**Viktor Hovland**

* Father, Harald, worked in St. Louis for one year as an engineer and brought back a set of golf clubs, introducing then-11-year-old Viktor to the game
* Oklahoma State coach Alan Bratton first watched Viktor at the 2013 European Boys Team Championships in Scotland where he was also scouting Norway’s Kris Ventura; Ventura and Hovland would go on to play together at OSU
* Recently bought a house in Stillwater, Oklahoma, where Oklahoma State is located
* Named 2019 Ben Hogan Award winner (national player of the year) and 2019 Big 12 Player of the Year
* Won the 2018 U.S. Amateur at Pebble Beach Golf Links, becoming the first player from Norway to win the event
* Became the first Norwegian to participate in the Masters Tournament in 2019; earned low-amateur honors at Augusta
* Listens to metal music (Metallica, System of a Down); he likes to “get out all of the frustration” by listening to that music

**Martin Laird**

* Claims he worked harder in this past off-season than any prior off-season to get in shape and try and keep up with the younger players on TOUR.
* Laird was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and played his Junior golf at Kirkintilloch Golf Club and then moving to play his youth golf at Hilton Park Golf Club.
* Has the flag of his home country, Scotland, on his golf belt, golf bag and golf balls.
* Actually learned to play the game left-handed, before later switching sides.
* Laird comes from a sporting family, as his cousin David Weatherston plays association football currently for Scottish Championship club Alloa Athletic.
* In 2000, at the age of 17 and with the assistance of College Prospects of America, Laird moved to the United States to take up a golf scholarship at Colorado State University under head coach Jamie Bermel.
* He played for the Colorado State Rams in the Mountain West Conference which had been established in 1999. Playing for four years from 2000–01 to 2003–04 he won four individual titles in college events.
* Wife Meagan is from Steamboat Springs, Colorado and is the daughter of golf professional Hank Franks.
* Meagan, is actively involved with the PGA TOUR Wives Association and both help with various events the PGATWA sponsors throughout the year.
* Lists his dad and Greg Norman as his heroes.

**Josh Teater**

* Born in Danville, Kentucky but raised in Lexington
* While he graduated from Morehead State, is a huge Kentucky Wildcats fan
* Wife, Ashley played basketball at Georgetown College just outside of Lexington. They met at Rupp Arena at a John Calipari charity event in 2011
* As a kid, dreamed of being a professional athlete but assumed he would be a basketball player given his Kentucky roots. In high school, was a better baseball player than golfer; took up golf at age 13.
* Is often mistaken for Sergio Garcia when playing tournaments
* His favorite athlete to watch is Roger Federer
* He is involved in Children’s Charity of the Bluegrass, whose mission is to “maintain an ongoing concerted fund-raising effort to benefit local charitable organizations which have as their primary goal the betterment of children of the Commonwealth.”

**Emiliano Grillo**

* Born in the city of Chaco, in the province of Resistencia in Argentina, he grew up playing the

same course, Chaco Golf Club, as PGA TOUR winners José Cóceres and Fabián Gómez

* Left Chaco at age 14 to work on his game and then left Argentina at age 16 to attend the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla.
* He loves soccer and is a diehard fan of Argentina’s River Plate football club. He always keeps track of big games or competitions going on or coming for River.
* Fishing is of his biggest passions. Joking, he has even said that if he could earn as much as he does in golf he would consider giving it a shot as his sport. It’s something he has done his entire life, going out fishing at the river in Chacho since he was a little boy.
* Member of famed "Class of 2011" and competed alongside Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Daniel Berger, Xander Schauffele and Ollie Schniederjans during amateur golf days.

**Patrick Rodgers**

* Married Jade Olivia Gordon (British stunt coordinator, film assistant, actress) on May 26, 2019.
* In December on his honeymoon in Indonesia (Nihi Sumba Island), he and Jade Olivia spent an afternoon volunteering with the Sumba Foundation, which aims to alleviate poverty in Sumba by providing access to potable water, eradicate malaria, general health, education and economic opportunities. Instagram post: <https://www.instagram.com/p/B57omBflQop/>
* In high school, he kept a manual ShotLink journal of every competitive round, detailing his statistics in the same categories the TOUR does. He did this for nearly eight years, tracking stats in key categories, while comparing them to the TOUR’s best to determine where he stood, what he needed to focus on and to set goals.
* Patrick’s father’s grandfather was a part team-owner of an Indy race car and his family has always had strong ties to Indy Racing (they have a hospitality box at the speedway).
* <https://twitter.com/PRodgersGolf/status/1191740128303177728>
* Stanford (alum). In three seasons, he won 11 times, tied with Tiger Woods for most wins at Stanford. Won the 2014 Nicklaus Award and Ben Hogan Award. Owns the all-time best career scoring average at Stanford (70.31).
* Part of the high school Class of 2011 with Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Emiliano Grillo, Ollie Schniederjans, Daniel Berger and Xander Schauffele. Rodgers was the No. 1-ranked golfer in the World Amateur Golf Ranking for 16 weeks in early 2014.
* When Patrick was deciding whether to turn pro after his sophomore year at Stanford, he reached out to Andrew Luck because he had recently weighed a similar decision. Both athletes returned to Stanford for one more year. Ironically, Andrew Luck, spent his seven professional years as quarterback of the Indianapolis Colts, one of Patrick’s favorite sports teams
* He competed in all sports growing up and played high school basketball in the great basketball state of Indiana.

