## **2022 RBC Canadian Open Telecast Notes Friday Night (15 players)**

### Wyndham Clark

#### Things To Know

* Mother, Lise Clark, died from breast cancer in August 2013 after first being diagnosed in 1997. Wyndham wants to honor his mom's memory - he calls it "Play Big" -- and hopes to start a breast cancer foundation. A man of faith and leaned on it heavily following his mother's passing.
* At 6 years old, young Wyndham made his first hole-in-one. "I hit a driver from 125 and made it," Clark said. "I actually got on the front page of the Denver Post. I have that framed. So, I remember that as well." His Dad told him that he'd buy him a PlayStation if he made eagle and he paid up.
* Attended Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado and become close friends with classmate Christian McCaffrey, star running back for the Carolina Panthers NFL team. The two remain in contact and spent time together during the 2021 Wells Fargo Championship.
* Wyndham was in the final group of the Honda Classic is rookie year on TOUR and that was the first time he felt the pressure of winning a tournament and having a bunch of fans and cameras on him.

#### Background

* His mom took him to the driving range for the first time when Wyndham was just 3 years old. "I hit a bucket of balls and asked to hit another bucket," Wyndham recalled. Lise Clark remembered an elderly gentleman golfer asking how long her son had been playing the game. She said, "30 minutes," to which the man replied, "Don't change his swing."
* Following his mom's death, Wyndham fell into a deep depression at Oklahoma State and received a medical hardship after playing in two events during his freshman year; remained at Oklahoma State for three more seasons before transferring to Oregon (2016) for his senior year for a change in scenery.
* Pac-12 Player of the Year for the Oregon Ducks in 2016-17, with three individual tournament wins and 10 top-10 finishes in 11 starts. He shot 69 or better in 18 of 28 rounds that season, including all three rounds of the Pac-12 Championship, which he won. He was also named Golfweek Player of the Year, was a finalist for the Ben Hogan Award and was a semifinalist for the Division I Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year award.
* The Ducks also won the NCAA Championship in 2017. “I’ve never won a championship that big. Not only did I do it individually, but we did it as a team, which was awesome. It was really fun to share, and we all had a blast doing it." Head coach Casey Martin was a big reason why Clark chose to transfer to Oregon.

#### Family

* After his mother's death, Clark contemplated quitting the game. "It just wasn't as much of a priority for me after she passed," he said. "It got to where it was really hard and just not enjoyable. But I know that she wouldn't want me to do that. ... She's really helped me get through a lot of tough things since she's passed. I want to honor her and honor what she wanted me to do and try to make her proud."
* Father is Randall; has one brother, Brendan, and one sister, Kaitlin

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Loves fishing, fly fishing and ping pong. "My favorite passion is to fly fish. I grew up in Colorado, so I love to fish. So if I do have more than a week, and I can go back home or go do some trip, I'll do that. Kramer Hickok and I kind of started this little mini tradition that every year after the playoffs, we go do a fishing trip."
* Big sports fan. Specifically, his teams are the Denver Broncos (NFL), Colorado Avalanche (NHL) and St. Louis Cardinals (MLB).
* Wyndham's favorite food is sushi. "Sushi is my favorite food, I love sushi. I think all sushi tastes amazing, and then it's just how good is the sushi. "

#### Charity

* Strives to start a Foundation one day that focuses on breast cancer awareness and research.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Moved to Scottsdale when he started working with swing coach Boyd Summerhays.
* Was close with Jordan Spieth during junior golf days and visited the University of Texas together where Spieth tried to sell Clark on attending with him. Clark eventually decided on Oklahoma State.
* Was teammates with Talor Gooch (2012-13) and Kristoffer Ventura (2014-15; 2015-16) at Oklahoma State.

#### Other

* Resides in Scottsdale, Arizona. First moved to Las Vegas for 2.5 years after turning professional and played a lot with residents Scott Piercy and Ryan Moore who gave him valuable advice.
* Attended the 2007 PGA Championship at Southern Hills where he watched Tiger Woods compete for the first time
* Graduated from the Korn Ferry Tour in 2018 after finishing 16th in the Regular Season money list
* Asked once if it was an advantage or disadvantage growing up in Colorado as a golfer, Clark replied: "I think it's a disadvantage, personally. Because you don't ever really play at altitude at any of these events. The most you play at is maybe 1,000 feet. I think growing up in Colorado, not only are you playing different distances, but the ball actually spins less and is affected by the air less. So the ball goes straighter and doesn't go offline as much. When you go play in Florida or other places where the air is thick, your misses are exaggerated a lot more. I think that's definitely a disadvantage."
* Aced the long par-3 17th at Kiawah Island's Ocean Course during a practice round at the 2021 PGA Championship. It was the first time Clark had played the hole.

### Alex Smalley

#### Things To Know

* At the LOCALiQ Series event at Callaway Gardens Resort in Georgia in the summer of 2020, shot a second-round (54-hole event) 60, setting an 18-hole record on that circuit. Made seven consecutive birdies at one point (Nos. 15-3), including a 7-footer at his closing hole, No. 9, to secure the 60.
* Grew up playing Heritage Golf Course in Wake Forest, North Carolina. Shot a 60 there during the junior club championship, but he called the 60 he shot in the 2020 LOCALiQ Series' tournament a better round of golf because it was a course with which he was unfamiliar and he made nothing but birdies as opposed to two eagles when he was a junior.
* Caddie Don Donatello advised Alex to visit/practice at courses before each tournament: "Don's a very experienced caddie, he's been out here since '99, so he is very well prepared when we go to events. He tells me what I need to prepare for before every week."
* Among former Duke players playing on PGA TOUR-affiliated Tours, including Ryan Blaum, Adam Long, Wes Roach and Kevin Streelman.

#### Background

* Was a four-year letterman at Duke. In 2019, represented the U.S. at the Walker Cup, becoming the second Blue Devil in history to play in the tournament (Dick Siderowf: 1969, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979).
* Made history at Duke, where he holds best career scoring average, best single-season scoring average, most top-five finishes and most sub-70 rounds in school history.
* Won the Sunnehanna Amateur (Johnstown, Pennsylvania) in back-to-back years (2018 and 2019), becoming the first player to do so since Rickie Fowler, in 2007 and 2008. His 2019 win was a five-shot win over current Korn Ferry Tour player and PGA TOUR University alum Garett Reband. He won in 2018, beating another University of Oklahoma product Quade Cummins.
* Was the 2019 ACC Scholar Athlete of the Year. Carried a 3.6 GPA during his four years, graduating in Environmental Science that same year.
* Was medalist at the 2016 U.S. Amateur at Oakland Hills, defeating Dawson Armstrong and Gavin Hall. His 7-under 133 in stroke play tied him for the second-lowest 36-hole medal-play score in U.S. Amateur history (132 by Hank Kim in 1994, Gregor Main in 2011, Bobby Wyatt in 2012 and Wilson Furr (2020). In match play, lost to Dylan Meyer in the round of 32.
* Was born in Rochester, New York, where he father was attending the University of Rochester. Grew up in Wake Forest, North Carolina, attending Wake Forest High School.

#### Family

* Parents are his father, Terry, and mother, Maria. Both have caddied for their son. Has one sister, Katie. Maternal grandparents, Mike and Ruby Lyons, are big supporters who often travel to watch him play.
* Terry is a research assistant professor at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He earned his bachelor's from West Liberty State, his master's from Wake Forest and his Ph.D from the University of Rochester.
* Terry worked as a scientist in the private pharmaceutical industry until turning to education. He is an organic/medicinal chemist. His background includes synthetic organic chemistry and medicinal chemistry.
* Maria received her Ph.D from Duke in 1995.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Likes classic rock and roll and loves to go to Disney World.

