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MEDIA RELEASE

Recipient sought for SBS Bank Golf Invitational proceeds

One worthy non-profit, charitable organisation in Southland will be \$10,000 better off following the next SBS Bank Golf Invitational if they are lucky enough to be voted as the recipient of proceeds from the 2010 event.

As part of SBS Bank's commitment to supporting its communities and its sponsorship of the 2010 Golf Invitational, the proceeds from next year's event will be donated to a Southland-based, non-profit, charitable group that is an existing account holder with SBS Bank through its SBS Star Banking Package. The final decision will be cast by SBS Bank customers, who are able to vote in branch vote following print and online advertising on www.sbs.net.nz

SBS Bank Invercargill manager Neil Bramley said SBS Bank was delighted to have been able to give \$210,000 back to their SBS Star non-profit account holders since the banking package was launched 21 months ago.

"The SBS Star banking package was developed specifically for non-profit clubs and societies, offering fee-free transactions alongside the opportunity to go in the draw to win one of ten \$1000 prizes every month.

"More than 130 of our SBS Star account holders have now experienced the excitement of an unexpected windfall after becoming an SBS Star monthly prize draw winner. Now one of our local SBS Stars has the chance to benefit even more from the proceeds of the 33rd SBS Bank Golf Invitational."

Mr Bramley said eight charitable groups that were existing SBS Star account holders in the Southland area had been nominated to receive the invitational proceeds.

They were the Southland branch of the RNZSPCA, Southland Foodbank, Lifeline Southland, Pregnancy Help Welfare, Invercargill Women's Refuge, Invercargill Parent's Centre, Southland Asthma Society and Alzheimers Southland.

SBS Bank customers could vote by phoning SBS Bank on 0800 502 442, popping into their local Southland branch or by emailing their chosen charitable group to membervote@sbs.net.nz.

All members could vote just once and needed to provide an account number or their customer number for verification. Voting closes at 5pm on Monday 21 December and the winner would be announced on Wednesday 23 December.

Mr Bramley said if any non-profit clubs and societies were not currently an SBS Star account holder and they wanted to be eligible for the chance to win one of ten \$1000 cash prizes from SBS Bank every month they could pop into their local branch or phone the SBS Bank Contact Centre on 0800 502 442 to find out how they could benefit from an

SBS Star banking package. Becoming an SBS Star account holder would also give them the opportunity to vie for the proceeds from the 2011 Golf Invitational

“We want even more of our hard-working, voluntary community groups to be able to enjoy the thrill of getting a call from one of our team telling them the fantastic news that they have just scored a \$1000 windfall from SBS Bank,” Mr Bramley said.

Proceeds from the SBS Bank Golf Invitational have resulted in more than \$230,000 in donations had been made to Southland organisations over the past 32 years.

The Southland branch of the RNZSPCA was fortunate to be the non-profit recipient of the proceeds from the 2009 SBS Bank Golf Invitational and treasurer Andrea Morrow said they couldn't have been more delighted.

“To receive such a generous financial gift is invaluable in allowing our charity to continue to make a difference for all the public and animals of Southland who we continue to help and we thank the team at SBS Bank for their ongoing community support.

“During 2008 our warranted inspectors investigated 234 complaints, the animal ambulance attended 141 road accidents and our animal shelter at Woodend offered refuge to 1,410 animals so any financial assistance is greatly received to help offset costs associated with this important community work.”

For further information contact:

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