**Sam Ryder**

* Ryder’s first love was baseball; started playing ll right-handed, but quickly became a switch hitter and changed to play left-handed at age 8, because he wanted to hit more home runs
* He played baseball through his sophomore year of high school, and began to realize he was not a big as the other guys on his team and decided to transition to golf
* On his switch from baseball to golf: “I basically lost the passion for baseball,” Ryder said. “I played way too much. Basically, right when I did that is when I turned to golf, and I channeled all my competitive energy into that.”
* Sam didn’t play in his first golf tournament until he was 16 years old
* Loves the Chicago Cubs; Has a lot of friends who live in Chicago and enjoys attending games
* His father, Art, would take Sam to Wekiva Golf Club near their Longwood home to play a few holes after work. Sam says, “That’s some of my first, best memories of golf is just going out there walking a few holes at sunset with my dad — just carefree,” Ryder said. “That was when I first started loving the game a little bit, even though I didn’t realize the extent of what it was going to turn into.”
* Attended Stetson University on an academic scholarship (he was a 2-time Academic All American); the coach at Stetson recruited Sam because of his stellar academics and background as an all-around great athlete. Ryder won seven times at Stetson, including the Atlantic Sun title.
* Made it to the Korn Ferry Tour through the Mackenzie Tour - PGA TOUR Canada.
* He earned his PGA TOUR card in 2017 by finishing inside the Top 25 on the Korn Ferry Tour (finished second).
* Ryder stumbled twice in Q-school, by a single stroke the second time in 2013. Sam on his Q-School struggles: “That was the lowest point of my journey,” he said. “That was a tough pill to swallow.”
* Missed starts in the 18/19 season due to wrist injury
* Healthy eater, limits gluten; when he arrives into a city for a tournament, he quickly locates the nearest Whole Foods.
* Self-proclaimed “Gym Rat”

**Ted Potter Jr.**

* Roots for the Florida State Seminoles because of his wife’s family
* Loves the outdoors (hunting)
* Loves the “simple life” in Ocala, FL and playing golf with his friends in Ocala when not out competing on TOUR
* Ted is an extremely humble, never-forget-my-roots type of guy who has always called Ocala, FL home. Turned pro at age of 19 out of Lake Weir High School in Ocala, FL.
* Even when not playing golf, Ted is watching it on TV all the time
* When he was not in class or playing in a high school golf match he was working in the cart barn at Lake Diamond Golf and Country Club, five miles from the high school.
* In July 2014 he shattered his right ankle tripping over a curb in flip-flops. After two surgeries, one to insert 12 screws and two metal plates, and another to remove them. He was sidelined for two years and then rehabbed his game on the Korn Ferry Tour and regained PGA TOUR status.

**Tyler McCumber**

* PGA TOUR rookie, one of 16 in the field; rookies have won this tournament three times in the last 10 years but no rookies have won on TOUR this season (18 events, the longest streak to start a season since 2009)
* Played with Tiger Woods in the third round of the 2020 Farmers Insurance Open as Woods' 83 victory was still in sight. Woods (T9 finish) shot 69, while McCumber, playing with those crowds for the first time in his career, shot 68 (finished T21)
* Grew up in Jacksonville, Florida and attended Nease High School with fellow Korn Ferry Tour graduate Vince Covello
* Played golf at the University of Florida from 2009-2013 where he earned honorable mention All-American recognition twice
* Father is Mark McCumber, a 10-time champion on the PGA TOUR highlighted by wins at THE PLAYERS Championship and the TOUR Championship.
* Started the Jacksonville Beach chapter of the charity, OneWave Jax, with his older sister. OneWave is a non-profit surf community tackling mental health issues with a simple recipe...saltwater therapy, surfing and fluro.
* Cousin, Josh, is his caddie. Josh also played golf at the University of Florida (8 years older than Tyler). They both reside in Jacksonville and were both All-Americans at UF
* Also grew up surfing and playing baseball
* Loves to travel; Golf travels include wins on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica and Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada
* In winter of 2017, embarked on a six-week trip in Australia and New Zealand where he hitchhiked with just his surfboard and backpack