### Keith Mitchell

#### Things To Know

* Keith and his wife, Claire, got married in Hawaii in January 2022, and he played the following week at the Sony Open in Hawaii (T7).
* Played golf at the University of Georgia, where his teammates included active/former PGA TOUR players Harris English, Joey Garber, Russell Henley, Greyson Sigg, Sepp Straka (roommate for three years) and Hudson Swafford.
* His mother, Cynthia, and her best friends travel every few months to his tournaments and call themselves the “Auntorage."
* Very proud of his path to the PGA TOUR, particularly his time spent on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica in 2015, where he collected five top-10s. Learned a lot from travels to unfamiliar places and how to deal with adversity.
* Bought a 1977 Jeep Cherokee Chief and has been gradually restoring it while at home in St. Simons Island, with the help of fellow TOUR player Michael Thompson. - Photos available.
* Once beat two-time Super Bowl champion quarterback Eli Manning in a football contest at a charity event at Sweetens Cove. Former NFL wide receiver Eric Decker was so impressed by his throwing motion that he asked if Keith played quarterback in high school. During a press conference ahead of the 2022 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am alongside partner Josh Allen, Keith called Decker's question the biggest compliment he has received in his career, on or off the golf course.

#### Background

* University of Georgia: Graduated from the University of Georgia in 2014 with a degree in Business and Real Estate. Earned All-America honors at Georgia in 2012. Did not play much as a freshman in 2011.
* The Baylor School: Attended The Baylor School, a private high school in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Fellow graduates of The Baylor School include active PGA TOUR players Harris English, Stephan Jaeger and Luke List, as well as Brooke Pancake, who joined the LPGA in 2013.

#### Family

* Father (Jerry): Father, Jerry, is a doctor in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and a member at The Honors Course. Note: parents are divorced.
* Mother (Cynthia) and the "Auntorage": Mother, Cynthia, plans girls trips to his tournaments with her best friends, who have all known him his entire life. The members of the group, who call themselves the "Auntorage," travel to tournaments every few months and wear matching hats. Note: parents are divorced.
* Sister (Brindley): Sister, Brindley, attended the University of St. Andrews in Scotland from 2009 to 2013. Would visit her as much as he could throughout college.
* Got married to his wife, Claire, in Hawaii in January 2022, and played the following week at the Sony Open in Hawaii (T7).

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Jeep restoration: Bought a 1977 Jeep Cherokee Chief and has been gradually restoring it while at home in St. Simons Island, with the help of fellow TOUR player Michael Thompson.

#### Charity

* Keith Mitchell Foundation: Started his own sports-based foundation based in Chattanooga and is passionate about providing opportunities to people in the area who did not have the same opportunities as he did growing up. Has enjoyed participating in fellowl TOUR player foundation events (i.e., Zach Johnson's) and looks forward to putting on fun charitable events to help people in Chattanooga.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Peyton Manning: Knows Peyton Manning and first met him at age 4. Partnered with Manning and Andy Roddick, among others, on Sweetens Cove, an award-winning nine-hole public golf course outside of his hometown of Chattanooga.
* Split with caddie Pete Persolja (per-SOL-yuh), also known as "Crunchy Pete," in the fall of 2021. Has known Persolja since he was 8 years old and wishes him nothing but the best, just felt that it was time for a change. Made his first start with new caddie, John Limanti, at the Hewlett Packard Enterprise Houston Open. Limanti was most recently working for Adam Scott.

#### Other

* On the PGA TOUR: Joined the PGA TOUR as a rookie for the 2017-18 season and earned his first career TOUR title at The Honda Classic in 2019.
* On Tuesday of tournament week at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2021, rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange to promote the beginning of the FedExCup Playoffs, checking off an item on his bucket list.

### Rory McIlroy

#### Things To Know

* Making 11th start at Muirfield Village Golf Club: "It's great to be back at Memorial. I think it's one of the guys favorite events on TOUR. I think everyone looks forward to it. Great to be here. These big player-hosted Invitationals are a pretty big deal. I've been lucky enough to win at Arnold's place at Bay Hill. I'd obviously love to win at Jack's place, too."
* His primary focus at this stage in his career (outside of his family, of course) is getting back to No. 1 in the world.
* Rory and Erica McIlroy welcomed first child, daughter Poppy, on August 31, 2020.
* His caddy is Harry Diamond, a childhood friend. They began working together in 2017. McIlroy met Diamond when he was 7 and Diamond was 12, at Holywood Golf Club. "I was an only child, and Harry was a big brother," he said in an interview. Diamond was the best man in McIlroy's wedding. As of 2014, Diamond was a +2.4 handicap; he represented Ireland as an amateur.
* McIlroy was elected PGA TOUR Player Advisory Council Chairman in 2021; the 16-member PAC advises and consults with the PGA TOUR Policy Board and Commissioner on issues affecting the TOUR. He is the first international player to serve on the Policy Board, dating back to the TOUR's first season in 1969.
* Representing Ireland, lost out on an Olympic Bronze Medal at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo when he was knocked out on the third hole of a seven-man playoff (eventually won by CT Pan of Chinese Taipei). McIlroy said, "I've never tried so hard in my life to finish third." Furthermore, McIlory - who skipped the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio - said, "I made some comments before that were probably uneducated and impulsive, but coming here experiencing it, seeing, feeling everything that goes on, not just Olympic golf but just the Olympics in general, that sort of Olympic spirit's definitely bitten me and I'm excited how this week's turned out and excited for the future."

#### Background

* He was raised as a Catholic, and identifies as Irish and Northern Irish.
* He was first introduced to golf by his father, Gerry (a scratch player), who coached him; McIlroy began by swinging a plastic club and trying to mimic his dad’s swing.
* McIlroy became the youngest golfer at the Holywood Golf Club at the age of 7.
* McIlroy attended St. Patrick’s Primary School and Sullivan Upper School.
* Left school at age 16 to concentrate on amateur golf. To support their son’s golf game, McIlroy's father held down several jobs to earn additional income, and Rosie, his mom, worked extra shifts at the local 3M plant.
* The idea of him as a child prodigy or ‘golf’s next big thing’ was given some credence when at just 9 years of age, he claimed the under-10 World Championship in Doral, Florida.
* In 2014, McIlroy won The Open Championship at Royal Liverpool, beating Rickie Fowler and Sergio Garcia by two strokes. McIlroy’s father won approximately $342,000 after making a bet with two of his friends that McIlroy would win The Open before the age of 26 (the 2014 event was the last chance for his father/friends to cash in).
* Shot 61 at Royal Portrush when he was 16 (the course record) at the Northern Ireland Open. He recalls every shot of the round and has said, “I probably had more confidence [at 16] than I do now.”
* At the age of 15, McIlroy was part of Europe's winning 2004 Junior Ryder Cup team at Westfield Country Club, held in conjunction with the Ryder Cup Muirfield Village Golf Club; Tony Finau was on the U.S. Team.
* Initially, McIlroy signed a letter of intent in 2004 to play college golf at East Tennessee State University. However, after becoming the youngest-ever winner of both the West of Ireland Championship and the Irish Close Championship in 2005, he decided to not attend college and continue playing golf around Europe (Seamus Power took his spot at East Tennessee State).
* After turning professional in 2007, McIlroy joined the European Tour. He had his first win on the European Tour in 2009, and on the PGA TOUR in 2010. At the age of 22, McIlroy was the youngest player to have earned EUR10 million in career earnings on the European Tour. He also became the youngest Affiliate Member to earn a tour card on the European Tour. In 2012, he became the youngest player to reach $10 million in career earnings on the PGA TOUR.

