

PRESS RELEASE: EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01hrs Monday 3 July 2016

### **Craft brewers score a hole in one at this week's Scottish Open**

Windswept Brewing Company, the award-winning Lossiemouth microbrewery run by two former RAF pilots, has been selected by organisers of the Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open 2016 as the only craft beer to be featured at the golfing event next week.

Windswept was approached by organisers in May 2016 and will be selling four craft beers throughout the tournament. The Blonde and Wolf beers will be on draft, and single hop beers Typhoon and Tornado will be on offer in bottles, giving golfers and fans the chance to try out a range of flavours.

The microbrewery's presence at the Open is the most recent of many successes for the Lossiemouth company. In May 2015, Windswept was picked up by upmarket retailer Waitrose and a deal to supply the Co-op soon followed.

The brewery aims to double its annual production from 1500 to 3000 hectolitres and increase staff numbers from 12 to 17 within the next two years. Showcasing its award-winning ales at national events like the Scottish Open helps raise the company's profile in Scotland and internationally.

Next week the Windswept team will be loading 1300 pints worth of cask and bottled beer into its delivery truck and will be on standby to provide fresh supplies throughout the Open: the brewery is located only 40 minutes away from Castle Stuart Golf Links.

Nigel Tiddy, managing director of Windswept Brewing Company, said: "We're a really small brewery, so this is a fantastic opportunity for us to let golfers and fans from across Scotland in on the secret.

"We're an excellent match for the Scottish Open this year, as the golf courses across the north east of Scotland are undoubtedly windswept for most of the year.

"The Scottish Open's organising team's decision to source and supply a local, quality craft beer should be applauded."

Peter Adams, director of international championships at the European Tour and the Scottish Open said: "The Scottish Open travels around Scotland every year and we always look for ways to work with local suppliers and producers; it makes sense to showcase the very best a region has to offer.

"Windswept's hand-crafted products are the epitome of the quality and inventiveness that the Scottish craft beer sector is known for. I'm sure our golfers and spectators will be interested in finding out more."

"We were keen to offer our golfers and spectators the chance to experience Windswept's hand-crafted, high quality ales.

Since 2014, Windswept has secured investment of around £250,000 to support future growth. The brewery recently took its bottling operations in house, which has had a huge impact on its expansion potential.

Windswept Brewing Company is now focused on increasing its distribution in the central belt of Scotland and the rest of the UK, and is also intent on increasing its export business.

Windswept Brewing Company's beers will be on sale at the Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open 2016, 6-10 July 2016, at Castle Stuart Golf Links, near Inverness.

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes to editors**

### **About the Windswept Brewing Company's beers**

**Blonde:** A light, refreshing session ale with citrus notes and a crisp bitter finish. Winner of a Great Taste Award in 2015 and best enjoyed after a surf or sail.

**Wolf:** A dark and powerful brew named after the Wolf of Badenoch, infamous for burning down Elgin cathedral in 1390.

**Typhoon:** Discover the way to Amarillo, the modern classic American IPA hop. Refreshing citrus flavours with lots of mandarin, this is a light, delicious, moreish IPA. Winner of a Great Taste Award in 2015.

**Tornado:** Open a bottle of Tornado and get blown away by the natural power of the Citra hop. Crafted with a robust malt character to compliment the tropical fruit and resinous pine of the Citra hop. Winner of a Great Taste Award in 2015.

### **About the Windswept Brewing Company**

Keen to share their passion for brewing, Al Read and Nigel Tiddy, former RAF pilots, decided to take their craft to the next level. Both loved the outdoor life available on their doorstep and wanted to create a brand that reflected the wild and windswept coast and hills of the Scottish Highlands. The pair founded Windswept Brewing Company and had their first beer by the end of November 2012.

Ingredients are kept simple: quality British malted grains, hops for flavour and bitterness, fresh wet yeast (not dried, taste the difference) and local Speyside water.

All the beers are natural and unfiltered meaning they are suitable for vegetarians and vegans. Unlike many other commercial breweries, Windswept's precise brewing process ensures that the team produces flavoursome clear beer, without the need to use Isinglass, a clearing additive derived from the swim bladders of fish.

**About the Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open 2016**

For more information, visit: <http://www.aamscottishopen.com/>