



Mauna Kea Beach Hotel

A BOND FORGED

The aloha spirit was alive and well at Mauna Kea Resort's 43rd annual Pro-Am.

KOHALA COAST, HAWAII: A University of Arizona study estimated Americans speak about 16,000 words per day (interestingly the study showed no statistical difference in words spoken between men and women).

We are social beings who value friendship and community. Some bonds are stronger than others. Clergy to parishioner, coach to athlete, or member to golf professional create unique connecting dynamics that can last a lifetime.

The Mauna Kea Resort Pro-Am, a Big Island tradition

since 1973, provides an opportunity for private club members and their golf professional to enjoy each other's company, play oceanfront golf, luxuriate in a beachfront room, and relax on its world famous, powdery, white sand beach.

Mike Reehl, director of golf at Santa Ana Country Club in California, has been a regular at the Pro-Am since 1983. "I have been coming to the tournament for half my life. The golf course has gotten longer, if you know what I mean," winked Reehl.



THE HORSE RACE SHOOTOUT is an informal, four-hole afternoon competition immediately following completion of the first round of the Pro-Am. Teams competed for a \$1,000 purse and enjoyed reggae music and "masterfully crafted" Jack Daniels cocktails in a fun, free flowing atmosphere.



(Left) Doug Hoffee and Chris Keiter from Team Nanea won the Horse Race Shootout on Mauna Kea's iconic 3rd hole as the sun dipped below the Pacific Ocean.



Mike Rymer, director of golf at Champions Retreat in Georgia, plays Mauna Kea's 3rd hole.

Last December, 25 teams from around the country competed for bragging rights and a cash purse. The five night, four-day event is a four-person, 54-hole tournament consisting of three amateurs and one professional. Scoring is two best balls—one gross, one net, with members playing to their low index over the past 12 months.

FIT FOR A ROCKEFELLER

When the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel opened in 1965, it was the most expensive resort ever built.

Laurance Rockefeller, owner of the resort and prominent third-generation member of the Rockefeller family, produced a promotional made-for-television event with Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, and Arnold Palmer to quickly established the resort on the world's stage. Rumor has it Gary Player requested for the tees *not* to be placed on the 3rd hole's back tee box. He was concerned the 260-yard carry to the green perched on a rocky cliff could prove vexing.

"I appreciated Mr. Player's uneasiness," said Mike Rymer, director of golf at Champions Retreat in Georgia. "I



tried to fire it from the tips on the 3rd hole and my ball found a watery grave among the crashing waves battering the lava rocks."

"It's often difficult for a PGA professional to justify travel to Hawaii. Time and cost are always a consideration," explained Donn Takahashi, president of Prince Resorts Hawaii. "So, if club members field a team, the pro's room, golf, most meals—and even airfare are complimentary. This is an opportunity for private club members to reward their pro with an expense paid trip to one of Hawaii's finest golf resorts." ➤



(Left) Team Hurricane Creek from Texas line up at the sundae dessert bar during the Welcome Dinner. (Above) Enjoying the night at the Copper Bar.

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(Left) Team Bermuda Dunes CC from California at Welcome Reception. (Above) Team La Quinta from California at Welcome Reception. (Below) Welcome Dinner in the Kauna'oa Ballroom.



Pete LaCoursiere, head golf professional at Plantation GC in California, crushes a drive.



Team Big Canyon CC from California debating strategy.



Team Plantation GC from California on Mauna Kea's famous 3rd hole.



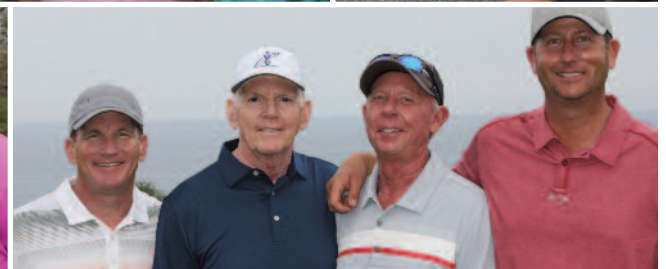
(Above) Team South Hills from California.
(Below) Team Braemar from California dodging a rain shower.



(Left) Louise Shulman from Team La Quinta from California teeing off. (Above) Team Champions Retreat from Georgia.



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(Above) Team Nanea from Hawaii. (Below) South Hills CC from California was well represented with three teams.



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(Left/Above) Enjoying the camaraderie of the Horse Race Shootout.



(Above) Team One Mauna Kea.
(Below middle) Team Two Mauna Kea. (Below right)
Ken Woods on Team Pasatiempo plays from the tips.



(Above) Team One Valley Club in California.
(Below) Team Two Valley Club in California.



Team Pasatiempo from California.



Mauna Kea Resort's 43rd Annual Pro-Am



44th ANNUAL MAUNA KEA PRO-AM

Dates

Check in: Wednesday, December 6 • Check out: Monday, December 11

Format

A five-night, four-day golf tournament at Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.

For the amateur: Four-man, 54-hole Pro-Am consisting of three amateurs and one professional.

Two best balls: one gross, one net. Amateurs play to full handicap. 20 handicap is maximum permitted.

For the golf professional: Up to a \$10,000 purse, with no buy-in, based on a full-field of 25 professionals.

Pricing For The Amateur

Tournament package: \$2,800 • Garden/Vista room: \$250/night • Ocean-view room: \$450/night

All taxes are included, airfare and ground transportation are not.

Itinerary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6: Arrival Day • For early arrivals, optional practice round at Mauna Kea Golf Course • Optional \$300 team buy-in • Welcome Cocktail Reception and Dinner

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7: Full breakfast • Hospitality room
Practice round at Mauna Kea Golf Course • Lunch on course • Evening at your leisure

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8: Full breakfast • Hospitality room
Traditional Hawaiian Blessing • Tournament Round #1, Mauna Kea Golf Course
Lunch on course • Horse Race Shootout with \$1,000 prize • Evening at your leisure

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9: Full breakfast • Hospitality room
Tournament Round #2, Mauna Kea Golf Course • Lunch on course • Evening at your leisure

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10: Full breakfast • Hospitality room • Final round, Mauna Kea Golf Course
Lunch on course • Awards Cocktail Reception and Dinner

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11: Departure Day • Full breakfast • Complimentary late checkout until 2 pm

TO REGISTER FOR THE 44th ANNUAL MAUNA KEA RESORT PRO-AM

contact Mark Pazdur at Mark@ExecutiveGolferMagazine.com or (949) 933-6478.