#### Family

* McIlroy is the only child to Rosie and Gerry McIlroy.
* Married to Erica Stoll. McIlroy did not properly set his alarm for his Sunday singles match at the 2012 Ryder Cup; Erica was head of Volunteer Management for Championships for the PGA of America and noticed his car had not yet left. The two were married in April 2017 at Ashford Castle in Ireland.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Symphony Ventures is an investment partnership established in 2019 by Rory and his management team, Sean O'Flaherty and Donal Casey, focused on investment opportunities across health, wellbeing and golf sectors; if he's not on the golf course and not with his family, he wants his time to be used on activities and investments that are interesting to him, personally.
* Hobbies include football (Manchester United), rugby, cars, movies, music and basketball.
* He is also a fan of the Northern Ireland National Team and Ulster Rugby.
* Huge fan of the movie "Happy Gilmore." McIlroy can recite just about every line and has interacted via social media with actor Adam Sandler around the movie's recent 25-year anniversary. In celebration of that milestone - and since Happy "won" the TOUR Championship - McIlory presented (virtually) a gold jacket and Calamity Jane putter to Sandler via social media. Sandler responded with, "Love you Rory. Thanks for the kind words. Look forward to playing with you all real soon."

#### Charity

* In 2014, McIlroy was announced as an official ambassador for PGA Junior League Golf.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* His longtime coach, Michael Bannon, started working with McIlroy when he was 8. Rory was golf obsessed and his dad had little idea what to do about it. Bannon, the club pro at Holywood Golf Course, stepped in and would teach McIlroy after school and on the weekends. Months after claiming his first major at the 2011 U.S. Open, McIlroy formally hired Bannon as his full-time swing coach.

#### Other

* McIlroy earned an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in 2012 at the age of 22 for his services to sport. Other male professional golfers to receive an MBE include Graeme McDowell and Justin Rose.
* He named his first dog after Ernie Els, calling him Theo (Els' first name).

### Matt Fitzpatrick

#### Things To Know

* Making fourth start at Muirfield Village Golf Club: "I like it a lot here. You come back every year and the golf course is in perfect shape. It's arguably one of the best that we play all year."
* On relationship with Jack Nicklaus: "Growing up, my dad always made sure that I knew that Jack was the best of all time, 18 majors. My dad was a big Jack fan. I'll be honest, it's kind of been very surreal the last five or six years since I've turned pro just because -- I wouldn't say I've spent a lot of time with Jack but I'm a member of the Bear's Club in Florida and he's there regularly. I've had regular lunches with him where he's just come and sat down with me."
* Fitzpatrick gained his DP World Tour card by coming through the final stage of DP World Tour Q-School in 2014 ... picking up birdies in three of his last six holes to finish in a share of tenth place. Earlier in his career, some of his DP World Tour professionals called Fitzpatrick the "Mondeo Man," for owning a Ford Mondeo even after winning. Fitzpatrick is the youngest Englishman to win five times on the DP World Tour.
* When Fitzpatrick won the 2013 U.S. Amateur, he became the first English winner of the U.S. Amateur since Harold Hilton in 1911. With the win, went to the top of the World Amateur Golf Rankings. This earned him the Mark H. McCormack Medal.
* Since winning the 2013 U.S. Amateur Championship at the The Country Club, has been back a handful of times to practice. "I think just having played the golf course so much, obviously it is going to be different. It's nine years later. Lots of things changed. My game's changed. I just think having previous positive history on it, I feel like it gives me confidence to feel like, you know, no one beat me that week. And you go into this week, thinking, you've played so well here before. It's one of those things you feel like suits you and it just gives you confidence going into the week knowing that you can do well."

#### Background

* Fitzpatrick was born in Sheffield, England.
* He started playing when he was nine and broke par as early as 13.
* Fitzpatrick grew up at Hallamshire Golf Club in Sheffield ... Famous members of Hallamshire Golf Club include 2009 Solheim Cup captain Alison Nicholas and BBC Sport presenter Dan Walker.
* When Fitzpatrick is home, he practices at the course and practice range or by Pete Cowen Golf Academy in Rotherham for up to eight hours.
* In 2012, Fitzpatrick won the Boys Amateur Championship at Notts Golf Club (Holllinwell)
* Played one season for Northwestern University outside Chicago before leaving school to turn professional.
* Fitzpatrick turned professional after the 2014 U.S. Open ... His professional debut was at the 2014 Irish Open. In 2019, Matt Fitzpatrick earned his PGA TOUR card ... thanks to a runner-up finish at the Arnold Palmer Invitational and a T-4 at the WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational.
* His first professional win was in the 2015 British Masters.
* With a T44 finish at the 2013 Open Championship and a T48 finish at the 2014 U.S. Open, became the first amateur since Bobby Jones in 1930 to hold low amateur titles at The Open Championship and U.S. Open at the same time.

#### Family

* Matt enjoys spending his time in Sheffield with the Fitzpatrick family dog Charlie. Charlie is a golden retriever and is 13 years old.
* Fitzpatrick's father is Russell Fitzpatrick and his mother is Susan Fitzpatrick ... Russell is a bank manager and manages his earnings whereas Susan helps out with booking flights (in relation to helping Fitzpatrick with his golf career) ... "My mum and dad have done everything, drove me up and down the country when I was an amateur, booked flights for me, any advice I've ever wanted, I'd always turn to them and what they thought first," he told CNN's Shane O'Donoghue.
* His parents contacted Rory McIlroy for advice about buying a house in Florida to prepare for PGA TOUR tournaments.
* Fitzpatrick's younger brother, Alex Fitzpatrick caddied for him when he won the 2013 U.S. Amateur. In 2013, Matt participated in the Walker Cup. Alex played Walker Cup in 2019, six years after Matt did. Matt goes to Wake Forest and in June of 2022 will turn pro.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Fan of Sheffield United F.C. (soccer) ... He had a season ticket at Bramall Lane for many years.

#### Charity

* Matt is a patron for the Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity. He enjoys fund raising at Dan Walker’s golf day and visits the hospital when he can.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Fitzpatrick's friends include Martin Kaymer, David Lipsky and Danny Willett.

