

Sanderson Farms Championship Rd. 3 telecast notes

Thomas Detry

Things To Know

- Born in Brussels, Belgium, Detry was five years old when he picked up his first golf club. Growing up, he split most of his childhood years between the driving range, tennis court and field hockey pitch. It was only around 11 or 12 years old that he really started to take my golf game seriously.
- He started competing in international golf tournaments when he was 13 years old. In 2009, when he was 16 years old, Detry won the Dutch Junior Open, a competition for young golfers aged under 21.
- Following fellow golfer and good friend Thomas Pieters, Detry studied Business Management at the University of Illinois from 2012 to 2016. He was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2013 and the Big Ten Golfer of the Year in 2015. He won the 2016 Big Ten Championship.
- Represented Europe in the 2010 Junior Ryder Cup, losing out to a USA team which included Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas.
- One of his best memories of his professional career so far has been the entire experience surrounding the 2018 World Cup. He and Pieters played together. He said of this experience, "There are very few opportunities in this sport where you get the chance to represent your country before yourself as an individual, but to win and become a World Champion with your best friend by your side made it truly unforgettable."
- He credits his friendship with both Pieters and fellow Belgian Nicolas Colsaerts as a major asset to his game.
- Despite the global restrictions, he did his best to make the most of 2020 and to continue making progress. He made his first appearance at a Major Championship - the US Open at Winged Foot as well as broke into the Top 100 on the OWGR.

Mackenzie Hughes

Things To Know

- As of July 19, Hughes was missing his golf clubs, four suitcases and two car seats from his travels to Scotland (has documented the headache on Twitter). On July 26, PING was able to make him a set like he had before (he didn't have a backup set) but his putter is about 10 years old and the equipment company doesn't make that edition anymore, so they tried their best to make something similar.
- Has wins across multiple PGA TOUR-sanctioned Tours: 2016 RSM Classic (PGA TOUR), 2016 Price Cutter Charity Championship (Korn Ferry Tour), 2013 Cape Breton Celtic Classic (PGA TOUR Canada).
- Credits the 2020 Honda Classic, and runner-up finish, as a turning point of sorts on his mentality inside the ropes. from an April 2022 Toronto Sun article, he admitted that he's "sometimes prone to thinking negatively. Of contemplating worst-case scenarios on the course. Of maybe being too nice between the ropes." He also said he craves "having a bit more of that step-on-your-throat mentality....I'm super competitive and have a lot of grit and fight, but sometimes it's saying "Look, I'm better than you and I'm going to beat you."
- Inducted into the Varsity "K" Hall of Fame at Kent State University in October 2021 alongside Corey Connors and Taylor Pendrith. The 2021 class includes 14 former student-athletes.
- Was a standard bearer in Mike Weir's group at the 2004 RBC Canadian Open, shortly after Weir won the Masters.
- Had "goosebumps and shivers" the first time he played with Tiger Woods, which was during the third round of the 2018 PLAYERS Championship, and ended up shooting his best round of the season. He had the chance to meet Woods about two months earlier at the Arnold Palmer Invitational, as Woods was sitting five feet away from Hughes in the locker room, but he couldn't muster up the courage to walk over and say hello.

Background

- Born in Dundas, Ontario, Canada; currently lives in Charlotte, North Carolina
- Got his start in golf at 7 when his parents brought him along to the driving range at Dundas Valley Golf and Country Club (Stanley Thompson-designed course) instead of hiring a babysitter. In 2017, the Par-3 course at Dundas Valley was renamed the 'Mackenzie Hughes Par 3' as a homage to the place where it all began for Hughes.
- After going back and forth between PGA TOUR Canada and the Korn Ferry Tour from 2013-2016, he broke through in 2016 for his first Korn Ferry Tour title (2016 Price Cutter Charity Championship) to secure PGA TOUR card.
- Won his first PGA TOUR title in only his ninth start at the 2016 RSM Classic in a 5-man playoff that went to Monday. He became the first rookie in 20 years to go wire-to-wire for his first PGA TOUR victory. According to his good friend Corey Connors, Hughes celebrated by splurging on a new TV.
- Grew up wanting to play hockey professionally but pursued golf instead. He went on to win the 2011 and 2012 Canadian Amateur Championship; turned pro in 2013.
- Played for the Kent State University golf team with Corey Connors under Coach Herb Page (Canadian Golf Hall of Famer).
- When in Charlotte, plays golf at Longview Country Club in Waxhaw.

Family

- Married to wife Jenna (2016) and has two sons: Kenton Robert (2017) and Cohen Alan (2020); Kenton is named in part as tribute to Kent State, where Mackenzie and Jenna met. Expecting third child in December 2022
- According to good friend Corey Conners, Hughes "spent a long time convincing Jenna to go out with him at Kent State..."
- Moved to Charlotte, North Carolina with wife, Jenna in 2012. The duo decided on Charlotte when Jenna was offered a job there, and it so happened to be warm enough during the winter months for Mackenzie to train and practice. Now with two kids, the city of Charlotte is the perfect place to raise a family; "It's hard to imagine us being anywhere else. Charlotte is a growing city with a lot of families that seem like us in that they're young and blossoming. It's a great place to raise a family, and we see ourselves here for a long time."
- Mom (Sandra) is a vascular access nurse at Hamilton Health Sciences in Ontario, Canada; worked on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic; calls his mom his "biggest supporter." He helped raise money for the Hamilton Health Services COVID Response team (where his mother works as nurse) with the funds used for vital medical equipment, research and patient amenities.
- Jenna, Kenton and Cohen travel with Mackenzie on TOUR for most tournaments. Hughes notes: "It's nice since I get to see them every day, which I know eventually won't be the case. There are many families out there that also travel and have kids similar ages that we'll hangout and do fun things with. We also have daycare on the road for our kids. These teachers travel with the TOUR and help kids learn and discover things from a young age. The environment for families is great."
- Notes his mom (Sandra), wife (Jenna), and in-laws (Jenna's parents Alan and Karen) as integral parts of his support system.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Grew up a loyal Toronto Sports fan; supports hockey team Maple Leafs (NHL), basketball team Raptors (NBA) and baseball team Blue Jays (MLB); since moving to Charlotte, has adopted the Carolina Panthers as his football team (NFL).
- Favorite college team is Kent State Golden Flashes.
- Enjoys fitness, playing other sports and being outdoors.
- Motto he lives by: "Success is never owned. It is rented, and the rent is due every day."
- Dream foursome would include Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods.
- Lists Arnold Palmer as one of his idols.
- MacKenzie will not eat anything chocolate.

