



# The Omni Homestead Resort Host to Executive Cup 2023 Challenge

*Welcoming club champions to America's first resort.*

**By Mark Pazdur, Tournament Director**

HOT SPRINGS, VIRGINIA: Over the course of America's 246-year history, 46 presidents have governed the land. Since opening as "America's First Resort" in 1766 (a decade before the signing of the Declaration of Independence), 23 presidents have visited The Homestead.

Surrounded by the Allegheny Mountains, the resort is an outdoor haven of activities, including 36 holes of golf,

horse rides (with equestrian facilities boarding more than 25 horses), and miles of hiking trails (including the popular Cascades Gorge Hike).

Regarded as one of the finest mountain courses in the country, The Cascades has the honor of being ranked among "America's 100 Greatest Public Golf Courses" by *Golf Digest*, and has the distinction as the host site

## **The Omni Homestead offers two of the finest mountain courses on the East Coast.**

The appropriately named Old Course completed its first six holes in 1892 and is distinguished as home of the nation's oldest first tee in continuous use. The Omni Homestead has been named a "Top-10 Destination Resort in America" in *USA Today's* 10 Best Reader's Poll 2022.







launching Sam Snead's career.

"Where else can you walk in the footsteps of Sam Snead [always wearing his signature straw hat] and Babe Zaharias [winner of two gold medals at the 1932 Olympics]," questioned Mark Pazdur, director of Executive Cup. "I can't think of a more appropriate place for club champions from across North America to compete next September for 'champion of champions' titles. We will be some of the first guests to enjoy the resort's \$150 million restoration and partake in the centennial celebration of The Cascades."

### **MOUNTAIN MAJESTY**

The Omni Homestead Resort is located in Bath County, Virginia, a region that is about the size of the Hawaiian Island of Kauai. "We really are a retreat from the ordinary," explained Mark Spadoni, managing director at the resort. "Fully 50 percent of our surrounding land is federally protected, there isn't a stop light within the county, and our area's population tops out at 4,000 residents [compared to Kauai's 71,000 Kamaaina].

"During our restoration [not a renovation], great efforts were made to preserve the building's

history. Everything from windows to carpets was painstakingly evaluated to preserve the resort's original sense of place. As a part of the Virginia Commonwealth, The Homestead is steeped in history," reported Spadoni. "For 150 years, before Camp David was built in Maryland, our resort served as an unofficial presidential retreat. It will not come as a surprise to most that we are designated a National Historic Landmark.

"Very few resorts can match our wealth of activities. We have created a Virginia Wine Experience Tasting Room and our movie theater is being transformed into a cabaret-style venue for live entertainment. After a day of competition, I invite you to relax in our Warm Springs Pools [formerly known as the Jefferson Pools] to rejuvenate your body and soul. The historic natural mineral pools are also in the midst of an upgrade that is a board-by-board project," added Spadoni. "The scope of work includes repairing the foundation of both bathhouses and replacing in kind the historic wood structure, windows, doors, siding, and roofing." ■



## **Executive Cup Challenge**

**The Omni Homestead Resort • September 10-14, 2023**

*Arrive Sunday, Depart Thursday • A Four-Night, Three-Day Competition*

**Sunday, September 10:** Arrival • Optional afternoon Horse Race Shootout

**Monday, September 11:** Full breakfast • Couples Club Championship on The Cascades • Hot lunch • Welcome Reception and Dinner

**Tuesday, September 12:** Full breakfast • Executive Cup Round #1 Individual Play on Old Course • Hot lunch • Evening at your leisure

**Wednesday, September 13:** Full breakfast • Executive Cup Final Round Individual Play on The Cascades

Hot lunch • Awards Reception and Dinner

**Thursday, September 14:** Full breakfast • Departure Day

*For a complete itinerary and pricing, please visit [ExecutiveGolferMagazine.com](http://ExecutiveGolferMagazine.com) or contact Tournament Director Mark Pazdur at [Mark@ExecutiveGolferMagazine.com](mailto:Mark@ExecutiveGolferMagazine.com) or (949) 933-6478.*