#### Other

* Coached by Mike Walker and Pete Cowen... Phil Kenyon is his putting coach.
* Hired veteran caddie Billy Foster in 2019 after Foster split with Lee Westwood.
* As a kid, Fitzpatrick and his family vacationed at Hilton Head Island (photo is available). https://www.pgatour.com/video/2017/04/19/hilton-head-island-a-special-place-for-matthew-fitzpatrick.html
* In 2016, Fitzpatrick became one of the youngest Ryder Cup competitors in the event's history.
* Won the Omega European Masters in both 2017 and 2018, becoming the first player to successfully defend the title since the legendary Seve Ballesteros

### Jim Knous

#### Things To Know

* Pronunciation: “cuh-now-s”; nickname is Jimmy Hard-K (because of pronunciation).
* Met Jack Nicklaus in his hometown of Basalt, Colorado, when he was very young at a breakfast cafe. Nicklaus was in town to architect a golf course.
* First professional golfer from the Colorado School of Mines (Golden, Colorado) to compete on the PGA TOUR; graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering in 2012.
* As a senior on the CSOM golf team – and for school fundraising efforts – his job at the booster scramble tournament was to stand on the same tee box all day and hit drives. The boosters could pay $20 to use his drive. There was a woman from school tre collecting the money - her name was Heidi and eventually she became Jim’s wife.
* Being a Colorado native, skiing was a big part of his upbringing; says he would be a +2 handicap if compared to golf.
* Is still very involved with Colorado School of Mines. His home course, Bear Creek Golf Club, is also the home course for the CSOM golf team. Still visits college golf coach Tyler Kimble for help with his game both at Bear Creek and at the indoor facility on campus. Is one of the only professional athletes to ever come from the Colorado School of Mines, along with Tesho Akindele, who plays in the MLS for Orlando City.
* Living in Colorado, practices indoors often due to snow on the ground during the winter months.
* Dealt with a right wrist injury during his rookie season on TOUR (summer 2019), and later had surgery that put him out through the remainder of the 2018-19 season as well as the full 2019-20 season on TOUR. Made his return in the fall of 2020 at the Fortinet Championship on a Korn Ferry Tour Medical Extension.
* Playing on a Korn Ferry Tour Medical Extension (has two remaining events as of 7/5/2021)

#### Background

* Born in Bassalt, Colorado; lives in Littleton, Colorado outside Denver.
* Began playing golf when his father Steve introduced him to the game at age 4.

#### Family

* Wife: Heidi; Son Brady (2018), Annie (2020).

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Snow skiing, hiking, coffee, Sudoku, ping-pong, cooking (calls himself a “grillmaster), Denver Broncos (NFL/football).
* Speaks Spanish.

#### Charity

* Wife Heidi works at Children’s Hospital Colorado and Jim volunteers for events when he is home.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Teammates with Cory Bacon at Colorado School of Mines, who is now a PING Golf Engineer (Jim is a PING ambassador).

### Austin Cook

#### Things To Know

* Had an ideal situation growing up in that he lived by a hole at Ridge Pointe Country Club in Jonesboro, Arkansas. It was about a one-minute cart ride from his house to the range and he started driving the cart down there around age seven.
* Grandfather John H. Cook, who was a club pro in Minneapolis, played in 60 or so PGA TOUR events. His best finish was a tie for fourth at the 1967 Azalea Open. The highlight of his career was his brush with greatness in the 1965 Memphis Open, when he played with Jack Nicklaus in the final round at Colonial Country Club.
* Is an avid Green Bay Packers fan. Pictures/Videos available in Catalyst folders on Teams.
* In his fourth start on the PGA TOUR, won The RSM Classic in November 2017 by four shots. In attendance to share him fulfilling his life-long dream was his wife Crys and both sets of parents.
* Serving on the PGA TOUR Player Advisory Council (PAC) in 2022.

#### Background

* Graduated from University of Arkansas (2013, Biology) with a 3.9 GPA. Had to decide whether to pursue a career in golf or medicine.
* First picked up a club when he was two years old. Got his first set of plastic clubs at age two or three.

#### Family

* Married wife Crystopher, who goes by "Crys", in February 2016; daughters are Cameron and Carson Ann.
* Both he and his wife are very religious.
* Father is an anesthesiologist and uncle is a general surgeon.
* Both Austin's and Crys' parents still live in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Their families spent a lot of summer weekends at the same lake growing up.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Hunting, fishing, cooking, woodworking. Pictures/Videos available in Catalyst folders on Teams.
* Loves anything outdoors.
* Favorite book is The Bible.

#### Charity

* Involved with St. Jude Children’s Hospital and loves working with special-needs children. Pictures/Videos available in Catalyst folders on Teams.
* Supports Make-A-Wish Mid-South's Walk for Wishes, including the "Strong Like Hudson" campaign. Pictures/Videos available in Catalyst folders on Teams.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Was roommates with Andrew Landry and David Lingmerth at Arkansas.

#### Other

* Met Evander Holyfield at baggage claim at the Jacksonville International Airport.

### Matt Wallace

#### Things To Know

* Joined the TOUR in 2020
* Valero Texas Open: Began the final round of the Valero Texas Open with his first career 54-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR before finishing solo-third. Marked his second top-three result on TOUR and first since the 2019 PGA Championship (T3).

#### Background

* Born in Hillingdon, England on April 12, 1990
* Matt learned to play golf with his dad and as his dad would go into the golf club to grab a drink, Matt would still be outside practicing because he loved the sport so much.
* Comes from a very athletic family, with his parents being PE teachers. Was good at all sports including high-level cricket, football and rugby. Began taking golf seriously at age 18.
* Played collegiate golf at Jacksonville State University in Alabama, the same school fellow English golfer Danny Willett attended.
* Played on the Alps Tour (which feeds into the Challenge Tour ) to experience the travel and won six times.
* Always had an absolute need to win. Golf suits him when it comes to competitiveness

#### Family

* Matt has an older sister, 'Ra-sheen', Dad's name is Steve and mom's name is Nikki.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* From his time in Jacksonville, he's grown a deep interest in American sports.
* He's gotten very into wine and building his own collection.
* Into Forumla 1 racing and has been to the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix a few times
* A Manchester United football fan.

#### Charity

* Donated half of his 2020 PLAYERS Championship check to First Coast Blessings in a Backpack, equaling to over 4,000 meals for students.
* Gives his money to a dog rescue and Alzheimer's charity. His grandparents had Alzheimer's so he has a huge heart for supporting charities around the disease.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Close with all of the European guys, especially Tyrrell Hatton and Lee Westwood
* Good friends with Max Homa and Danny McCarthy after getting a place in Jupiter, Florida

#### Other

* Spent 9 months in the States due to the pandemic

### Sam Burns

#### Things To Know

* Collected his third win of the 2021-22 PGA TOUR Season with a playoff victory over good friend Scottie Scheffler at the Charles Schwab Challenge, two months after successfully defending his title at the Valspar Championship in March. "We're probably best friends. But at the same time I can assure you, he wanted to beat me more than anybody else and I wanted to beat him more than anybody else, and it just happened to be the two of us at the end."
* Sam's win at the 2022 Charles Schwab Challenge held added meaning with childhood hero David Toms being a past champion. Sam lists watching Toms win the 2011 Charles Schwab Challenge as his most memorable golf moment growing up.
* Scottie Scheffler is among his best friends on TOUR. "[Scottie] isn't necessarily defined by golf, so I think that will serve him well because obviously golf is very difficult and you're going to have great stretches and you're going to have some bad stretches. At the end of the day, he knows that golf isn't everything. It's not who he is, it's what he does. So I think that's probably the most important thing."
* Collected his second PGA TOUR title and second of 2021 at the Sanderson Farms Championship, where he began his professional career in 2017. Wore yellow in the final round in support of "Play Yellow," which is a PGA Tour-backed initiative spearheaded by Jack Nicklaus and his wife, Barbara, that is designed to bring the entire golf world together to help the 10 million kids treated at local children's hospitals each year. Burns' six-week-old nephew, Burns Walker, son of Burns' older sister, Tori Walker, was at Children's Medical Center in Dallas battling spinal meningitis at the time of Sam's win. Burns is doing better and is home with his parents.
* Owns a house in Choudrant, Louisiana, which doesn't even qualify as a 'town,' it's actually a village. With a population of less than 1,000, one stoplight (and a Subway), Burns has bucked the trend of his fellow 20-something professionals who' set up in South Florida or Scottsdale, Arizona. He instead decided to buy a home in The Orchards at Squire Creek, a new housing development adjacent to Squire Creek Country Club, a private Tom Fazio design about an hour from Shreveport, Louisiana - where Burns grew up.
* Was paired with Tiger Woods in the final round of the 2018 Honda Classic. Burns shot 68, Tiger shot 70. On the first tee, he put his hand on Tiger’s shoulders and told him: “Can you believe all these people came out here just to watch me?”
* Cracked the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career, moving to No. 10 in the first ranking of 2022.