Charity

- Hughes was heartbroken by the spring 2022 fatal auto accident that killed six members of the University of the Southwest golf teams as well as the coach. Two other members of the men's golf team, both from Canada, survived the crash, and Hughes donated \$500 per birdie during the Valspar Championship to their care. His week "didn't go as planned" but his seven birdies "meant something much more" as he was able to donate \$3,500. Fellow Canadian and TOUR player Nick Taylor also donated \$500 per birdie, and raised an additional \$6,000 via his 12 birdies at the Valspar Championship.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Friends with former NFL quarterback Alex Smith; met during 2018 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.
- Helen Ross wrote a great piece on the friendship between MacKenzie Hughes and Corey Conners, which has endured nearly two decades. The two grew up 75 miles from each other, idolizing Mike Weir (and Tiger Woods, of course). They were members of the Canadian National Team, as well as at Kent State, represented Canada in the 2020 (21) Tokyo Olympics and were in each other's weddings. The story is full of great quotes from the two of them and photos from their friendship, as well as a painting of the two of them as children that Conners' grandmother had commissioned. "For two kids that grew up and trained together and came from small towns in Ontario to both be finding some pretty good success on the PGA TOUR and to do it together is really quite extraordinary," Hughes says. "But that's why you dream big, and you work hard."

Sepp Straka

Things To Know

- Played at the University of Georgia from 2011 to 2016, where his teammates included his twin brother, Sam, Keith Mitchell, Joey Garber and Greyson Sigg. Was a co-captain with Lee McCoy his senior season. Remains a huge Georgia Bulldogs fan.
- Earned his first PGA TOUR title at the 2022 Honda Classic, becoming the first Austrian and the 14th player from the University of Georgia to win on TOUR. Wife, Paige, flew in Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. to surprise him, after spending Saturday night at her father's surprise 60th birthday party.
- Was born in Austria and lived in Vienna until he was 14, when his family moved to Valdosta, Georgia. Became the first PGA TOUR member from Austria.
- Represented Austria at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo and finished T10. 2021-22 PGA TOUR rookie Matthias Schwab was also a member of Team Austria (T27).
- Will bring Diet Coke to tournaments if he knows they will only provide Pepsi. After Sepp lost in a playoff to Will Zalatoris at the FedEx St. Jude Championship, his wife, Paige, joked on Instagram, "I'm not saying he would have won if this were a Coke week, but I'm also not NOT saying it."
- Was so discouraged by his rough start to the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour season that by July, he had already registered for Q-School again. He won the following week at the KC Golf Classic, and eventually secured his PGA TOUR card through Korn Ferry Tour Finals (T3/2018 Korn Ferry Tour Championship).
- Entered the 2021-22 PGA TOUR Season as a newlywed. Married Paige Dean (an Auburn graduate) the weekend before the start of the new season. The couple got engaged in December 2020 and were married on September 11, 2021 at Shoal Creek in Alabama. Georgia friends in attendance included UGA head men's golf coach Chris Haack, Keith Mitchell and Chris Kirk. Paige was certain she'd marry an Auburn man, but met Sepp at a bar in Auburn in November 2017 only to learn he was a UGA fan and the rest was history!
- His mother, Mary, first traveled to Austria to be with her boyfriend, who was designing a golf course in Salzburg. After they broke up, Mary remained in the country and began working in a golf shop, where she one day sold a glove to Peter, Sepp's father.
- Credits brother, Sam, with getting him into golf, despite both parents being big fans of the sport. Both boys grew up playing soccer (Sam was a forward and Sepp a goalie), but one day, after they attended a week-long junior golf camp, Sam told Sepp they were quitting the soccer team

and picking up golf. The twins went on to play at the University of Georgia together. Sam currently sells real estate in Valdosta.

- In his PGA TOUR debut, opened the 2018 Fortinet Championship with a 63 to hold the solo-lead (went on to finish T46).
- Often plays Yahtzee! with the players he is staying with on the road, including Chris Kirk, Brendon Todd and Denny McCarthy.
- Reached the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time on April 30, 2022 (No. 50).
- Sepp is a nickname for Josef.

Mark Hubbard

Things To Know

- Has played across PGA TOUR, Korn Ferry Tour and PGA TOUR Canada since 2013. Turned pro in 2012.
- Known for The Snail putting stroke at the 2021 American Express.
https://twitter.com/PGATOUR/status/1352804291304689664?s=20&t=3IROXc_ztMe4384Y-hu9JA

Background

- From Colorado, big Denver sports fan. NFL's Denver Broncos are his favorite team but enjoys them all.
- Started playing golf his junior year of high school. Understood his potential his senior year of high school and started playing more national tournaments, qualifying for The Optimist tournament at PGA National which he won the tournament on a sprained, braced ankle after injuring it at summer basketball camp in Wyoming.
- Both Hubbard and his wife went to San Jose State
- Looked at a few different schools where he could play golf and basketball, but ended up sticking to golf at San Jose State. He still teases his wife that he could have gone to Davidson to play golf and basketball but he chose her over being best friends with Steph Curry (they are roughly the same age). He conceded he wasn't tall enough to play in the NBA.
- Social media handles are "@HomelessHubbs." Everyone calls him "Hubbs" and when he first turned pro and was playing mini-tours, he was couch surfing among close friends, PGA TOUR caddies John Ellis and Brady Stockton, living rent free. That mixed in with what he called a "scruffy appearance" led to the nickname "Homeless Hubbs."
- Earliest golf memory was hitting golf balls in family backyard in the mountains and then having an "Easter egg hunt" to find them.

Family

- Has four brothers and one sister; Hubbard's brother, Nathan, is the co-host of the Fairway Rollin' podcast on Bill Simmon's Ringer Network and is very active on Twitter.
- Proposed to wife Megan on the 18th green of Pebble Beach after the first round of the 2015 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. Both have been together since they were freshman in college, 18 years old. It was his mother-in-law's idea to do it there. He "figured she couldn't say no on 18 at Pebble Beach"

- Megan finally took up golf (Covid 2020) and even took lessons from Mark's instructor, Kevin Kirk. Megan and Mark have one child, Harlow. They live in The Woodlands (Houston).

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- For over a decade drove a 2010 Honda CRV. Gave it to his brother after ordering a Ford Bronco thinking he would get it in a month or two, but it took almost two years to get it. Got it yesterday (July 15, 2022). Has not had a car since giving away the Honda until now.
- Afraid of heights and would take two club lengths back from the tees on the first hole at Riviera so he wouldn't be so close to the edge.
- Despite the fear of heights, his biggest hobby is skiing. Says he's probably as good a skier as he is a golfer. Wife, Megan also skis with Mark.
- Avid gamer - Strongest at Madden, likes Assassin's Creed for its history element and Call of Duty
- Enjoys being outdoors - hikes at events.
- If not a professional golfer, he would probably just move to Bora Bora, open a tiki bar and disappear off the grid.
- Dream foursome would be E. Harvie Ward, Walter Hagen and Yohann Benson.
- Bucket list includes playing Augusta National, setting foot on every continent and skiing in Europe.
- Big foodie and wine connoisseur. He keeps notes of restaurants when he travels

Charity

- Supports the Salvation Army and the First Tee of Colorado. His mom serves on the board of First Tee Colorado and he's volunteered there.
- Would like to use his passion for animals to create a rescue charity or be involved with a charity tied to the Denver Broncos.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Joel Dahmen and Brandon Harkins are good friends having played with them on PGA TOUR Canada in 2013. Dahmen and Harkins FaceTimed a friend while Hubbard was finishing his win at 2019 LECOM Suncoast Classic.

