FORMER CHAMPIONS LOOK TO REPEAT AT 2016 ALLSTATE SUGAR BOWL TOMMY MOORE MEMORIAL

NEW ORLEANS, LA – Anticipation for this year’s junior golf tournament is building around an extremely competitive field consisting of previous champions and elite talent at the 2016 Allstate Sugar Bowl Tommy Moore Memorial Junior Golf Championship (TMMJGC).

The girls’ division features 2015 champion Yujeong Son of Norman, OK, and 2013 champion Julia Johnson of St. Gabriel, LA. Last year, Johnson and Son battled down the stretch, with Son prevailing with birdies in five or her final six holes to pull away with the victory and an impressive final round 65.

Son has been steadily rising up the ranks since her TMMJGC title and sees no signs of slowing down. She was recently ranked as the #1 junior by *Golfweek* and has three victories this year. Her expectations are high for this year’s tournament. “I’m getting a lot of practice in and I’d really like to win it again this year – it would be a great accomplishment,” said Son.

Johnson is the #1 ranked junior in Louisiana and is excited to compete. “I always feel like I’m at the peak of my game at the Tommy Moore, and the competition keeps getting tougher and tougher,” said Johnson. “I love to play against the best players in the nation – it’s why I love this tournament.”

2012 champion Presley Baggett is the reigning 2016 Mississippi Girl’s Junior Amateur Champion, while Oklahoman Kaitlin Milligan and Alabama’s Michaela Morard are also vying for the TMMJGC crown. Milligan dominated the Oklahoma Junior Golf Tour with three wins in four tournaments, while Morard has notched three wins and four top 5 finishes this year. Both players boast rankings in the top 50 female junior golfers in the country.

Three-time champion Jacob Bergeron of Slidell, LA, looks to win his fourth TMMJGC title in six years. Like Son, Bergeron has also improved since last year, ranking in the top 20 nationally. Bergeron’s approach to the tournament will be business as usual, “Sticking to my process and playing my game will be the key. I’ve matured as a golfer since last year and really looking forward to testing myself at English Turn.” Amongst his three victories in 2016, his most notable included a final round 64 en route to the Trusted Choice Big ‘I’ National Championship. Bergeron said of his big win, “It hasn’t sunk in yet. The whole experience was unreal.”

With 41 other participants in the boys’ 16-18 division, the competition will be fierce. Benjamin Nelson of Madison, MS, and Joey Kirkland of West Monroe, LA, are notable returning champions from 2014. Nick Daniel, 2016 Louisiana Boy’s Junior Amateur Champion, also looks to add another title to his resume.

The 2016 Allstate Sugar Bowl TMMJGC will be played at English Turn Golf & Country Club in New Orleans, LA, on December 28 – 29, 2016. The deadline to receive applications for junior participants of the event is Friday, November 4th.