#### Background

* Played two seasons with the LSU Tigers before electing to turn professional following his sophomore season in the summer of 2017.
* The top player in college golf during his sophomore season while being named the NCAA Division I Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year and a PING First-Team All-American by the Golf Coaches Association of America. Also named the SEC Player of the Year and a First-Team All-SEC selection in 2017.

#### Family

* His mother, Beth, insisted his brother Chase, who was 12 at the time, teach 4-year-old Sam how to hit golf balls in the back yard. Chase handed Sam an 8-iron from a brand-new junior set he received from Christmas and dropped a ball for Sam to hit. Chase expected Sam to take a big whiff, but Sam instead launched the ball 70 yards with a 5-yard draw. He did that five times in a row before their father Todd walked outside to watch for himself as Sam hit a perfect sixth ball in a row.
* Brother, Chase and father, Todd, played football at Louisiana Tech. Chase redshirted in 2007 as a freshman and was a member of the scout team in 2008. Todd played for La Tech in the early 1980s but he is not listed on any historical roster.
* Proposed to girlfriend of four years, Caroline Campbell, on Friday night of the 2019 RBC Heritage. The two both grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana and met in a class at church when they were little kids. They went to different high schools and didn't start dating until Sam was a freshman at LSU. Caroline was Sam's first Valentine at 5 years old. The two stayed in Palmetto Bluff outside of Hilton Head during tournament week and he decided to propose there because Caroline had spent a lot of time there as a kid. They were married on December 14, 2019 in Palmetto Bluff, S.C.
* His entire family was on hand to witness Sam win his first PGA TOUR title at the 2021 Valspar Championship. They were even invited to join in on the winner's interview on the green.
* Sam played football like his dad and brother but gave it up to pursue golf. Mostly played strong safety and some at quarterback.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Is able to participate in several outdoor activities around his home in Choudrant and loves bow hunting and fresh-water fishing
* Has a strong affinity for college football and is passionate about his LSU Tigers

#### Charity

* Hosted the American Junior Golf Association's second-ever Sam Burns Classic at The Landings Club in Savannah, Georgia from May 6-9, 2022. The Landings Club's Deer Creek Course is the site of his lone Korn Ferry Tour victory at the 2018 Savannah Golf Championship. Burns was on hand for the first round and even announced groups on the first tee: https://www.instagram.com/p/CdQ2CkDoEyy/?utm\_source=ig\_web\_copy\_link
* For a period of time early in his career, Sam donated a portion of each tournament paycheck to the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. He has never visited the hospital before, but he first became passionate about it through the work his wife Caroline’s sorority did in college.
* Passionate about charities helping those with Juvenile Diabetes. His best friend is a type 2 diabetic.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* David Toms is a big supporter of Sam's. Growing up in Shreveport, Sam grew very close with David and his son Carter, who was his teammate at LSU. Sam used to practice at Toms' 265 Golf Academy in Shreveport. Watching David win the 2011 Charles Schwab Challenge is one of Sam's favorite golf memories. Sam and Davis are still very close and go duck hunting together during their off time.
* Caddie is Travis Perkins, an All-American at Florida Southern who earned his PGA TOUR card in 2008 (best finish: T39, 2008 Puerto Rico Open). Perkins has looped for several other Tour players (Kris Blanks, D.A. Points, Brandt Snedeker, Aaron Wise) and was on the bag for Points' victory at the 2013 Houston Open.
* Grew up with APGA Tour player Ryan Alford, who received a sponsor exemption to compete in the 2022 Farmers Insurance Open. The two met when they were 6 years old and lived five minutes away from one another in Shreveport, Louisiana. They competed together in a nine-hole junior league and later as high school teammates at Calvary Baptist Academy.

### Scottie Scheffler

#### Things To Know

**NOTE for RBC Canadian Open week only: Scottie Scheffler's caddie this week is Jordan Guilford, with regular caddie Ted Scott participating in the BMW Charity Pro-Am on the Korn Ferry Tour. Jordan caddies for Andrew Putnam (who is not in the field) and has previously worked for Beau Hossler. He caddied for Scottie in the fall at Mayakoba (4th) and Houston (T2).**

* Missed the cut at the 2022 PGA Championship, just his second missed cut since an MC at the 2021 Charles Schwab Challenge. Also missed the cut last fall at the Shriners Children's Open.
* Played the 2014 AT&T Byron Nelson on a sponsor exemption as a 17-year-old amateur, finishing T22 with sister Callie on the bag. Carded an ace in the third round, holing his tee shot with a 5-iron from 221 yards at TPC Las Colinas. The high school grad was heading to the University of Texas later that summer to embark on his college career. Asked about not receiving the $50,000+ that would have come with his finish, Scheffler joked: "Jordan (Spieth) told me I would be mad when I get down to Austin next year and I don't have any money. I guess I'll be mad then. I'm not too upset right now."
* Wearing the Green Jacket, threw out the first pitch at a Texas Rangers-Houston Astros MLB game on April 27, 2022. In addition to meeting players and coaches, he and wife Meredith were both presented personalized Rangers jerseys. "I love Dallas. It's my home. It's probably where I will live the rest of my life. I don't root for any teams outside of Dallas. We grew up going to a lot of Mavs games in high school and I've become a bigger Rangers fan in the last couple of years. A lot of my buddies from college love the Astros, so it's fun to be a Ranger fan. We have a good rivalry. Hopefully, the Rangers start winning some championships."
* With 2022 Masters Tournament win: 1) First player to win four times in a six-start stretch on the PGA TOUR since Jason Day in 2015 (4 in 6: RBC Canadian Open, PGA Championship, FedEx St. Jude Championship, BMW Championship); 2) Fifth player to win four times in a PGA TOUR season, including a major, since the start of 2010; 3) Second player (ninth instance) to win four times in a PGA TOUR season, including a major and a World Golf Championships event. Tiger Woods accomplished the feat eight times between 1999-2009; 4) First player to collect four wins in a PGA TOUR season by the end of the Masters since David Duval in 1999; 5) Sixth World No. 1 to win the Masters; 6) Sixth player to win in his first PGA TOUR start as World No. 1; First FedExCup leader to win the Masters (FedExCup est. 2007).
* Reached No. 1 in the Official World Golf Rankings for the first time in his career on March 27, 2022 after championing the World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play. At just 25 years old, he became the sixth-youngest player to reach No. 1 since the world golf ranking began in 1986.
* On becoming World No. 1: "It's not something that I didn't want to achieve or didn't believe that I could do. It's just I grew up at Royal Oaks (GC in Dallas). I grew up wearing long pants to go practice because I wanted to be a professional golfer. That's what I dreamed of. I dreamed of being out here. I've always been, I would say, fiercely competitive, and so for me getting out here was a goal per se, and being out here, I like competing and I enjoy the challenge of playing out here every week. Just competing out here is really fun for me and just being able to win tournaments is pretty awesome. The rankings never really crossed my mind. It was always just about being out here and competing."
* Won first three PGA TOUR titles in a span of 42 days in 2022 -- Waste Management Phoenix Open, Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, Dell Technologies Match Play. Last player to win first three PGA TOUR events in less time was David Duval who won three events in a span of 21 days in 1997.
* 86-year-old grandmother, Mary DeLorenzo, was in attendance for his win at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. Mary lives in Greater Jacksonville.
* Comments about parents (Diane and Scott) after his API win: "A lot of my personality probably comes from my dad. My dad is fiercely competitive like I am. My parents, they made a lot of sacrifices to put me in a position where I'm able to do this for a living, and they made a lot of sacrifices when I was a kid. My sisters as well. They've seen a lot of golf tournaments in their lifetime, probably a lot more than they've wanted to. I'm very grateful for the sacrifices they made and obviously had such a huge impact on my life."
* On his struggles to grab his first elusive first PGA TOUR win prior to the 2022 WM Phoenix Open: "I do think I was making it a little bit hard. I think at certain points in some of those final rounds I'd make a few mistakes and maybe get down a little bit. In final rounds I always viewed it as I had to play kind of this perfect version of golf and I think on Sunday I kind of proved that's not necessarily the case. If you would have told me a year ago that I would be making those kind of mistakes and been able to still win a golf tournament, I would have been pretty surprised, but I guess I proved a little bit to myself that it doesn't take perfect golf and it's more about coming back from the mistakes than it is just kind of cruising the entire time."
* List of career professional accomplishments before first PGA TOUR win at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open are remarkable: 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year; posted 12th round of 59 or better in PGA TOUR history at the 2020 Dell Technologies Championship); qualified for TOUR Championship as a rookie in 2020; earned the Arnold Palmer Award as the 2020 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year; named a captain's selection for the 2021 U.S. Ryder Cup Team.
* Named one of six Captain's Selections by Steve Stricker for the 2021 U.S. Ryder Cup Team on September 8. Collected 2.5 points in three matches played including a 4&3 Singles victory over World No. 1 Jon Rahm.
* Teamed with Bubba Watson in his first appearance at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans in 2021 (finished T8), where caddie Ted Scott was working with his long-term player, Watson. Scheffler started with Scott on his bag at the 2021 RSM Classic and won in their fifth start together (including unofficial Hero World Challenge in December 2021). Met Scott through a Bible study composed of players and caddies and during their partnership in the 2021 Zurich; Scott had been Bubba Watson's caddie for nearly 15 years before the two split in September 2021. Said this about Ted Scott after his 2022 Masters win: "I can't speak highly enough of Ted as a person and as a caddie. I respect him so much just as a person. He's such a fun guy to be around. He's a man of faith and I love him. I can't say enough about him. You know, the qualities you look for in a person, Ted embodies pretty much all of them. He's humble. He's hard-working. He's honest. He's a good time to be around. I even, he's just -- he's an amazing guy. To be able to have him on the bag is so special."

