

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, DC - - Take a day off. Play golf all day. Fight MS. Now doesn't that sound good? Join the National Capital Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for an event like no other - the MS Longest Day of Golf. Throughout the months of August, September and October, area golfers have the opportunity to play golf all day for free at local sponsoring host courses*. The golf clubs donate the greens fees while participants commit to raising money to help people affected by multiple sclerosis. This isn't your typical one-day tournament. As long time participant and top fund-raiser Keith Turner explains, "This is just a fantastic event. How often do you get to fund-raise for an important cause like multiple sclerosis by playing golf at the best courses in the area all day, for free?"

The golf clubs are the key to the MS Longest Day of Golf – without them, the event could not exist. With the volume of donation requests golf courses receive every day, the National MS Society is keenly aware of how fortunate they are to have the support of the clubs. Being a host course does bring significant year-round exposure. As one participant said, "When I'm trying to decide where to play on the weekend, I just look at my Longest Day of Golf brochure."

In addition to loyal participants and generous host courses, the MS Longest Day of Golf also has the ongoing support of local personalities. This year Rick "Doc" Walker of SportsTalk 980 is serving as the Honorary Chair of the event.

In 2004, participants in the Longest Day of Golf raised over \$160,000 to help fund crucial research and provide services for the 18,000 people affected by MS in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

(more)

The National MS Society...One thing people with MS can count on.

Please designate the National MS Society #8203 in your United Way or Combined Federal Campaign.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is proud to be a source of information about multiple sclerosis. Our comments are based on professional advice, published experience and expert opinion, but do not represent therapeutic recommendation or prescription. For specific information and advice, consult your personal physician.

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This year's event expects to host 300 participants and surpass last year's fund-raising total. Each golfer is required to raise at least \$100, but the average participant raises \$753, and in 2004 the top fund-raiser raised over \$23,000. All participants have a chance to earn great fund-raising rewards, including gift certificates from GOLFDOM, rounds of golf, golf apparel and golf getaways. All golfers who raise \$1,000 or more become members of the 2005 \$1,000 Club and will be able to play an extra, free round of golf together in the special \$1000 Club Outing at Raspberry Falls on Saturday, October 22. Pros and hackers alike can always find a way to leave the office for a round of golf.

Multiple sclerosis is a disease of the central nervous system that causes symptoms ranging from numbness, blurry vision, loss of balance and abnormal fatigue to paralysis and blindness. Over 400,000 Americans have MS, and most people are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50. MS is a devastating disease because it is so unpredictable. The progress, severity and specific symptoms cannot be foreseen. There is no known cause or cure.

To register a foursome or learn more about the National MS Society, please call **(202) 296-5363** or visit **www.MSandYOU.org**.

***Sponsoring host courses:**

Blue Mash Golf Course	Piedmont Club
Bull Run Golf Club	Pleasant Valley
Burke Lake Golf Course	Poolesville Golf Course
Cannon Ridge Golf Club	Raspberry Falls Golf & Hunt Club
Chantilly National Golf & Country Club	Rattlewood Golf Course
Cross Creek Golf Club	RedGate Municipal Golf Course
East Potomac Golf Course	Rock Creek Golf Course
Fairfax National Golf Club	Stoneleigh Golf Club
Falls Road Golf Course	Swan Point Yacht & Country Club
Gauntlet Golf Club	Twin Lakes
General's Ridge Golf Course	Virginia National Golf Club
Glenn Dale Golf Club	Waverly Woods Golf Club
Greendale Golf Course	Westfields Golf Club
Hampshire Greens Golf Course	
Jefferson District Golf Course	
Kastle Greens Golf Club	
Langston Golf Course	
Laytonsville Golf Course	
Little Bennett Golf Course	
Loudoun Golf and Country Club	
Marlborough Golf Club	
Meadows Farms Golf Course	
Montclair Country Club	
Northwest Park Golf Course	
Old Hickory Golf Club	