Garrick Higgs

Things To Know

- Won the 2021 Palmetto Championship at Congaree in his second career start on the PGA TOUR after receiving a Commissioner's exemption to compete in the event. Hit 75% of his greens that week and received a congratulatory call from fellow South African Gary Player during his winner's press conference. Player has been one of Higgs's biggest mentors and has supported him through his father's passing and professional career through countless letters and phone calls.
- Won twice in three starts on the DP World Tour in April-May of 2021, which elevated him to 51st in the Official World Golf Ranking. Playing the final round with a lead for the first time at

the Grand Canaria Open, Higgo said he leaned on advice from Gary Player to secure the win: "He said there is no such thing as a lead and you should play like you are two behind. That was nice from him and he has said it so many times, but I have never really had a lead, so I haven't had to worry about that".

- Attended the University of Nevada-Las Vegas for two semesters in 2017 and 2018. Unlike other high-profile international recruits who elect to attend college in the United States, college life wasn't really for him and returned home before deciding to turn pro. "I didn't play that well. I knew if I was at home, I knew where I could get my game. And I wasn't going to get there at UNLV. I loved it there. I just don't think it was the right fit for me."
- Turned professional in 2019 and won in his debut on the Big Easy Tour, a developmental tour in South Africa. In his next start, he won his first tournament on the Sunshine Tour.
- Would become the first Junior Presidents Cup player to compete in the Presidents Cup should he qualify in 2022 at Quail Hollow. Competed in the 2017 Junior Presidents Cup as an 18-year-old for Captain Trevor Immelman, who will lead the International Team at the 2022 Presidents Cup. "That would be an amazing story [with Trevor as his captain again]. I'm just taking it week to week. It's been a very quick rise so it's definitely a goal and one that I'd like to do."
- Played a practice round in Abu Dhabi in January 2021 with Justin Thomas, who said, "He had some serious, serious speed."
- Made his major debut at the 2021 PGA Championship (T64), which due to the DP World Tour's COVID protocols, was the first time he played in front of full galleries of fans. Spent two weeks after the PGA in Sea Island playing with Dru Love (son of Davis Love III) before traveling to the Palmetto Championship at Congaree.

Background

- Plays left-handed but is naturally right-handed. Started focusing on golf at age 13 after breaking his elbow playing rugby.
- Born in Johannesburg, South Africa, but attended high school in Stellenbosch, a town located east of Cape Town where he became the No. 1-ranked amateur in South Africa by age 17. He now resides in Sea Island, Georgia.
- In 2016, became the first South African to qualify and play in both the U.S. Amateur and U.S. Junior Amateur in the same year.
- Beat University of Texas standout Cole Hammer in the round of 16 at the 2017 U.S. Junior Amateur at Flint Hills National GC in Andover, Kansas, before losing on the 17th hole of the semifinals to Matthew Wolff.

Family

- Lost his father (Michael) when he was 9 years old when the entire family was in a car accident -- parents (mom - Susan), one older brother (Michael) and one younger sister (Calista). Received a letter from Gary Player after the accident, who also lost his mother around the same age. "He's been such a support since then and has sent me a lot of letters throughout the years, or called me at times to help. He's been incredibly nice to me, and we've played a few times since then, and I feel very lucky for that."
- His mother, Susan, was in attendance for his first PGA TOUR victory at the Palmetto Championship at Congaree. The two shared an emotional hug on the range once it became official.

- Got engaged to girlfriend Chandre (SHUN-drae) Janeke on Dec. 10, 2021, one month after celebrating their four-year dating anniversary.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Interests include Rap music, sports and Chelsea FC (soccer/football).

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Has worked with swing coach and mentor Cliff Barnard since he was 9. Cliff is currently the head pro at The Plettenberg Bay Country Club located east of George, South Africa. Cliff has been involved in the golfing industry for nearly 30 years and has been apart of the South African PGA since 2002.

Scott Stallings

Things To Know

- After withdrawing from the 2015 Charles Schwab Challenge, Stallings underwent numerous tests at UCLA's Medical Center after consulting with an endocrinologist due to a number of symptoms including a general lack of energy. Stallings said it was a difficult decision to withdraw from the event - one of his favorites on TOUR -- but there was not another appointment on the books at UCLA for two months. A first step was sinus surgery to alleviate sleep apnea. After receiving a diagnosis of adrenal failure, the doctor sent Stallings on an all-encompassing path to wellness that included fitness (Crossfit) and a revamped diet. Among the more interesting discoveries? He was deathly allergic to sweet potatoes, as well as barley and milk. Stallings started working with a Renaissance Periodization dietician from Charlotte, N.C. He can now talk with authority about carbs, fats, caloric efficiencies and macronutrient consumption - as well as how different times of the season (tournaments held in hotter, humid temperatures, for example) change the fuel he puts into his body. In the beginning, Stallings would print a template of what he was eating and drinking on a daily basis. Through meal planning, Scott was able to lose 55 pounds (240 to 185), mostly between the 2018 and 2019 Valspar Championship. He also reduced his body fat from 26 percent to approximately 10 percent.
- About his dedication to fitness and wellness: his words to live by are "Pay the man today." When he first heard the phrase, he didn't understand what it meant. He came to learn that he can control only two things in his life - his attitude and his effort. "And, the rent for both is due every day." He became so taken by the mantra that it is engraved into his wedges.
- An unintended consequence of Stallings' journey has been his ability to help and inspire others: "The vanity aspect of getting in a lot better shape was never the goal. That was something that just kind of happened. And I understand when you start dealing with media the vanity will be part of it, but overall feedback has been amazing. I get direct messages from guys saying, "I weighed 350 pounds and I lost 70 pounds all because of an interview you did." That makes me want to keep putting my story out there on social media. The more I hear from people thanking me for helping them get off the couch, the more it motivates me to keep doing this."
- Trains at his home gym, known as "The Barn" on his property in Knoxville. The way Stallings trains depends on if he's at a tournament or if it's an off-week, or the offseason. But it's typically

an everyday Crossfit-type program going from hard, heavy workouts early in the week to lighter, faster stuff by the weekend. The Barn also has a garage door that allows Stallings to hit balls on his property. He told his wife Jennifer that if he ever hit his home he would quit the game.

Background

- Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, but attended Oak Ridge High School in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- Attended Tennessee Tech and played golf, where he was a two-time Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year. Named an all-American in 2006.

Family

- Wife, Jennifer; Known each other since kindergarten and went to the same elementary, middle and high school. After graduation, Scott went to Tennessee Tech and Jennifer went to University of Tennessee; They eventually started dating during sophomore year of college.
- Two kids: Finn and Millie; Jennifer says "It doesn't matter if he shot 80 or 60, when he's home, he's just dad. He never brings the golf course home with him."
- Resides in Knoxville, Tennessee, which is their full-time residence .

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Faith is very important to him.
- His first love was baseball. Dreamt of playing for the Boston Red Sox.
- Favorite college team is Tennessee Volunteers and he roots for the Boston Red Sox, Boston Celtics and New England Patriots.