#### Background

* Born in Ridgewood, New Jersey; moved Dallas when he was six.
* Attended Highland Park High School in Dallas and won three individual state titles in golf - the only other person to have done that was Jordan Spieth; famous alumni of Highland Park include Super Bowl champion Matthew Stafford, MLB pitcher Clayton Kershaw, Pro Football Hall of Fame members Bobby Layne and Doak Walker and actress Jayne Mansfield.
* As a junior, won the 2013 U.S. Junior Amateur and was the 2013 AJGA Player of the Year.
* In 2014 at the age of 17, participated in the AT&T Byron Nelson (T22) and the FedEx St. Jude Classic (MC) as a sponsor exemption.
* Began working with famed instructor Randy Smith at Royal Oaks Golf Club after moving to Dallas. Smith guided Scheffler through the pain and adjustments of going from 5-foot-2 in seventh grade to 6-foot-3 when he went to Texas. Thrived under Smith, winning 93 times on the Northern Texas PGA Junior circuit. Smith on Scheffler: "People wanted me to look at this little 6-year-old kid. It took me about 15 minutes, and I knew right then. It was so obvious. He hit low and high. Here's this tiny little kid who could hit every shot. He could shape it, move it, and he was doing it by feel." Smith says Scheffler has a "blue-collar work ethic with an artist's imagination and high intelligence."
* Played collegiately at the University of Texas from 2014 to 2018, where he helped the team win three Big 12 championships and was named Phil Mickelson Freshman of the Year in 2015; member of U.S. Walker Cup Team in 2017. At UT, was teammates with future PGA TOUR members Beau Hossler, Kramer Hickok and Doug Ghim.
* On playing four years and graduating from the University of Texas with a degree in Finance in 2018: I really had so much fun in college, I never entertained the thought of turning pro. I feel like I could have turned pro after my first year in college. But I made great friends and grew up a lot. It was an important time for me. That's not to say everyone should stay four years.
* Voted 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year (two wins) and 2020 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year (5th in FedExCup standings, seven top-10 finishes; round of 59 at THE NORTHERN TRUST at TPC Boston). Just the third player to be named the Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year and PGA Tour Rookie of the Year in successive seasons (Stewart Cink, 1996-97; Sungjae Im, 2018-19).

#### Family

* Married Meredith Scudder on December 4, 2020.
* Father, Scott, played high school basketball at the same school as Vince Lombardi attended: St. Cecilia High School of Englewood, N.J. Mother, Diane, went to high school with and was friends with the late James Gandolfini at Park Ridge High School in Park Ridge, New Jersey. While Scottie was growing up, Scott was a stay-at-home father for four Scheffler children while Diane was (and still is) Chief Operating Officer at a law firm.
* Three sisters: Callie, Sara and Molly. Callie played golf at Texas A&M.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Basketball; excellent shooter but was small (5-2) in seventh grade so focused on golf. Grew nearly 12 inches in one year and entered the University of Texas at 6-3.

#### Charity

* Close to a non-profit -- Triumph Over Kid Cancer -- founded by his late friend James Ragan who was from Corpus Christi, Texas. The two met while playing on the Texas Legends Tour. Ragan had been diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer, in June 2006, when he was 13. He went on to become a public advocate and fundraising force for pediatric cancer. When Scheffler won the U.S. Junior Amateur in 2013, he choked up during a Golf Channel interview when asked about Ragan. Scheffler said he thought about his friend several times during the final match. Ragan passed away at the age of 20 in 2014.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Agent Blake Smith is the son of Scottie's instructor, Randy Smith.
* Grew up playing in Northern Texas PGA junior tournaments with fellow PGA TOUR professionals Jordan Spieth and Will Zalatoris. The three combined to play 199 Northern Texas PGA junior events with 63 wins between them.
* More on coach Randy Smith: Based at Royal Oaks Country Club in Dallas, Scottie's instructor Randy Smith is a 18-time PGA of America National Award winner and PGA of America Hall of Famer. He has developed a reputation over 40 years as the go-to instructor for young players in North Texas, including Justin Leonard, Harrison Frazar, Kris Cox, Matt Weibring, John Rollins, Martin Flores, Colt Knost, Cody Gribble, Paul Haley and Ryan Palmer. Smith has worked with Scottie since he was around 8 years old when the Scheffler family became members at Royal Oaks. Under Randy's tutelage, Scottie thrived as a junior golfer in North Texas, winning 93 of the 136 Ewing Automotive NTPGA Junior Tour events that he played in, often playing in the older divisions.

