

NEWS RELEASE

CoBank To Become New Title Sponsor For Colorado Open Championships

*Colorado's Largest Financial Institution Will Succeed HealthONE
As Open's Primary Sponsor Beginning In 2016*

DENVER (July 26, 2015) – The Colorado Open Golf Foundation announced today that CoBank will become the new title sponsor of The Colorado Open Championships. CoBank, the largest financial institution headquartered in the state, succeeds HealthONE as the open's primary sponsor under a five-year agreement beginning in 2016.

"Over the past 50 years, the Colorado Open has built a reputation as one of the premier state opens in the nation," said Eric Kenealy, board chairman of The Colorado Open Golf Foundation, which organizes the championships. "We deeply appreciate the strong support we've received from HealthONE, our title sponsor since 2004. And we're delighted to be beginning a new chapter now in partnership with CoBank."

Founded in 1964, the Colorado Open Championships consist of three annual golf tournaments: the Colorado Open, the Colorado Women's Open and the Colorado Senior Open. All three tournaments are now played at the Green Valley Ranch Golf Club in Denver. Over the years the open has hosted some of the greatest names in the history of golf, including Sam Snead, Billy Casper, Hale Irwin and Phil Mickelson.

"Colorado is a great state in so many ways, including a broad and robust interest in golf, and it deserves a great open," said Bob Engel, CoBank's chief executive officer. "We're delighted to be succeeding HealthONE as title sponsor and look forward to enabling these fantastic tournaments to continue."

CoBank has over \$100 billion in assets and provides credit and financial services to agribusinesses, rural utilities and other rural enterprises in all 50 states. The bank employs approximately 650 people at its headquarters in Greenwood Village and another 250 at regional offices around the country. The bank has been a sponsor of pro-am events at the Colorado Open and Colorado Women's Open for the past two years. With the title sponsorship, the three tournaments will be renamed as the "CoBank Colorado Open Championships."

Engel said one of the main reasons CoBank was interested in sponsoring the Colorado Open was that a portion of proceeds supports the Green Valley Ranch First Tee program, which uses golf to promote integrity, respect and perseverance among youth. "We're committed to giving back to the community here in Denver, and this sponsorship offers us another powerful way to do that," Engel said.

Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock praised CoBank for stepping forward to take over the title sponsorship. "We enjoy a rich history in the sport of golf and offer some of the best venues in the country," Mayor Hancock said. "But tournaments can be more than great courses and competitions when committed, community-minded corporate sponsors get involved. We're fortunate to have companies like CoBank in town to support this kind of event, keep it moving forward and ensure that it also benefits our local kids."

Today's announcement was in concert with the awards ceremony for the 51st open championship, at Green Valley Ranch Golf Club.



About The Colorado Open Golf Foundation

The Colorado Open Golf Foundation is a 501.C.3 nonprofit public corporation that was formed for the primary purpose of fostering and encouraging the sport of golf in the State of Colorado by administering the Colorado Open Championships and through financial aid to educational programs aimed at developing the interest and ability of Colorado’s youth in the sport of golf and those who conduct or support clinics and otherwise provide coaching instruction for Colorado’s youth, and for the secondary purpose of advancing the charitable purpose of promoting sportsmanship, recreation and health in the state of Colorado.

In 2005 the Foundation became a chapter of The First Tee Network, a nationalized youth development program that uses the game of golf to positively impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game. The First Tee of Green Valley Ranch has impacted over 28,000 kids throughout Denver using The First Tee Life Skills Curriculum to build character in tomorrow’s citizens and leaders.

About CoBank

CoBank is a \$106 billion cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. The bank provides loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states. The bank also provides wholesale loans and other financial services to affiliated Farm Credit associations serving more than 70,000 farmers, ranchers and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country.

CoBank is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the borrowing needs of U.S. agriculture and the nation's rural economy. Headquartered outside Denver, Colorado, CoBank serves customers from regional banking centers across the U.S. and also maintains an international representative office in Singapore.

For more information about CoBank, visit the bank's web site at www.cobank.com.

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