Charity

- The Scott Stallings Kids Play Free Junior Golf Initiative: In order to increase golf accessibility for those who might not be able to consistently afford a round, Scott has teamed up with the Tennessee Golf Foundation to set-up free golf at multiple locations in Knoxville, TN for anyone 18 and under, 365 days a year.
- In 2018 more than 1,600 kids played over 4,850 free rounds of golf in the Knoxville area thanks to the Scott Stallings Kids Play Free Initiative. Stallings kids are part of the program that is thriving after launching in 2015.
- Other charities include Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Birdies for the Brave.
- Annually hosts the Tennessee Junior Cup (official title is Tennessee Junior Cup hosted by Scott Stallings and Friends - <https://www.tnjuniorcup.com/>), which is a Ryder Cup-format tournament pitting East Tennessee against West Tennessee, with 10 boys and four girls on each team. The winners earn the Scott Stallings Cup. Also puts on The Scotty, which is Tennessee's junior four-ball championship. The inaugural event was in 2020 and this year's event is set for this coming Tuesday and Wednesday at Oak Ridge Country Club.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Stallings' trainer is Adam Kerley, and Scott prides himself on being one of the fittest players on TOUR. Their longest session is 90 minutes on Monday, and the routines change depending on traveling and off days (some days start at 6 am whereas other days start at 4 am). He and his trainer also read a lot of fitness books.

Other

- In 2022, Stallings began working with Hunter Stewart, who is a former No. 1 ranked amateur, as his strategy coach. Hunter works with several other TOUR players and Stallings credits a lot of his success in 2022 to Hunter. He was too aggressive on certain holes, not as aggressive on others and Hunter helped him rethink his approach. Stallings advanced to the TOUR Championship in 2022 for the first time in his career.
- On Wednesday of the 2022 Travelers Championship, Stallings' strategy coach Hunter Stewart explained that his iron play was the worst in his career, when it had always been the staple of his success. Stallings called a friend to help find his old set irons in storage, not knowing which set was the right one he shipped three of them (\$400 shipping bill) to Scott at the Travelers Championship. Stallings struggled during the first round in Hartford after only hitting them briefly on the range prior to the round, but then got on a hot streak beginning in the second round. This kickstarted a two-month run that would propel Stallings to his first ever appearance in the TOUR Championship at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, including a runner-up finish at the 2022 BMW Championship.
- His golf ball marker is in the shape of a kettle ball with name of his kids and wife and logos of the New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox
- One of Stallings' sponsors, NOBULL, became a TOUR OMP in March 2022.

Davis Riley

- On playing at The Country Club of Jackson: "Anytime I can get close to home and be back in Mississippi, it's special. Sanderson Farms was one of the first tournaments that I got one of my first PGA starts at, so it's always had a special place in my heart, and this is my fifth major, so it's definitely one I've had chalked up on the calendar and would have liked to have a chance to win at one day."
- Turned professional without any status prior to the second semester of his senior year at Alabama (would have been spring 2019). In making the decision, he sought advice from Will Zalatoris, who turned professional under similar circumstances. Davis called it the toughest decision he ever had to make.
- Played in consecutive U.S. Junior Amateur Championship title matches in 2013 and 2014, at the time becoming the eighth player in history - a group which included Tiger Woods (1991/1992/1993) and Jordan Spieth (2009/2011) - to play in multiple title matches. In 2013, he led Scottie Scheffler 3 up, but eventually lost 3&2 (the match ended when Riley called a rules infraction on himself for nudging the ball at address prior to a long birdie putt from just off the green). In 2014, he led Will Zalatoris 2 up, but eventually lost 5&3.

- Shot a 58 at Canebrake Country Club in October 2013 when he was 16 years old. He was with five other friends after school one late afternoon, and on the last few holes, his friends - who played the first 12 holes, then stopped and watched him play the rest - shined lights on his ball for him to see; he had a 10-footer on the last to shoot 57 and left it on the front edge.
- Introduced to golf by his parents at three years old and grew up on a Jerry Pate-designed course called Canebrake Country Club in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; their house was on the ninth fairway. "I could walk 200 yards from my house and be on the driving range and putting green and clubhouse." Still walks back and forth from his childhood home to the course when he's in Mississippi. "Summer days when I was younger were sunup to sundown. I remember getting on the course at eight in the morning and not coming in until it was dark. Just countless hours."
- 2018 All-America Third-Team selection his junior year at Alabama. Was also a three-time All-SEC selection (first-team honoree as a junior for 2017-18, second-team honoree as a freshman and sophomore in 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively). He finished his career ranked No. 3 in program history in career scoring average (71.30), only trailing Robby Shelton and Justin Thomas.
- Helped Alabama to a runner-up finish at the 2018 NCAA Championships, winning both his quarterfinal and semifinal matches. Teammates with Robby Shelton (2015-16) and Lee Hodges (2016-17 and 2017-18). Riley was recruited by Alabama while in high school during the Justin Thomas era, when the team won back-to-back NCAA Championships in 2013 and 2014; his mother attended Alabama for two years.

FAMILY

- Fiancee, Alexandra Patton; proposed to her on February 12, 2022 in Highland Park, Texas. Wedding will be on his birthday, December 17, 2022. Pair were set up by Alabama teammate Robby Shelton and his girlfriend, who was Alexandra's sorority sister. Riley and Alexandra share a passion for the Crimson Tide.
- Father: David. With the driving range, putting green, and clubhouse at Canebrake Country Club roughly 200 yards from their house, David kept a pair of binoculars by the back door to keep an eye on Davis at the course.
- Mother, Kim, is a breast cancer survivor; she was diagnosed in March 2018 and had a mastectomy in May 2018 (but didn't have to undergo chemotherapy or radiation). Prior to her diagnosis, she almost never missed any of Riley's events, most notably attending his two U.S. Junior Amateur Championship title matches and his first college tournament for the University of Alabama; she missed the 2018 NCAA Championship, but traveled to the Western Amateur and U.S. Amateur later that summer. Kim went to Alabama for two years, which inspired Davis to attend.
- Sister: Caroline.
- Grandfather played baseball at Georgia Tech.

INTERESTS/HOBBIES/QUIRKS

- New Orleans Saints fan; he loves watching Michael Thomas and Alvin Kamara.
- Enjoys cooking and hunting when not on the road.
- Shared an apartment with Will Zalatoris after moving to Dallas in November 2019, and the two shared the apartment until January 2021. "Obviously, when we signed the lease in November [2019], we didn't know we'd basically spend the next seven straight months together. It was fun pushing each other. I learned a lot from him; he learned a lot from me. One guy gets up at 6:30, the other guy gets up at 6 -- the next day, we're both up at 6; the next thing you know, we're both up at 5:30. We were always pushing each other." -Will Zalatoris in a 2021 Lying Four story. Riley stood by the 18 green and waited to congratulate Zalatoris after his win at the 2020 TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes, and Zalatoris returned the gesture when Riley won his second tournament of the season at the TPC San Antonio Championship at the Oaks (their wins were just two weeks apart). The two also faced off in the 2014 U.S. Junior Amateur championship match, which Zalatoris won 5&3.
- Frequently plays at Maridoe Golf Club with Will Zalatoris, Jordan Spieth, Kramer Hickok and Tony Romo.
- One of four recipients of the 2015 Byron Nelson International Junior Golf Award. One of the other three recipients was Sam Burns. Also played with Sam Burns on the 2014 Junior Ryder Cup team.
- Built a good relationship with and stayed in touch with Justin Thomas, a fellow Alabama alum; he sought advice from Thomas when he turned professional.
- The Dallas Stars became his "adopted hockey team" and he played golf with NHL players Joe Pavelski, John Klingberg, Stephen Johns, and Mattias Janmark (former Star, now with Las Vegas).
- Competed on the 2018 Palmer Cup Team with Collin Morikawa.
- Played at Alabama at the same time as LPGA player Emma Talley; she was a senior when he was a freshman in 2015-16.

