

The



JOLLY FOX

NISEKO 2022



SERIES PROGRAM

Organized by  H2 Group

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for our Owners, Guests and Clients



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NV Niseko Village
Always in Season



Image: Niseko Village Golf Course



Image: Higashiyama Niseko Village, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve

Image: Hinode Hills Niseko Village

— NISEKO VILLAGE BY YTL HOTELS —

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Telephone: +81 (0)136 44 3311
<https://niseko-village.com> | Facebook & Instagram @nisekovillage

NV Niseko Village
Always in Season



Bruce Munro

Mountain Lights

光が紡ぐ
未来への
祈り

Art Installation by Bruce Munro in Niseko, Japan
ブルース・マンローによるアートインスタレーション in ニセコ

2022年7月1日-10月10日
July 1 - October 10

オンラインチケット Online Ticket

大人 ¥3,800
Adult ¥4,000

ゴンドラ乗車料金含む
Prices include the gondola ride

オンラインチケット Online Ticket

小学生 ¥3,000
Age 6-12 ¥3,200

未就学児無料 Free for children 5 and under



オンラインチケット発売中
Online tickets are on sale
mountain-lights.com

世界的に著名なインスタレーション芸術家
ブルース・マンローによる日本初開催となる
光のアートインスタレーション。
ニセコHANAZONOリゾートの
広大な自然を舞台とした、1.3kmにも及ぶ
光のアート作品が屋外展示される。
来場者はゴンドラに乗って上空から
光のアートを眺め、下車後は散策路を
辿りながら間近で鑑賞することができる。



Bruce Munro
ブルース・マンロー

ブルース・マンローはイギリスのインスタレーション芸術家。人間の営みにおける共有体験に着想を得た、没入型の大規模な光のアートインスタレーションで知られる。

British artist Bruce Munro is best known for immersive large-scale light-based installations inspired largely by his interest in shared human experience.

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ニセコ HANAZONO リゾート 北海道虻田郡倶知安町岩尾別 328-36 TEL: 0136-21-3333

コロナの影響等により内容に変更が生じる場合があります Contents of the event may change due to COVID-19 situation



Bruce Munro Studio



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THE JOLLY FOX STORY

From Hong Kong to Niseko,
the love of the sport brings
this exciting and competitive
tournament to Japanese shores.



The Jolly Golf Series was founded in the early 1990's by a group of jolly expatriates in Hong Kong who loved their golf, their beer, and the thrill of serious golf competition. The Jolly has found its way to Niseko, Japan and lives on as the Jolly Fox, played across some of Niseko's most stunning golf courses.

The Jolly Fox is a 36 player, two-person team, three-round golf tournament, which emphasizes teamwork between a Fox (low-handicapper) and a Mouse (high-handicapper). Coined "The US Open of Niseko" due to the competitive spirit developed amongst the players, the Jolly Fox Niseko is several sensational days of extreme fun.

The 2nd Annual Jolly Fox Invitational

At the 2021 running of the Jolly Fox Niseko Invitational, a fresh spirit of competition and camaraderie took hold on the lush green fairways of Niseko. We look back on the excitement of last year's tournament.

Credit: Powderlife



With the realization the coming winter holiday season was likely to be all but cancelled, Niseko business owners and staff pushed aside the usual ski season preparations and spent more time enjoying the abundant leisurely pursuits of the "off-season".

At the same time, keen golfer and Niseko's H2 Group co-CEO Michael Chen came up with an idea to launch a community golf tournament to inspire some much-needed COVID-friendly social interaction amidst the isolation. It was also a perfect opportunity to showcase Niseko's stunning alpine-flanked golf courses to the world – a largely undiscovered secret.

The Jolly Fox Invitational is an innovative modern golf tournament format with a focus on fun, but at the same time serious competition.

Two-person teams compete over two days at Hanazono Golf Course across three rounds of competition – Round 1: Best Ball, Round 2: Scramble, and Round 3: Greensomes. Teams are made up of a fox (a low handicapper) and a mouse (a high-handicapper), both paired randomly at a team-draw dinner held before the competition. A gala dinner at the prestigious Park Hyatt Hanazono caps off the festivities.

Mini-competitions are embedded along the way including ¥5 million hole-in-one and ¥1 million putting comps, longest drive comps each round (the first of which this year was won by Japanese female entrant Ruri Meikle), closest-to-pin contests, and a best (loudest) dressed competition.

Co-Title Sponsors, Callaway and H2 Group, provided a swag of prizes and gifts, as did Lead Sponsor, Park Hyatt Hanazono, while local businesses also chipped in to sponsor the competition and prizes.

