



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Registration open for Seventh Annual Play Golf – Fight Cancer Tournament Presented by IBA**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Sponsor and player registration is open for the Seventh Annual Play Golf-Fight Cancer Central Florida Golf Classic presented by IBA to benefit proton therapy and research at the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute. The tournament will be held Oct. 11 near Orlando at Heathrow Country Club, Heathrow, Fla.

Sponsors and individual and players may register online at <http://www.floridaproton.golfreg.com/> or contact tournament fundraising coordinator Merry Mac Watson at [watsonmm@ufl.edu](mailto:watsonmm@ufl.edu), 352-265-0111; ext 87790 for further sponsor information.

The Play Golf- Fight Cancer tournament welcomes individual golfers as well as corporate teams that represent a company, church, media group, health care facility or club. The format is a four-person modified scramble. Major sponsors receive sponsorship trophies and recognition in all literature. There will also be trophies for each of the six flight winners, longest drive, closest to the pin, Hole-in-One contests, and more. Hole-in-One prizes include two BMW cars, a Parker boat, a Yamaha motorcycle and more.

Featured celebrity golfers participating in the 2010 tournament are:

- College Football Hall of Fame Member and former Gator coach **Doug Dickey**,
- World Golf Hall of Fame Member and Champions Tour golfer **Hubert Green**,
- “Gator Great” and Executive Director of the UF Gator Boosters **John James**, and
- NFL Hall of Fame Member and “Gator Great” **Jack Youngblood**.

During the past six years, the tournament has raised more than \$748,000 for the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute, located on the campus of Shands Jacksonville. Since the facility treated its first patient in 2006, all tournament net profits have been used to fund proton therapy research.

“We are committed to changing the cancer treatment experience,” said Dr. Nancy Mendenhall, the UF Proton Therapy Institute’s medical director. “One of the core missions of the facility is to conduct clinical and basic research to improve the effectiveness and availability of this promising treatment to cancer patients across the nation. By playing in this tournament, you will be supporting proton therapy research and helping cancer patients both now and in the future.”

[Proton therapy](#) is a precise radiation treatment that destroys cancer cells and minimizes damage to healthy tissue. That means patients experience reduced cancer treatment side effects and are at less risk of developing complications from the treatment later in life. This is especially beneficial for treating [cancer in children](#) and in adult cancers located in sensitive areas.

University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute, a 501 (c) 3 organization, is affiliated with the University of Florida College of Medicine, a national leader in cancer treatment and research. A team of radiation oncologists, physicists, engineers and computer scientists, all faculty members at UF, delivers state-of-the-art cancer treatment and strives to set new standards for treating and curing the disease. More than 72,000 treatments have been delivered since opening in August 2006. For more information about UF Proton Therapy Institute, please visit [www.floridaproton.org](http://www.floridaproton.org).

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