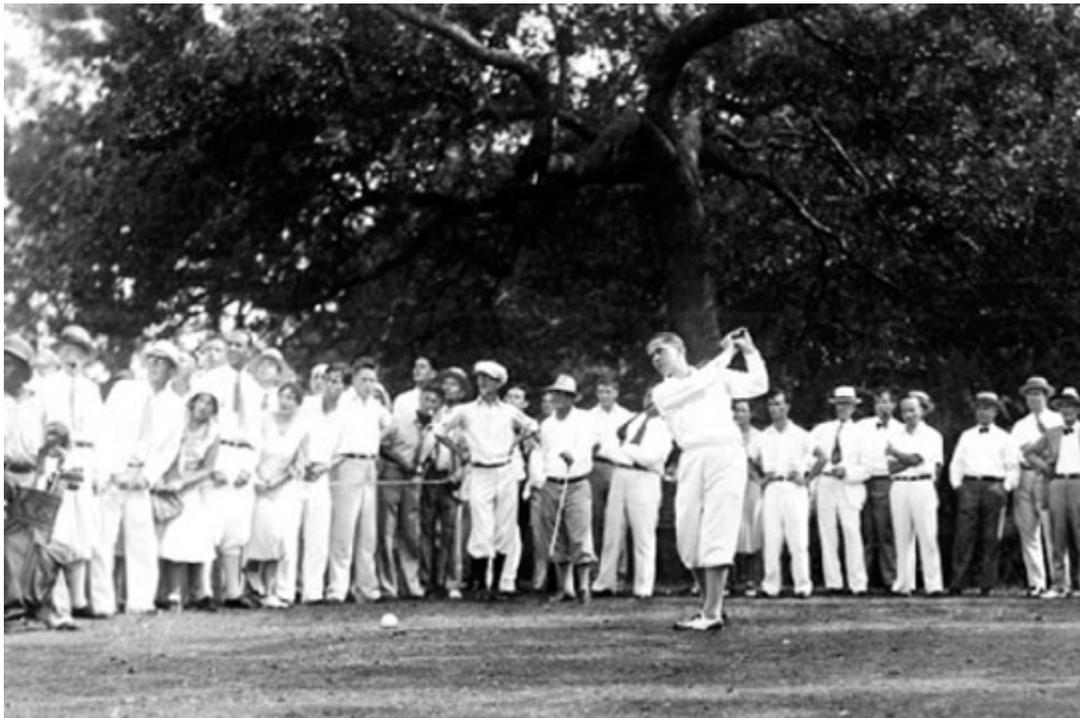
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The cost for four nights of world-class lodging; 5 rounds of first-rate golf (including two rounds at Seaside), and full access to the resort amenities is only \$1260 per person (very close to last year's rate). Again, we will be quartered at the Lodge and each player will have his own account for billing purposes.

The Ponce is strictly an invitation Tournament. The qualification regulations are the principal means of determining the player invitation list. The eligibility under these regulations does not oblige the Tournament Committee to issue an invitation, nor does failure to invite imply unfitness of any kind. As always, the primary objective of the Ponce is good, fair golf and old-school competition.

Please let me know if you will be able to attend the 2008 Ponce de Leon. It is important that you respond to this invitation in short order. I can be reached at 804-647-6584 or michael.palmore@wachoviasec.com. The waiting list of potential players for this year's tournament has never been bigger.

I look forward to providing you the most exciting and fun Ponce you've ever played.



The immortal Bobby Jones strode the same fairways that welcome today's Ponce golfers.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Palmore  
Ponce de Leon Invitational Chairman, 2008