



## **PokerStars UK & Ireland Poker Tour Returns To The Isle of Man For Home Game**

*PokerStars invites you to join 10 years Isle of Man celebration*

ONCHAN, Isle of Man – September 25, 2015 – The UK and Ireland’s biggest poker tour returns to Douglas, Isle of Man this September 30 - October 4, 2015 announced PokerStars, an Amaya Inc. (Nasdaq: AYA; TSX: AYA) brand. The festival will kick off with a free-to-view 3D projection and lighting spectacular at 8pm on Wednesday, September 30, that has been commissioned to celebrate 10 years on the Island.

The UKIPT Isle of Man festival takes place at the Villa Marina and consists of 13 tournaments with the main focus on the £440 No-Limit Hold’em Main Event, which starts on October 1. This year’s tournament will attract poker players from all across Europe and even further afield, as well as well-known members of Team PokerStars Pro and many local players. For the second year running, the festival will overlap with the PokerStars Isle of Man International Chess Tournament demonstrating the synergies of the two mind sports.

This is the third time PokerStars has brought the UKIPT live poker festival and hundreds of players to its hometown, but this time it’s extra special as it coincides with the PokerStars 10th anniversary on the Island, which the Company is planning on celebrating during this year’s festival.

### **POKERSTARS AND THE ISLE OF MAN**

PokerStars want to say thank you to the local community for 10 fantastic years on the Island. To show how proud and grateful PokerStars is to be part of the community, there will be 3D projection and lighting spectacular shows in the Villa Marina gardens, with the theme of celebrating the Isle of Man as a nation. The shows, which will run for around five minutes and will be repeated each night of the upcoming UK & Ireland Poker Tour Isle of Man, will be open to the public for free.

PokerStars Interim CEO Michael Hazel, said, “PokerStars have had a great 10 years on the Island. We are extremely proud to be part of the local community and are delighted they can share in our celebrations. Here’s to continuing to work together into the future.”

The celebration kicks off on Wednesday, September 30 at 8pm in the Villa Marina gardens, and it will be followed by five more chances to catch the show

over the following three days. It's recommended that those who want to catch the show come early in order to avoid disappointment. Please note the shows will feature flashing lights, laser and strobe effects.

### **SHOW TIMES**

Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm

Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8pm and 9pm

Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 8pm and 9pm

Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 8.30pm -this performance will end with a three-minute firework display.

PokerStars are also hosting their annual invitational charity tournament on the Saturday evening. All donations will be matched by the company's Corporate Giving Programme, Helping Hands, with the entire amount being donated to local charity, Craig's Heartstrong Foundation.

### **POKERSTARS ISLE OF MAN INTERNATIONAL CHESS TOURNAMENT**

While the first edition of the PokerStars Isle of Man International Chess Tournament was a resounding success last year, this year's tournament promises to put the Isle of Man on the global chess map for good. The Tournament, which is sponsored by PokerStars and the Scheinberg Family with the assistance of the Isle of Man Department of Economic Development, runs from October 2 - 11 and is set to be the strongest open tournament not only to be held in the British Isles, but also one of the strongest worldwide.

Once again the tournament will see some of the world's Grandmasters and International Masters alongside PokerStars' Mind Sport Ambassador, Jennifer Shahade, descend on the Island to compete in the various tournaments. The combined chess and poker tournament, an innovative event which proved to be very well-received by all its participants, will also be repeated and is set to take place on Friday, October 2.

PokerStars Mind Sport Ambassador, Jen Shahade said "It's great to see the Isle of Man International Chess Tournament returning for another year. I think having the two festivals running simultaneously is fantastic as it really demonstrates the similarities of the skills and strategies that make both games so competitive and interesting; I am really looking forward to playing in both on PokerStars' Isle of Man 10-year anniversary."

More details are available online:

PokerStars UKIPT: [www.ukipt.com](http://www.ukipt.com)

International Chess Tournament: [www.iominternationalchess.com](http://www.iominternationalchess.com)

For further information, please contact: [press@pokerstars.com](mailto:press@pokerstars.com)

## **About PokerStars**

PokerStars operates the world's most popular online poker sites, serving the global poker community. Since it launched in 2001, PokerStars has become the first choice of players all over the world, with more daily tournaments than anywhere else and with the best security online. More than 130 billion hands have been dealt on PokerStars, which is more than any other site.

PokerStars.com and PokerStars.eu operate globally under licenses from the Isle of Man and Malta governments, respectively. PokerStars also holds separate government licenses in the United Kingdom, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

PokerStars is the key brand of Rational Group, which operates gaming-related businesses and brands, including PokerStars, Full Tilt and the European Poker Tour. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, Rational Group companies in the UK and Isle of Man won recognition as one of the best workplaces in the UK being awarded a top 25 position by the Great Place to Work Institute's Best Workplaces – Large category rankings. Rational Group entities in Costa Rica and Dublin also achieved the same accolade in their respective local rankings in 2014. PokerStars is owned by Amaya Inc. (Nasdaq: AYA; TSX: AYA).