JOLLY FOX INVITATIONAL NISEKO 2021 Results

Champions

Patrick Ohtani & Bevan Colless
22 Under Par (Tournament Record)

Runners Up

Greg Hough & Ruri Meikle
16 Under Par

3rd Place

Trevor Greenwood & Ed Downer
14 Under Par

Jolly Fox Tournament Format

Chen said the three-round format emphasized teamwork between the fox and the mouse.

“Foxes are obviously cunning and clever, and while mice may be less skilled, with the right teammate they can perform sensationally.

“In Best Ball, you can choose either players’ score, so usually if the higher handicapper plays well, the team usually plays well.

“In Scramble, you can choose either ball on every shot, so the fox really needs to play well for the team to score well.

“And in Greensomes both players alternate after the tee shot, so both fox and mouse need to play well for the team to do well.

“So it’s a really high-pressure format for the final round and results in a truly exciting finish with the gallery looking on at the end.

“The team with the best net score over 54 holes claims the championship.

“Run over two solid days, it’s a true test of skill, patience and endurance both on and off the course.”

The US Open of Niseko

Chen said one of the seasoned players coined the competition “the US Open of Niseko” due in large part to the competitive spirit that emerges amongst players.

“It’s a perfect combination of fun and serious competition. Most players have played serious competitive sports at some level, at secondary school or college, or even semi-pro or professional level.



“The team-draw and gala dinner are super fun, and actually the seriousness of the competition in itself is fun because all of us who have played competitive sports miss that element in life.

“And that’s why it’s like the US Open of Niseko. It’s like that one event all year that offers really serious competition among Niseko’s golfers. It’s not your casual week-end round – people are trying hard to win.”

COVID Triggers Community Golf Revival

Long-time Niseko golf figure John Barton said the advent of the Jolly Fox, along with its predecessor the Niseko Wow Pro-Am, was spawning a number of other signature golf competitions.

“Over the years there have been small competitions here and there, and we had a Niseko Golf Week at one stage,” he said.



“But now with the Jolly and the Niseko Wow Pro-Am we’ve got really well-run competitions over multiple days.

“The Jolly combines a pre-event with the team-play format over several days, and then the properly organized gala dinner social event at the Park Hyatt afterwards.

“That hasn’t been done so well before. With the way Michael has organized it you feel like you’re playing in a proper big-time event.

“This week we’ve got another competition, the Kaisha Cup, which definitely came about as a result of the Jolly.

“Last summer we started doing Ryder Cup events with UK playing the rest of the world in something like a Ryder Cup format.

“That was well-attended and brought more good vibes and I think COVID really helped kick it off – people have had a bit more time to organize these things which really hadn’t happened before.”

International Golf Tourism Interest Growing

Golf has long been a favourite pastime among men and women in Japan, and Niseko is home to several world-class courses.

There are courses at the base villages of two of the ski resorts (Hanazono and Niseko Village), and another Niseko Village-owned, Arnold Palmer-designed course just outside Niseko Town. Within 60-minutes’ drive are a handful more excellent courses, with about 170 on the island of Hokkaido.

Barton says the inaugural Niseko Wow Pro-Am three years ago re-activated the local golf community, and the “COVID summer” acted as a further catalyst.

“There’s definitely momentum in the local golf community now and people overseas are seeing the photos and the fun we’re having and it has become more tangible.

“We’ve also got a Niseko golf podcast now, the Niseko Ryder, and there’s growing international interest and actually demand for Niseko golf trips.

“People, particularly in Asia, are realizing what great golf there is here, and that there is a great community here, so people from all levels, all kinds of backgrounds can find a way into this welcoming community.

“When travel opens up we will have international golfers planning their summer visits to Niseko around these events.”





Event Calendar

JUNE 15-18

3RD ANNUAL NISEKO INVITATIONAL

For the 3rd year running, the Jolly Fox Niseko Invitational will take place at Hanazono Golf Course. This exciting 4 day event is a must-play on the golfing calendar.



AUGUST 7-10

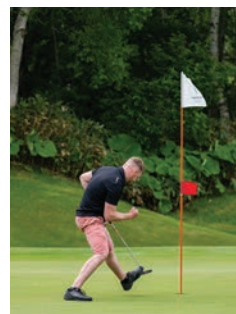
INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL

The Jolly Fox International is the reunion event that resurrects the tournament that started it all – The Jolly Buffalo. After being retired in 2016, the iconic Jolly Buffalo is re-born as the Jolly Fox International. Players from the Jolly Buffalo and its sister tournaments (the Jolly Beaver, The Hairy Crab, and the Hungry Harimau) have been invited to experience the Jolly Fox in the sensational environs of Niseko.



OCTOBER 9-12

INAUGURAL ASPECT INVITATIONAL



The Jolly Fox Niseko Aspect Invitational provides an exceptional opportunity for guests of Aspect Luxury Apartments to experience the Niseko lifestyle while competing in a pro-style golf tournament.