**David Lingmerth**

* Started playing golf at the age of nine. After winning the Swedish Championship at the age of 15, decided to focus seriously on golf in high school. Received a scholarship to the University of West Florida, where he stayed for one semester. Transferred to the University of Arkansas, where he finished his college career

Born and raised in Tranas, Sweden. Currently lives in Ponte Vedra, Florida and is a fan of the Jacksonville Jaguars

* Proud Arkansas alum and a big fan of all sports related to the Razorbacks
* Huge hockey fan. Started playing the sport when he was two years old and gave up playing to focus on golf. Is a devoted Washington Capitals fan
* His uncle, Goran Lingmerth, played for the Cleveland Browns in 1987 as a placekicker. Following his NFL career, Goran served as a sales rep for PING and instilled the game of golf in his nephew David. They often played golf together during summer trips to Sweden

**Kyle Stanley**

* Lives in Gig Harbor, Washington, where he grew up; both his family and his wife’s family (Dolly) still live there, all within about 20 minutes of each other
* Lists his father, Matt, as the most important person in his life
* His dad got him started in the game at Canterwood Golf & Country Club in Gig Harbor (family lived on the 12th hole); he played with the same group of guys each weekend and would let Kyle tag along, gradually allowing him to do more with them as he got better (started just walking, then hitting from 100 yards and in, then red tees, white tees, etc.)
* Hosts an AJGA tournament at Canterwood (September 11-13, 2020)
* Although he went to Clemson, considers himself a “fair-weather fan,” but is very passionate about Gonzaga basketball
* Became a Gonzaga fan because his fifth-grade teacher at St. Charles Borromeo School (Tacoma, Washington), Ms. Naughton, went to Gonzaga, and during the 1999 NCAA Tournament, she would show games to the class instead of doing anything school-related
* Gonzaga advanced to the Elite 8; that was just their second NCAA Tournament appearance all-time but they have not missed one since, becoming one of the premier college basketball programs in the country
* As Kyle has told that story throughout the years, he and Ms. Naughton have been re-connected; she texts him from time to time to say good luck or congratulate him on a good week, and has come to a few tournaments (neither of his wins)
* He has met Gonzaga basketball coach Mark Few a handful of times and goes to about one game a year
* Feels his best seasons on TOUR have come when he focused on his body and exercise rather than the mechanics of his golf swing
* His two girls are his wife, Dolly, and their dog, Dora

**Xinjun Zhang (SHIN-JUNE Zhung)**

* Born in Shanxi, China, a poor countryside area
* Had to walk through mountains in order to go to school
* Lives in Irvine, California
* He has only been playing golf since the age of 17.
* Around 2007, he was working as a security guard at a golf course in Xian. He eventually picked up a club and loved the sport.
* Received no formal training until earning a spot on the Chinese National Team in 2007.
* One of the first two players from mainland China to earn a PGA TOUR card, along with Marty Dou, in the 2017-18 season.
* Lost his card for 2018-19 but secured his return to the PGA TOUR for the 2019-20 season with his win at the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Dormie Network Classic and the Lincoln Land Championship. Was the Regular Season points leader.
* Became the first Chinese player to win on PGA TOUR Series-China, when he captured the Beijing Open in June 2014. Won a second time at the 2015 Chongqing Jiangnan NewTown KingRun Open. He also has six career runner-up finishes on PGA TOUR Series-China.
* Family: Has a daughter, Vanessa, born June 8, 2016 and a newborn son, Lucas, born June 23, 2019. Zhang’s birthday is June 10th.
* His wife, Jessica, has been with him for a long time and supported him through his tough years.
* His brother, Xiaojun, served on occasion as his caddie during his PGA TOUR Series-China years. Xiaojun played in 14 events between 2014 and 2016.
* Yuan Liu, who lives in Jacksonville, Florida and is a native of Orlando (he went to Dr. Phillips High School three miles from Bay Hill), has been his caddie for several years.
* Was introduced to Yuan by a mutual friend; first caddied for him in Orlando during 2016 Q School
* Yuan says Xinjun, though shy, can be a pretty opinionated person.
* Fellow Chinese players Marty Dou, Carl Yuan and Andy Zhang are his friends. This group of friends has a rule: When one of them cards a top-10 finish in a given tournament, that person must pay for the group’s dinner the following week. It’s a tradition that he and Marty Dou started in 2017 and which continues today. It’s always the local favorite dish or whatever anyone wants to eat.