Nick Hardy

Things To Know

- Finished the 2021-22 PGA TOUR season - his rookie season - ranked 126th on the final FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List, one spot out of securing his TOUR card for the 2022-23 season. He then went to the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals where he posted T15 (Albertson Boise Open), T28 (Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship) and T12 (Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance) to finish 10th on the Korn Ferry Tour Finals Points List and earn his PGA TOUR card for the 2022-23 season.
- After a T21 finish at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans with teammate Curtis Thompson, Hardy missed a month of PGA TOUR action with a wrist injury. He made his return near his hometown at the Korn Ferry Tour's NV5 Invitational presented by Old National Bank in Glenview, Illinois.
- Grew up playing a local par-3 course in Northbrook, Illinois (Anetsberger Golf Course). Oftentimes as a pre-teen, he would ride over to the course on his bike with his clubs on his back and play in the morning, either alone or with friends. He and his, John, had a "30-degree rule" where as long as it was above 30 degrees outside, they would go play, no matter the time of year. Nick holds the course record of 6-under 21 and they have a display in the pro shop with the scorecard; he actually had a 5-footer for a 7-under 20 on the final hole that hit the back of the cup and stayed out, and he was so mad the whole way home he didn't speak.
- Played four seasons at University of Illinois (2014-18) under longtime head coach Mike Small. His 70.61 scoring average as a senior (2017-18) set a single-season school record. He was a 2018 All-America First-Team selection and the 2018 Big Ten Player of the Year. Three-time All-Big Ten First Team (2015, 2017, 2018). Became the fourth two-time Big Ten Championships medalists in school history, joining Luke Guthrie (2011-12), Steve Stricker (1986, 1988-89), and Richard Martin (1930-31). Helped Illinois win four consecutive Big Ten Championships (2015-18).
- Earliest golf memory was attending the Tucson Open and getting a golf ball from Payne Stewart Award winner Billy Andrade after the round

Background

- Got his first set of golf clubs when he was four years old; he started playing golf by chipping in the backyard
- Advanced to the semifinals of the 2014 Western Amateur, defeating Scottie Scheffler 5&4 in the quarterfinals before losing to the eventual champion, Beau Hossler
- 2014 Rolex Junior All-America First Team selection (chosen by the AJGA) with the likes of Sam Burns, Doug Ghim, and Davis Riley

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Considers himself a sports junkie. Big Chicago sports fan: NFL's Chicago Bears are his favorite football team; NHL's Chicago Blackhawks are his hockey team; MLB's Chicago Cubs are his baseball team; NBA's Chicago Bulls are his basketball team.
- Noticed early in his professional career he drove the car slower, ate his slower, and essentially did everything slower than he did when he was a collegiate golfer. Learned how to slow everything down.

- His fiancée, Liz, is a vegan, and has helped him start to eat healthier, but he still considers himself a "big meat guy." His favorite meats are steak, chicken and fish, and he says, "I'm a rib-eye guy, though."
- His favorite type of music is classic, old-school rock & roll, including The Rolling Stones, AC/DC, Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, Grateful Dead and Tom Petty.
- His mother, Kim, took him to a Rolling Stones concert in Chicago when he was 10 years old, which he considers his favorite concert. He also saw Tom Petty at Wrigley Field in 2017, prior to Petty's passing, which Nick is very grateful for getting to experience.
- Recently read Matthew McConaughey's book, "Greenlights." Said it's a great book because there was a lot of wisdom in it. "I think it's cool he spent a lot of his life to himself, especially now with social media and all that in our lives, we never really leave time to think for ourselves, and I think that's why he provides a lot of wisdom."

Charity

- On October 5, 2021, Nick announced that he's officially become an Honorary Ambassador for the First Tee of Chicago. His hometown is nearby Northbrook, Illinois.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Got engaged to Liz Elmassian on December 2, 2021. Elmassian, who was born in Sydney, Australia and has competed professionally in golf, previously represented Australia in the 2014 Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China. The two first met at Nick's home course (The Merit Club - Libertyville, Illinois) in 2016 when they were both amateur golfers, and officially began dating in June 2017. Photos of their engagement can be found on Liz's public Instagram account (@lizelmassian).
- 2017 Palmer Cup teammates with Sam Burns, Doug Ghim, Maverick McNealy, Collin Morikawa
- Competed against Doug Ghim frequently in tournaments in Illinois during their junior careers
- Has worked with his swing coach, Brett Packee, since he was nine years old.
- Nick's caddie is veteran Jeff King. King came highly recommended to Nick's agent, Brad Buffoni, from fellow PGA TOUR player Kramer Hickok. King has 26 years of professional experience on the bag, including 16 on the LPGA and 10 on the PGA TOUR. Some TOUR players he's worked with include Hickok, Luke List, Vaughn Taylor and Bo Van Pelt.

Other

- Had a "fist-pump" clip go viral after he finished birdie-birdie to force a playoff at a Monday qualifier for the 2021 WM Phoenix Open (he won the playoff and finished the tournament T42)
- Describing his game and where he hopes it'll take him: "Consistency. That's what I take pride in. It's one thing to stay at the top for a year, it's another to stay at the top for 10 years."
- Describes his go-to shot as "a straight ball." He elaborated by saying, "When it's windy, I try to play with the wind, and curve the ball with the wind. I like to hit a lot of straight shots. I'm not a big curver of the golf ball."
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card by finishing 21st in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour regular season points standings; he was one of three players among The 25 to secure a TOUR card despite not winning a tournament during the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour season

Stephan Jaeger

Things To Know

- Stephan and his wife, Shelby, announced in late May they are expecting a baby boy. <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd-8VzhudLC/>
- The German-born (Munich) Jaeger pronounces his first name like Stephen or Steven (NOT Steph-an). He still speaks fluent German and tries to visit his family back in Germany on an annual basis.
- Stephan moved to the U.S. in summer 2006 at the age of 17 and barely spoke English. He was an exchange student at the Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee for his junior and senior years. Classmates included Keith Mitchell and Harris English. "I was a 17-year-old coming to a new country without my parents, so it was difficult in the beginning. But that Baylor family, they take care of you really well early on. It's the Southern hospitality, you can feel comfortable pretty quickly."
- Stephan rejoins the PGA TOUR for the third time after a stellar 2020-2021 combined season on the Korn Ferry Tour, winning two times, finishing No. 1 in the season long points standings. He was named the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year in November, 2021.
- As a senior at UT-Chattanooga, he won the 2012 Southern Conference Championship by 11 strokes, tying the tournament record for largest margin of victory previously set in 1983 by Furman's Brad Faxon, an eight-time winner on the PGA TOUR.
- As a senior at UT-Chattanooga (2012), Stephan won a tournament in Bowling Green, KY, beating the No. 1 (Patrick Cantlay by 17 shots) and No. 19 (Sebastian Cappelén by 13) ranked golfers in the world at that time.

