



MESQUITE GAMING



PRESS RELEASE

Northern Californian Larry Polete wouldn't miss his tenth trip to the Mesquite Amateur Golf tournament (March 13, 2012)

For nine years, Larry Polete has traveled from his home in Northern California to play in the Mesquite Amateur golf tournament.

A resident of Woodland, Calif. about 18 miles west of Sacramento, the 66 year-old Polete is headed back for the tenth annual event May 28-June 1.

After being diagnosed with prostate cancer and undergoing surgery in November of 2000, Polete decided it was time to enjoy life more. He headed for the World Am in Myrtle Beach, N.C. where he heard that the Mesquite Amateur was being planned much closer to home.

Then when Polete became involved in the Mesquite Amateur, he learned about the Pac Am in Bend, Ore., so he had two tournaments closer to home.

Polete has awesome memories of the Mesquite Amateur and he wouldn't miss the event. In fact, a glorious golf trip to Ireland was the result of his winning a drawing at the 2005 Mesquite Amateur.

While Polete has been to some of the best tournaments in the country, he does not hesitate when rating the Mesquite Amateur.

"It's No. 1, I guarantee you," he said. "I get on the Internet in February and start looking for inexpensive flights to Las Vegas. We then have three days on great courses and after a day of playing, we have the best food ever at the nightly gatherings in the CasaBlanca Event Center."

Visiting Mesquite is a special thrill especially considering that the city is about 80 miles north of Las Vegas. With trucks passing him seemingly going 90 miles an hour on his first visit, Polete found Mesquite to be the perfect getaway.

"There isn't the glitter in Mesquite that you have in Las Vegas," Polete said. "Then, too, it's easy to get around there."

At 5-10 and 165 pounds sporting a 20 handicap, Polete is about the same weight he was when playing high school football in the 1960s and he's raring to go for the Mesquite Amateur.

"Golf really keeps me in shape," he said. "When I was in high school and even back into the fifth and sixth grade, track and field was my favorite sport. I tell them that rather than running to stay in shape, I chase that little white golf ball."

Polete, who has been playing on the Golf Channel Amateur Tour the past year, started the 2012 season on a good note winning the Senior Division at the Elkhorn Golf Course in Stockton, Calif. He also won the 2010 Player of the Year for the Senior Snead Division based on merit points for the Sacramento/Stockton region.





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Early sign-up fees for the Mesquite Amateur of \$500 are now being accepted until March 31. The fees increase to \$550 April 1.

"I already registered," Polete said. "I know every year that I'll be at the Mesquite Amateur every Memorial Day. I meet up with several guys from other areas."

Some of Polete's buddies from the Sacramento area join him each year at the Mesquite Amateur.

"It's great place to gather and continue building the memories," he said.

This year's tournament is expected to draw about 600 golfers. The prestigious tournament will be played at the CasaBlanca; Palms; Falcon Ridge; Oasis Palmer & Canyons; Conestoga in Mesquite; and Coyote Springs southwest of Mesquite. The tournament consists of a five-day, 54-hole net, stroke play tournament in which participants compete against a field of players with a similar age and handicap.

The top four participants from each flight will compete in the 18-hole championship round at the CasaBlanca Golf Club under USGA rules.

Further information can be found by calling Mesquite Gaming Sporting Event Manager Christian Adderson at 888-711-4653, ext. 51; or by visiting www.mesquiteamateur.com.

The Mesquite Amateur is sponsored by Golf Mesquite Nevada along with the Mesquite Resort Association.

CAPTION:

Northern Californian Larry Polete has been to every Mesquite Amateur golf tournament and he'll return for the tenth annual event May 28-June 1.

CONTACTS: Christian Adderson, 888-711-4653, ext. 51; Mike Henle, The Idea Company Public Relations, 702-279-3483.