MAY-OCTOBER

2ND ANNUAL NISEKO MASTERS



The Masters is a single elimination, match play competition, played over 5 rounds, that serves to crown Niseko's top handicap golfer of the season. The final takes place at Hokkaido's number one golf course, Hokkaido Classic.

JULY, 2023

INAUGURAL MEMBER-GUEST

The Jolly Fox Niseko Member-Guest is an opportunity for all local companies to introduce overseas guests to the amazing Niseko summers by inviting them to experience the Jolly Fox. Played over 3 rounds at 3 different courses, it will give guests a true taste of the amazing golf in Niseko.



INAUGURAL EVENT NEXT YEAR

ESSENCE OF THE FOX

The Jolly Fox is a true test of skill, patience and endurance both on and off the course. The tournament sees two-person teams face off over three-rounds of golf with an emphasis on teamwork between a Fox (low-handicapper) and a Mouse (high-handicapper). Foxes are cunning and clever. Mice may be timid and less skilled but with the right teammate they can perform sensationally.

Drawing of Teams

The experience starts out with a bang at the high energy team draw. Each Fox will randomly draw a Mouse and they will form the team that competes over the 54 holes. Stories will be regaled about the players and their golf history in an attempt to raise the value of each team.



Round 1 Fox Best Ball

Fox and Mouse each play their own ball. 90% of each player's handicap is used to determine handicap strokes he will receive (all fractions rounded). The team takes the better net score on each hole for the team's score on that hole. Each player's net score must be used at least six times.



Round 2 Fox Scramble

Both Fox and Mouse tee off on each hole. Teams choose one of the two drives and then both players hit successive shots, each time choosing the better result to play for the next shot until the ball is holed. 20% of the team's combined handicap is used to determine team handicap strokes received (fractions rounded). Each player's drive must be used at least three times on each nine holes.



Round 3 Fox Greensomes

Both Fox and Mouse tee off on each hole. Teams choose one of the two drives and then players alternate shots until the ball is holed. 50% of the team's combined handicap is used to determine team handicap strokes received (fractions rounded). Each player's drive must be used at least three times on each nine holes.

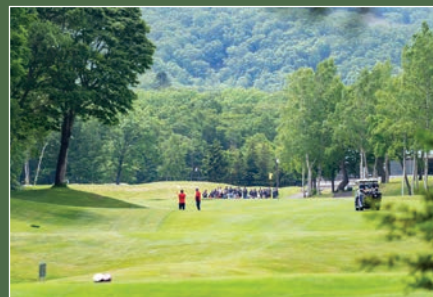


Gala Dinner

Celebrate the crowning of the champions at the Gala Awards Dinner. A special evening where the players and guests can look back at the excitement of the tournament and the winners are showered with well deserved accolades.



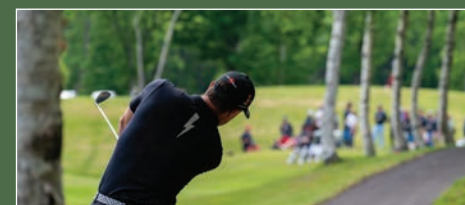
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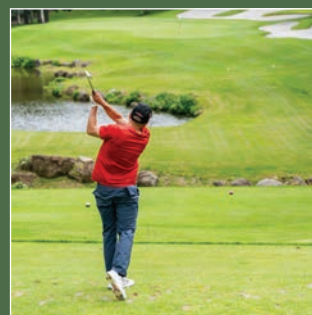
— JOLLY —



— FOX —



— GALLERY —



H2 LIFE ACCOMMODATION

At H2 Life we have three distinct accommodation collections to guarantee a sensational stay, whatever your budget.



HakuLife Collection

For those among you wanting the ultimate bragging rights both on and off the course, look no further than HakuVillas, part of our HakuLife Collection. The only ultra-luxury, 6-star offering in Niseko and the winner of numerous design awards, a stay at HakuVillas will simply be a hole-in-one experience!



Luxury Collection

Aspect Niseko, located in the heart of Hirafu, offers spacious, modern rooms with more than a touch of luxury. Due to its central location, Aspect Niseko is incredibly close to all Niseko has to offer such as golf courses, restaurants and bars. Spectacular Mt Yotei views and the extra touches here will guarantee your stay is one to remember.



Signature Collection

Don't let your budget be a handicap. For those looking for a more affordable stay in a great location, Gondola Chalets, part of our H2 Life Signature Collection, is an absolute gimme. Located at the base of the Hirafu Gondola, Gondola Chalets features 3, 4 and 5 bedroom options perfect for those travelling as a group or for solo travellers looking to buddy up, both on and off the course.



Thank you to our amazing sponsors!



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The Niseko Company

Contact us today to book your Jolly Fox Niseko experience!

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