Background

- Grew up playing soccer and tennis; he quit those sports in his early teens (between 13-14). He grew up close to a golf course in Germany and his whole family played (Klaus, Sophie and sister Michaela).
- Through an exchange year agency in Germany, his family found out about a few good golf programs in the States and picked Baylor School because of their reputation and players like Harris and Keith.
- Upon arriving in the U.S. in 2006, he went directly to The Honors Course (a Pete Dye design which hosted the 1991 U.S. Amateur), met the Baylor School golf team and beat nearly everyone on the team in a two-round tournament. "It was our first tournament of the year, and I had played that golf course hundreds of times growing up in Chattanooga," teammate Keith Mitchell said. "I think I shot 78-81, maybe even worse. Nobody knew Stephan. They didn't know what he was doing. His English was not good at the time, and we didn't really know how to communicate with him. Our coach reluctantly let him play, because we didn't know if he was going to shoot 110 or what. He went out as an individual, versus part of the team, and shot 74 (Jaeger claimed it was a 71)... and the next round he shot 68 and was first on the team other than Harris. I remember our coach going absolutely berserk, because this kid who spoke no English, just got off the plane, was jet-lagged, played the hardest course in the state and beat everyone on the team."
- Helped Baylor School win consecutive TSSAA Division II state titles in 2006 and 2007; Stephan was inducted into the Baylor School Hall of Fame in 2018.

- Played four seasons at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and earned the first First Team All-America nod in school history; he set school records for career wins (four) and scoring average (72.10). Jaeger made the watch list for the 2012 Ben Hogan Award (won by Patrick Cantlay). Was Southern Conference Player of the Year for three years, 2010 - 2012 .

Family

- Father, Klaus passed away March 11, 2022 , mother, Sophie. sister, Michaela (a single digit player in her youth). Stephan said if he stayed in Germany instead of coming to the United States, he likely would have worked for his father's travel agency company.
- Wife, Shelby and Golden Retriever, Phil, live in Chattanooga. and Stephan plays out of Chattanooga Golf and CC. Shelby caddied for Stephan in the past on KFT.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Fast cars, especially BMWs.
- Considers himself a foodie (especially of German, Italian and Asian cuisines); loves cooking and fine wine.
- Favorite golf course is Riviera where he played in college in the 2012 NAAs and his team placed T18. The Texas Longhorns won the team event and Thomas Pieters won the individual.

Charity

- Wears the Jordan Thomas Foundation logo on his bag. Jordan was a rival high school golf competitor of Stephan. Post-boating accident where Jordan lost both his legs, Jordan still played on the Varsity team at McCallie and Stephan is inspired by what he does for the Chattanooga community. The Jordan Thomas Foundation returns children and adolescents to a life without physical limitation by providing quality prostheses until adulthood, serving as a caring resource for the child and family living with limb differences and tirelessly advocating for insurance fairness.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Friends with NBA superstar Stephen Curry; the two were paired together when Curry played the Korn Ferry Tour for the first time at the 2017 Ellie Mae Classic. He also saw Curry score 32 points when Davidson beat UT-Chattanooga, 92-70, in January 2009. It was Curry's last college season, while Jaeger was a freshman watching in the stands (he says UT-Chattanooga has a photo of him from the game which resurfaced ahead of the 2017 Ellie Mae Classic pairing).
- College teammates for three seasons (fall 2009 through spring 2012) with 2012 U.S. Amateur champion Steven Fox.

Other

- Shot a 12-under 58 in the first round of the 2016 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae (July 28) on the Korn Ferry Tour, which made him the first player to ever shoot a 58 in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned round; he was matched roughly a week later by Jim Furyk, who shot a 12-under 58 in the final round of the 2016 Travelers Championship (August 7). He still holds the Korn Ferry

Tour's 18-hole scoring record (58) and 72-hole scoring record (30-under 250) he set that week, and he was only playing on conditional status at the time of the record-breaking victory.

Emiliano Grillo

Things To Know

- 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.
- 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 one 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 Chaco since he was a little boy in Argentina.
- Emiliano Grillo has completed the rare feat of winning on all three Tours: 2014 Visa Argentina Open, 2015 Korn Ferry Tour Championship, 2015 PGA TOUR Fortinet Championship

Background

- 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.

Family

- Emiliano and his girlfriend, Alexia Garcia Morris, welcomed their first child, Andre Milan Grillo, on March 3rd, 2022

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- If you look at the front side of his golf bag you'll see a date in there in Spanish format: 9/12/18, which is December 9, 2018. River won the 2018 Copa Libertadores Final after beating fierce rival Boca Juniors 3-1 in Madrid, Spain on that date.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Member of famed "Class of 2011" and competed alongside Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Daniel Berger, Xander Schauffele and Ollie Schniederjans during amateur golf days.

Trevor Cone

Things To Know

- Huge fan of donuts, noting he's always had quite the sweet tooth. Donuts are not really a morning thing for him, as he looks at donuts more as a dessert. His dream sponsor would be Krispy Kreme given the fact it is based out of his home state of North Carolina.
- Struggled mightily on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019 and 2020-21, finishing well outside the top 100 on the points list both seasons, but earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour regular season, mostly off the strength of his second career victory, despite beginning the year with conditional status as a past champion. Cone had previously won the penultimate event of the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour regular season, a year he also began with low conditional status.
- Trevor said the "light switch" moment that turned things around for him was in February 2021, when he began working with a new coach, John Scott Rattan. Working with Rattan gave him a new mentality and improved his work ethic, with Cone saying, "He was the first one to critique me and point out things that really needed work instead of just telling me I can do it." Trevor admitted he needed the tough love.
- Became the fourth Virginia Tech alum to earn a PGA TOUR card, joining Johnson Wagner, Brendon de Jonge, and Tim Collins Jr. In four seasons at Virginia Tech (2011-15), Cone earned a 2014 All-America Third Team honor and was a two-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection as an upperclassman. Cone also earned co-medalist honors at the 2015 ACC Championship.
- Turned professional out of Virginia Tech in 2015 and earned PGA TOUR Canada membership for 2016 via Q-School. Played the 2016 and 2017 seasons on PGA TOUR Canada and worked his way onto the Korn Ferry Tour in 2018 but had low conditional status. A top-10 in early July, just his fourth start of the season, allowed him to shuffle in, and a win a month later in the penultimate regular season event gave him an outside chance at a PGA TOUR card, though he ultimately came up short and settled for fully exempt status the following Korn Ferry Tour season.
- Fan of Formula 1 Racing and its Netflix series Drive to Survive. Trevor is a big McLaren supporter.
- Hobbies away from the course include basketball. Considers skiing his biggest thrill outside of golf, though it has been many years since his last skiing trip.
- "Enter Sandman" by Metallica would be his walk-up song, the same song the Virginia Tech football team takes the field to on gamedays.
- Favorite golfer growing up was eight-time PGA TOUR winner and 2003 Masters Tournament winner Mike Weir.
- Favorite teams are the Boston Red Sox (MLB baseball) and New England Patriots (NFL football), and his favorite city to vacation in is Boston. Does not watch a ton of NBA basketball but keeps up with the Boston Celtics. Trevor's father, Tom, is from the northeast, which is why he gravitated toward the Boston sports teams.
- Played some basketball as a kid but got out of it pretty quickly since he wasn't overly quick and didn't have much of a post game; he gravitated toward baseball and golf. Trevor realized the two swings didn't mix and joked he was "out there swinging like Vladimir Guerrero as a 12-year-old," and ended up specializing in golf once he got to high school.
- Also ran cross country in the fall while in high school.
- Close friends with fellow two-time Korn Ferry Tour winner David Kocher, as both live in Charlotte and spent a great deal of time together on the road while playing the Korn Ferry Tour.

