

**2020 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship Message Document**

**Six things to know about the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship**

1. **Representing Mexico**: With Mexico continuing to grow as an emerging golf market, tournament eligibility was changed last August, whereas if the highest-ranked player from Mexico is already otherwise eligible for the WGC-Mexico Championship, the next highest-ranked player from Mexico within the top 300 of the Official World Golf Ranking (February 10 rankings) would qualify.
	* In qualifying for the 2019 TOUR Championship, Abraham Ancer received an exemption into the 2020 WGC-Mexico Championship.
	* At No. 150 in the Official World Golf Ranking as of Feb. 10, Carlos Ortiz qualified as the next-highest ranked player from Mexico and will make his World Golf Championships debut this week.
2. **Ancer returns as top-30 player:** Set to compete in his third consecutive WGC-Mexico Championship, Abraham Ancer returns to Club de Golf Chapultepec after experiencing a memorable 2019 that was highlighted by his first trip to the TOUR Championship and the opportunity to be Mexico’s first representative in the Presidents Cup. Ancer was No. 260 in the Official World Golf Ranking for the 2018 event, ascended to No. 61 in 2019 and will arrive in Mexico City at No. 29 this week.
3. **World-class field:** The WGC-Mexico Championship will welcome another stellar field back to Mexico City made up of 42 of the top 50 players in the world and 18 of the top 30 in the FedExCup standings headlined by world No. 1 and reigning FedExCup champion Rory McIlroy, FedExCup standings leader Justin Thomas and Spain’s Jon Rahm. The 72-player field features players from 19 countries.
4. **McIlroy aims for ‘WGC Slam’**: 2019 WGC-Mexico Championship runner-up Rory McIlroy captured the season’s first World Golf Championships title at the WGC-HSBC Champions and can join Dustin Johnson as the only player to win all four World Golf Championships events with a victory in Mexico City this week. Prior to his HSBC Champions victory, McIlroy captured the 2014 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational and 2015 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play.
5. **PGA TOUR in Mexico:** The WGC-Mexico Championship is one of two current PGA TOUR events in Mexico along with the Mayakoba Golf Classic, Mexico’s original PGA TOUR event that dates back to 2007. Part of the secret to winning at Club de Golf Chapultepec is properly determining the altitude’s role when choosing clubs. The lowest elevation of the Club de Golf Chapultepec is 7,603 feet above sea level and the highest part is at 7,835 feet. The par-3 17th hole is dubbed “The Peak” and is a central location for fans on the course.
6. **Dustin Johnson goes for third win in fourth start at Club de Golf Chapultepec:** Defending champion Dustin Johnson captured his 20th PGA TOUR title at the 2019 WGC-Mexico Championship and will look to become the first to successfully defend his title since Tiger Woods from 2005-2007.

**IMPACT**
Launched in 2017, The First Tee of Mexico was the first chapter unveiled outside of the United States. The tournament and its title sponsor Grupo Salinas launched The First Tee of Mexico in 2017 and continues to support the organization’s mission to grow the game of golf throughout Mexico and make the game more accessible. The organization has grown to over 200 total members spread throughout eight chapters across Mexico.

 **Featured Groupings**

**Thursday**
**11:39 a.m., No. 10 (Friday: 12:51 p.m., No. 1) Abraham Ancer, Dustin Johnson, Francesco Molinari**

* The top-ranked player from Mexico in both the FedExCup standings (No. 23) and the Official World Golf Ranking (No. 29), Ancer is making his third consecutive start at the WGC-Mexico Championship
* With his win at the 2019 WGC-Mexico Championship, Johnson became the second player (joining Tiger Woods) to win a single WGC event at least three times
* Molinari has three wins on the PGA TOUR with all of them coming since the start of the 2017-18 season; most recently, the Italian won the 2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard

**1:03 p.m., No. 1 (Friday: 11:51 a.m., No. 10) Carlos Ortiz, Jon Rahm, Adam Scott**

* At No. 24, Ortiz is one of two players from Mexico in the top 30 of the FedExCup standings; the Guadalajara native is making his first career start in a WGC event
* Rahm has three top-10s in four starts during the 2019-20 season (10th/Sentry Tournament of Champions, 2nd/Farmers Insurance Open, T9/Waste Management Phoenix Open)
* Scott earned his 14th career PGA TOUR victory at last week’s The Genesis Invitational and is a two-time WGC champion

**Friday**
**1:03 p.m., No. 1 (Thursday: 11:51 a.m., No. 10) Tommy Fleetwood, Rory McIlroy, Gary Woodland**

* Fleetwood finished solo-second at the WGC-Mexico Championship in 2017 and recorded two top-10s in WGCs last season (T7/HSBC Champions, T4/FedEx St. Jude Invitational)
* Reigning FedExCup champion McIlroy has five consecutive top-fives on the PGA TOUR, including a victory at the season’s first WGC event (HSBC Champions)
* A four-time winner on TOUR including the 2019 U.S. Open, Woodland has three top-10s on the season, highlighted by a tie for third at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES

**11:39 a.m., No. 10 (Thursday: 12:51 p.m., No. 1) Marc Leishman, Hideki Matsuyama, Justin Thomas**

* Winner of the Farmers Insurance Open in January, Leishman is one of three players from Australia to win on the PGA TOUR in 2020 (others: Adam Scott, Cameron Smith)
* A two-time WGC champion, Matsuyama is in search of his first PGA TOUR victory since the 2017 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational
* Thomas, who lost in a playoff at the 2018 WGC-Mexico Championship, holds the top spot in the FedExCup standings for the seventh consecutive week

**Pre-Tournament Interviews

Tuesday, February 18**

Adam Scott 3 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 19**
Jon Rahm 9:15 a.m.
Rory McIlroy 10 a.m. (Flash Interview Area)
Benjamin Salinas, Ty Votaw, Abraham Ancer, Carlos Ortiz 11 a.m.
Abraham Ancer/Carlos Ortiz 11:30 a.m.
Dustin Johnson 2 p.m.