#### Other

* Won The Genesis Invitational Collegiate Showcase in 2018 as a senior at the University of Texas at Riviera Country Club. Other winners have included Will Zalatoris (2015) and Sahith Theegala (2016).
* During THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2021, penalized himself one stroke for surpassing the three-minute time period (Rule 18.2) allowed in search of an errant second shot on the 15th hole of the opening round. After the round was over, Scheffler talked with fellow competitor Daniel Berger and PGA TOUR Rules Officials to determine what to do. "We couldn't figure it out", Scheffler said. "They didn't have ShotLink data or anything, so just went with it was over 3 minutes. Just too long."
* Played three times in The Junior PLAYERS Championship conducted by the AJGA: (2011/5th - 2012/T33 - 2013/6th).

### Patrick Rodgers

#### Things To Know

* In 2017 - seemingly out of nowhere - Rodgers led the John Deere Classic by two strokes entering the final round. He appeared on his way to his first PGA Tour victory, going 3-under through 13 holes in the final round. He played the last five holes 1-over, however, opening the door for Bryson DeChambeau to claim the tournament with a back-nine 30 and a 15-foot birdie on the final green. Despite the heartbreaking finish, Rodgers recorded his career-best finish on the PGA Tour and earned enough FedExCup points to assure he would keep his card for the 2017-18 season.
* Patrick and wife Jade welcomed their first, a son, Rafi Fox Rodgers, born 12/31/2020.
* 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).
* 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 hiseven professional years as quarterback of the Indianapolis Colts, one of Patrick’s favorite sports teams.

#### Background

* Stanford (alum). In three seasons, he won 11 times, tied with Tiger Woods for most wins at Stanford.
* 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.

#### Family

* Married Jade Olivia Gordon (British stunt coordinator, film assistant, actress) on May 26, 2019.
* Father, Charlie (Developer); Mother, Judy (Pharmacist); Sister, Caroline.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* He competed in all sports growing up and played high school basketball in the great basketball state of Indiana.
* Favorite sports teams: Indianapolis Colts (football), Indiana Pacers (basketball).

#### Charity

* Indiana Junior Golf and an Alzheimer’s non-profit.
* 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 available)

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Ollie Schniederjans, Justin Thomas, Jordan Spieth (fellow members of the Class of 2011); Zach Johnson.

#### Other

* Twitter: @PRodgersGolf
* Instagram: @prodgersgolf

### Lee Hodges

#### Things To Know

* Never thought about playing professional golf as a kid. His ultimate goal was to play in college.
* Loved baseball growing up; he says if he had been a bigger kid he probably would've never played golf because he loved baseball so much and that's what all his friends played, but he didn't reach 5' until the seventh grade. His high school team played for the Alabama State Championship his senior year.
* Began his college career at University of Alabama - Birmingham, where he was a two-time All-Conference USA selection (2015 and 2016) as well as 2015 Conference USA Freshman of the Year. Later transferred for his final two seasons to the University of Alabama. Earned all-region honors in his first season with the Tide. As a senior, he shot his 54-hole career low mark of 9-under par 201 (67-65-69) at the Jerry Pate National Intercollegiate, where he finished with a season best third-place result.
* Credits each of his college coaches for helping to develop him differently as a player. Says Coach Alan Murray (UAB) took him from a raw golfer and sharpened his skills, and Coach Jay Seawell (Alabama) "really took me over the top" from a skill standpoint, to a level he never anticipated he could get.

#### Background

* Born in Huntsville, Alabama, and grew up in Ardmore, a small town with a population of under 2,000 (83 people in his graduating class). The road through the middle of town is called Main Street, which is actually is the state line between Tennessee and Alabama; there's a mayor of Ardmore, Tennessee, and a mayor of Ardmore, Alabama (Hodges' step-grandfather is the mayor of Ardmore, Alabama).
* Earliest golf memory is playing with his dad.
* Grew up playing Canebrake Club in Athens, Alabama. He said the course was easy but it taught him to make a lot of birdies. In 2012, at the young age of 14, he won the Canebrake Club Championship and that's when people started to realize just how good he really was. He said, at the time, he remembers thinking that would be the highlight of his career. His success is one of the main reasons the club has seen such an insurgence of young golfers participating in the sport. (Video footage of this is available.)
* His senior year at high school, he did an interview with the local newspaper and he said he wanted to win every tournament he played in. He won every tournament except for one (laughs about how he was beaten by "a kid who never broke par before and shot 6-under in a high school tournament to beat me by one."). He also won the 2014 Alabama AAAA championship (individual title).

#### Family

* Wife, Savannah; the two are "the definition of high school sweethearts," according to Lee, and were married June 19, 2021.
* Savannah was the head of recruiting for Alabama football in her junior and senior year on the student side, so "she's got some insights on Nick Saban."
* Cousin, Logan Stenberg, was the starting left guard at the University of Kentucky before being drafted in the fourth round of the 2020 NFL Draft (Detroit Lions; still on the team).

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Loves to fish and hunt when he's not playing or practicing.
* An avid Alabama fan, even before he transferred his junior year; his family has had Alabama (football) season tickets "ever since I could walk."
* Uses the same coin as a ball marker, one he got while playing a PGA TOUR Canada event. After Monday qualifying, he got a coin as change from a coffee shop - a Toonie (a Canadian 2-dollar coin) that for some reason had a white sticker with a red "x" on it. He used it that week and came in 10th, and then had a third- and a second-place soon after.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* Has played a lot of matches over the years at Greystone Country Club (Birmingham, AL) and Shoal Creek Club (Shoal Creek, AL) with Smylie Kaufman, Robby Shelton, Jeff Curl, Bo Hayes, Michael Johnson and Trey Mullinax.
* Cody Reed - "Mr. Baseball" for the state of Alabama - was on his high school baseball team/in the same graduating class; Reed went on to play for the Arizona Diamondbacks right out of high school.

### Charley Hoffman

#### Things To Know

* Longtime friend of Xander Schauffele, against whom he enjoyed "money games." Eventually, after losing as frequently as he did to Xander, Hoffman decided against any further money games against the world-class player. "We stepped to tnd I'm like 'I'm not playing you. I'll play a team game. I'll get my partner or whatever, but I'm not playing you,'" Hoffman said. "It's the first time I've ever said that to anyone."
* Qualified for the Farmers Insurance Open three times as an amateur (1996/76th, 1998/MC, 2000/MC)

#### Background

* Member of the 1998 NCAA Championship team at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Teammates included Chris Riley, Chad Campbell, Bill Lunde and Adam Scott , who all still play or once played on TOUR.
* Began playing golf at age 7 with grandfather of former TOUR player Bill Lunde
* Competed in San Diego Junior Golf Association with fellow TOUR member Pat Perez. Won the California state high school championship in 1994 and 1995, becoming the first player to win twice.

#### Family

* Has known wife, Stacy, since attending high school together (Poway High School) outside Las Vegas. Married in 2009; two daughters (Claire JoAnn, Katelyn Elizabeth).

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Snowboarding, jet skiing, cooking, live music.

#### Charity

* Along with wife, Stacy, founded Charley Hoffman Foundation in 2009 to benefit children-based charities in San Diego and Las Vegas. Among the many beneficiaries of the CHF are Cystic Fibrosis Foundation San Diego, Pro Kids, San Diego Junior Golf Association and Goodie Two Shoes.
* His foundation's annual event is hosted the same week of the Farmers Insurance Open. It features a golf outing, auction and parties with live music. http://www.charleyhoffmanfoundation.org/about-the-charley-hoffman-foundation.html
* The week of the 2022 Farmers Insurance Open, Charley and wife, Stacy, had DJ Gregory speak to students at the couple's daughters' elementary school about the importance of pursuing dreams. The fifth-grade students were so inspired by Gregory, who has cerebral palsy, they initiated a fundraising "Jog-a-Thon" in April. Called the "Achieve-a-Thon," the school's students who participated raised money which went directly to Gregory's Foundation, "Walking for Kids."