Brandon Wu

Things To Know

- In 2019 Wu became first the amateur since 1967 (Joe Carr) to qualify for both U.S. Open and Open Championship in one summer. Credits this experience getting to play two majors as an amateur the summer after graduating and before turning pro as a major key in his transition into professional golf.
- Brandon had to miss his graduation from Stanford University because he was playing in the final round at the 2019 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, his first major appearance. Received his diploma as he walked off the 18th green. Brandon Wu: "I played well through two rounds that year to make the cut. The only problem was that U.S. Open Sunday was also my Stanford graduation 100 miles away. So instead of attending graduation with my classmates, I teed it up with Dustin Johnson that final day at Pebble Beach. The USGA was kind enough to put together a mock graduation ceremony for me, hand delivering my diploma to me as I walked out of scoring, presenting it to me in a ceremony with my parents and brothers behind the 18th green at Pebble Beach." Picture exists of the two on his Instagram (bwu97) dated 6.18.19
- Hit opening tee shot of 2020 U.S. Open at Winged Foot, a course that he grew up less than 10 minutes away from. One of his best golf memories: "To be at the U.S. Open 10 minutes from where I grew up was special, but to hit the first shot of the tournament is something I'll remember for life. I was extremely nervous, and my heart skipped a beat as they said, 'from Scarsdale, New York.' I was too nervous to take the club back so had to put in an extra waggle for that swing."
- Lives in Dallas where he plays out of Trinity Forest Golf Club
- After two good finishes in Puerto Rico and the DR: "I think I'm a good wind player, so I feel in some challenging wind conditions I can flight it pretty well and I have good control of the ball, so I think that's a little bit to my advantage. Yeah, I think just good island vibes."

Background

- Born in Danville, California, lived in Beijing for five years, and grew up mostly in Scarsdale, New York
- Started playing golf around seven years old. Dad was into golf and just learning, took Brandon to the course so they could learn together. Quote from Brandon Wu: "Like all kids, I played lots of different sports, did swimming, baseball, tennis ... did them all. I played a lot of golf at a young age though just because it was fun to have my dad take me out to the course, driving around on the cart and hitting balls. It was good father-son bonding for sure."
- Speaks fluent Mandarin and thanks his parents communicating to their kids in their native tongue, as well as living in Beijing for five years
- Attended the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions in Shanghai with his father. He also participated in the pro-am one year after winning a junior event that was part of the HSBC Junior Golf Program in the Middle Kingdom.
- As a child, enjoyed building things, which proved to be a natural progression in his decision to major in engineering at Stanford
- Attended boarding school at Deerfield Academy. Competed for the swimming team in high school, and earned four varsity letters.
- Amateur pedigree included being ranked fifth in the World Amateur Golf Ranking, becoming the first amateur since 1967 to qualify for the Open Championship and the U.S. Open, representing

the U.S. in the Walker Cup and leading Stanford to its first NCAA Championship in 12 years as a senior in 2019

- Played four seasons at Stanford University (2015-19). Won all three of his matches as Stanford won the 2019 NCAA Championships, the program's first title since 2007. His yardage book cover has Stanford's slogan "Fear The Tree" on it. He was a 2019 All-America Second-Team selection, a 2019 Arnold Palmer Cup team member, a two-time All-America Scholar (2018, 2019) as a product design major (subset of engineering department focused on creative solutions to pragmatic problems) and a two-time All-Pac-12 First-Team selection (2018, 2019). Finished his career ranked fourth in program history with a 71.45 career scoring average; he trailed only Maverick McNealy, Patrick Rodgers, and Tiger Woods. Logged two of the top 10 single-season scoring averages in program history (70.61 in 2017-18, 70.62 in 2018-19).
- Was on 2019 Palmer team (lost at Alotian Club in Arkansas) with John Augenstein, Aaron Eckroat, Alex Smalley, Cole Hammer and Will Gordon. Also played on winning 2019 Walker Cup team at Royal Liverpool. Teammates included: John Augestein, Akshay Bhatia, Cole Hammer, Andy Ogeltree, Alex Smalley and John Pak. Picture exists of the two on his Instagram (bwu97) dated 9.10.19.
- Was selected to play for Team USA at Pan American games in 2019 in Lima, Peru. Won team gold at the event. Pan American games ended Sunday night in Lima, and Brandon hopped on a red-eye flight with US Mid Am champ Stewart Hagestad, flew to Pinehurst, North Carolina. The first round was the next day, less than 24 hours after finishing in Lima. Made it there just before noon, in time for a 2:30 tee time at Pinehurst No 4. Ended up setting the course record that day (at the time) en route to finishing medalist in the stroke play portion of the 2019 US Amateur.
- Turned professional in September 2019 (delayed turning professional to compete in the Walker Cup, which was played in early September; he also admitted he didn't feel completely ready). Reached career-high rank of No. 5 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking prior to turning pro.

Family

- His parents, Yi Chun and Xiao Bing Zhang, moved from Beijing to California in 1996 and, a year later, Wu was born as the first of three sons. His father works in investment banking.
- Brandon's Chinese name is Bi Yuan
- His brothers are Evan and Michael

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Outdoor activities: skiing, surfing, volleyball
- Cooking. His favorite Chinese meal is rice, steamed fish and sautéed vegetables.
- Reading and listening to books. Also enjoys watching movies and TV. His favorite movie is The Dark Knight.
- Movies and TV - favorite shows are Game of Thrones and FRIENDS
- Enjoys attending baseball, basketball, and hockey games. He threw out the first pitch at an Oakland A's baseball game in 2019, when he played the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae as a sponsor exemption. Picture exists of the two on his Instagram (bwu97) dated 7.31.19.
- Says he would be working in product design-related like designing cars, or working in aerospace if it wasn't for pro golf.
- Considers Steph Curry of the NBA's Golden State Warriors his sporting icon.
- His dream foursome would consist of Tiger Woods, Stephen Curry (NBA, Golden State Warriors) and Mike Trout (MLB, Los Angeles Angels)

- His go-to karaoke song is "Sweet Caroline."