### Shane Lowry

#### Things To Know

* Shane has a love of all sports, but particularly Gaelic football, rugby and soccer. He sponsors the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) in Ireland and gets to as many matches as possible in his home county of Offaly to cheer on the underage teams.
* Began playing at 13, inspired by his uncles. He was single digits by 15 "When I was a kid, I spent my summers playing pitch and putt on the local course with my mates. It was there, in Clara, Co. Offaly, Ireland that I learned the basics and short game without even knowing it. My family was not really into golf, so I taught myself how to play. I took every chance I had to get out on the course. I can't say it didn't frustrate my family and teachers a bit back then. I think they've forgiven me now though."
* Credits his strong short game to practicing on the green complexes at Esker Hills where he grew up playing: "I think the reason my short game is quite good is that all the greens (at Esker Hills) there are raised. I used to play a lot of golf on my own and I'd practice my chipping a lot. You'd always have to chip it up with a little bit of spin to get the ball close. I was never taught how to play them but I chipped and I chipped and I chipped and over time I developed it."
* Shane's father Brendan and uncles Sean and Mick won the All-Ireland football championship with county Offaly on the same team in 1982, it was a legendary final when they stopped a Kerry dynasty from winning five All Irelands in a row.
* Won his home event, the Irish Open, as an amateur in 2009 at Galgorm Castle. Turned pro immediately afterwards. "Life did change overnight. I wasn't even a student at that point, having left college. I was just an amateur golfer. I hadn't much money in my bank account I can tell you. Then all of a sudden you're on the European Tour." "[The Irish Open] was a huge thing for the town and everyone in it. I had a parade in the town! Where we're from, when your team wins the county football championship, the whole team is paraded through the town. That was me! I couldn't believe it really. We went into the early hours that night."
* His Mother bet on him at 250-1 to win the Irish Open
* His Grandmother hadn't had a Brandy since 2009 but she had two to get through her nerves watching Shane win The Open in 2019
* 2007 Irish Amateur Champion
* First win as a professional on the DP World Tour was at 2012 Portugal Masters
* In qualifying for the 2010 Open, Lowry equaled Nick Faldo’s course record 62 at Sunningdale
* 2015 WGC Bridgestone Champion and 2019 Champion Golfer of the Year winning The Open at Royal Portrush
* 1 of 3 Captain's picks by 2020 Ryder Cup Captain Padraig Harrington's European side, where he recorded a 1-2-0 record at Whistling Straits.

#### Family

* Wife, Wendy, and two daughters, Iris (born 2017) and Ivy (born 2021)
* He and his wife Wendy eloped to New York City in 2016 and it is one of their favorite places to visit.
* He now spends the majority of his time in West Palm Beach where he is a member of The Bear's Club. He still has a place in Ireland which he calls home.

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Shane is also very interested in horse racing and has been involved with two horses with friends.

#### Charity

* Enjoys giving back especially working with the The Children's Hospital in Ireland. He has been an ambassador for Temple Street Children's Hospital in Dublin for yeas and has their logo placed on the belly of his bag.
* Shane sponsors the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) in Ireland, which promotes indigeneous Gaelic games such as Gaelic football, rugby, soccer, hurling and rounders.

#### Inner Circle/Special Connections

* He currently works with caddie Bo Martin, swing coach Neil Manchip and putting coach Stephen Sweeney who is nicknamed Daniel O'Donnell after a famous Irish singer wo is from the same town.

### Doug Ghim

#### Things To Know

* Doug grew up playing municipal golf courses and his family had modest financial means. In order to play high-level junior golf tournaments, he received financial assistance through the AJGA ACE Grant, a cause he supports as a professional golfer.
* Secured his card by making his 10-foot par putt on the 18th hole at the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Championship. https://twitter.com/KornFerryTour/status/1168638936178155521
* Big sneakerhead. Wants to buy a special pair of Jordans after his 1st win on TOUR

#### Background

* PGATOUR.com feature (April 26, 2021): https://www.pgatour.com/tour-insider/2021/04/26/doug-ghim-making-most-of-second-chance.html
* At the age of 10, Doug attended the Korn Ferry Tour event in Glenview, Illinois, and followed Jason Day. Day signed a golf ball for Doug and told him “I hope to see you someday out here.” When Doug played the Masters in 2018, he approached Jecounted this story. Doug said: “He smiled ear to ear, and he was like, ‘that’s crazy. I feel so old, but it's pretty cool to know that I could impact somebody and then actually be able to play against that same person.’” https://www.pgatour.com/beyond-the-ropes/2019/10/21/what-a-day-when-10-year-old-doug-ghim-met-future-pga-tour-star-jason-day.html
* Doug grew up playing municipal courses; he was not a member of a country club. He recalled playing with used clubs purchased off eBay. He said he didn’t open a box of new golf balls until he was about 16; even then they were free.
* As a child, Doug had an interest in baseball. But once he picked up a club, it became clear golf was his passion. In golf, he got to hit a ball — his favorite part of baseball — and didn’t have to bother with throwing or catching.

#### Family

* His parents immigrated from South Korea, and the family had modest means. His father Jeff, an architect who also taught golf, put up a net in their backyard in Arlington Heights, Illinois, a cube-like contraption with metal pipes. His mother Susan, a flight attendant, was gone a fair amount, but his older sister, Deborah, helped look after him.
* Extremely close with his father, Jeff, who introduced him to golf and caddied for Doug throughout amateur golf. Before Doug turned pro and made his debut at the 2018 Travelers Championship, he made the tough decision: to replace his dad and hire a professional caddie. https://www.pgatour.com/tour-insider/2018/06/20/doug-ghim-incredible-ride-family-dad-pro-travelers-championship.html
* The 2018 U.S. Open was the last time Jeff caddied for Doug. At the time, Doug said: “I told him there are a lot of heroes that I got to meet that week, whether it was Tiger, Phil, Jason Day, Jordan Spieth. But I wanted him to know that he’s always bn my hero, and the person that I looked up to the most.”
* Doug's dad, Jeff, introduced him to the game when Doug was 6 years old (Labor Day 2002). It began with a trip to Twin Lakes in Palatine, Illinois, which features a park district nine-hole executive golf course with only two holes longer than 180 yards and a driving range in which patrons launch balls into one of the lakes. https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/arlington-heights/sports/ct-ahp-doug-ghim-pga-tour-card-tl-0919-20190915-tmtxo4xmxbewjoq7f5rntyaadq-story.html

#### Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

* Chicago sports fan (MLB/Cubs, NBA/Bulls and NFL/Bears).
* Favorite vacations include Switzerland and Scotland/St. Andrews.
* Favorite college team to follow are the Texas Longhorns.

#### Charity

* Because he was a recipient of an AJGA ACE Grant, which gave him the financial means necessary to play a national golf schedule, Doug gives back to the AJGA Foundation.

#### Other

* Was the 2018 Ben Hogan Award recipient (nation's best collegiate golfer) as a senior at the University of Texas.
* At Texas, he was teammates with future pros Scottie Scheffler, Beau Hossler, Kramer Hickok, Taylor Funk and Gavin Hall.
* Ghim was Futurecast at 2021 Valspar and played a practice round with Scheffler (https://twitter.com/PGATOUR/status/1387553465006702593). Cam Morfit's story: https://www.pgatour.com/tour-insider/2021/04/26/doug-ghim-making-most-of-second-chance.html