Charity

- Make a Wish: Brandon won the Maridoe Samaritan Fund Invitational 2.0 tournament in Dallas during the early days of COVID; he donated his winner's check to the local Make a Wish foundation
- Boys and Girls Club

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Coached by Jeff Smith, who is also known for coaching Viktor Hovland
- Between the end of 2020 and beginning of the 2021 portion of the Korn Ferry Tour season, he began working with George Mumford, a mindfulness and performance expert previously brought in by Phil Jackson during his time coaching the Bulls and Lakers. "I think the biggest key lesson that I learned right away is it's not about molding yourself into someone else or trying to emulate someone else. He likes to say, 'Chip away at the masterpiece inside you.'" - Brandon
- Friends with Collin Morikawa
- Through their connection to Stanford, has partnered with Condoleezza Rice at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am in 2020 and 2022 (note: the pro-am portion was not played in 2021 due to COVID). Picture exists of the two on his Instagram (bwu97) dated 2.10.20.
- Watched Tiger Woods play at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Championship and received a golf ball from him on the 10th tee after a brief interaction.
- First professional start was the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship on the DP World Tour (September 26-29, 2019). He was paired with Houston Astros Owner Jim Crane. Through that relationship, Brandon received a sponsor exemption for the 2019 Houston Open (run by the Astros Golf Foundation), which marked his first PGA TOUR event as a professional golfer (he finished T17).

Other

- Earned his first PGA TOUR card by finishing 13th in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour regular season points standings. Five weeks after his first Korn Ferry Tour start of the 2020-21 season, he won the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance with a 7-under 65 in the final round after trailing 54-hole leader Greyson Sigg by five strokes entering the final round.

Kevin Streelman

Things To Know

- Streelman has been one of the most consistent performers on the PGA TOUR for more than a decade. He's just one of four players to qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs each of the last 15 seasons (Jason Day, Matt Kuchar and Adam Scott are the others).
- The PGA TOUR announced on August 17 that Max Homa, Brandt Snedeker, Keith Mitchell and Kevin Streelman would be added to the Player Advisory Council (PAC) for the remainder of 2022. Homa and Snedeker fill vacated positions previously held by Brooks Koepka and Graeme McDowell. In a separate election to replace Paul Casey, Mitchell and Streelman tied for the most votes, and both players have been added to the PAC, which has increased in size from 16

members to 17. Streelman served as PAC co-chairman in 2016 and subsequently served a three-year term as a Player Director on the Policy Board (2017-19).

- On July 25, 2020, Streelman was inducted into the inaugural class of the Illinois Junior Golf Association's Hall of Fame. Kevin was one of six inducted, which included Frank Jemsek -- the owner of Cog Hill. The ceremony took place at Cantigny Golf in Wheaton, where he grew up. Streelman was the featured guest in a Q&A conducted by former IJGA president Barry Cronin, editor of Chicago District Golfer magazine and co-host of the CDGA Golf Show on ESPN Chicago (AM-1000).
- Grew up in Chicago area and attended Duke University.
- After graduating in 2001, jumped in his mom's Nissan Altima and drove to South Dakota for the start of the Dakota's mini Tour.
- Worked for six years grinding on mini-tours, crossing the country multiple times, racking up over 300,000 miles in three different cars in pursuit of his golf career.
- Now resides in Scottsdale, Arizona with his family.
- Devout Christian.

Background

- After three mini-tour wins in 2007, he earned his PGA TOUR card then finished with four top-10s and a 35th place in the FedExCup in his rookie year in 2008.
- Incredible rookie story – last alternate to get into the (now) 2008 Farmers Insurance Open; solo second through 36 holes (to Tiger Woods) and played with Tiger Woods in the third round on Saturday.
- Highlights from transcript: When he got the call that he was in the tournament, called then-fiancee Courtney who was at the gym in Phoenix. She went home, showered, packed and flew to the tournament and was able to catch Kevin on the 13th hole in Round 2.
- Told story of being stranded with no money in 2002: "Six years ago I got sent out here by a firm in Chicago that was supposedly going to back me for the whole year; everything was great. They bring me into their boardroom and they send me out to Phoenix. I missed Monday qualifying there, go up to Pebble and successfully Monday qualify there. I miss the cut, come to this event and miss the cut by one to get into the event from the Monday qualifier. I called this group of investors, this company back in Chicago, to say, I need some more money for LA, for Riviera to do a Monday qualifier, and they stopped answering the phone calls. To this day I have not heard a word from this guy. So I was stranded -- living in Chicago, stranded in Southern California with not a -- probably had \$400 in my bank account. A week ago I had been in a PGA TOUR event. It was just like a slap in the face, but at the same time, God willing, I was able to meet my first initial sponsor up at Coto de Caza up in Orange County, and through him and friends of friends, it's just an amazing story. All of a sudden we've got a group of 10 to 12 guys who have been with me the last three or four years."

Family

- His dad, Officer Dennis H. Streelman, was US Army Vietnam Veteran

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Plays the guitar -- His mother directed the adult, junior and bell choirs at their suburban Chicago church "so I was kind of born and raised in it," Streelman said. Played in a band in college (Led Zeppelin and classic rock covers).
- Loves to play pickleball and has joined Ricky Barnes and Andrew Putnam in this game.
- Duke graduate who tweets about college games, especially basketball. Also follows Chicago professional sports teams, especially the Cubs.

Charity

- Working with Compassion International, he's on a mission to raise funds to build two help centers for kids in Togo.
- The Tenth Avenue North Classic is an annual celebrity golf tournament supporting Christ-centered ministries hosted by Tenth Avenue North and Kevin Streelman. Tenth Avenue North is a music group.
- <https://www.pgatour.com/long-form/2019/06/18/a-little-bit-of-help-kevin-streelman-other-pros-support-needy-children-compassion-international.html>

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Won the 2018 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am team event with NFL star Larry Fitzgerald: ESPN story on Streelman Fitzgerald win at AT&T Pro-Am.
- Fitzgerald followed up with an ace at Seminole while playing with former President Obama.
- In September 2015, Fitzgerald and Streelman played 36 holes at Chicago Golf Club the day before a Cardinals-Bears game. (Fitzgerald caught three touchdown passes in Arizona's victory).
- As the amateur winner at the 2018 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Fitzgerald got to keep the trophy. Streelman didn't think anything of it until a giant crate from Ireland arrived at his front doorstep in Scottsdale about two months later. Fitzgerald had a Waterford crystal replica of the trophy, which now is on display in Streelman's home. "Larry paid for that on his own dime and went to a lot of work to make sure I had one as well," Streelman said. "He's the class of Arizona."
- Utilizes the team of Pia Nilsson and Lynn Marriott (Vision 54) as performance coaches, as well as Dr. Jim Suttie as his instructor.
- Engages via social media with sponsors, including Wilson Golf equipment, First Trust Portfolios, Johnnie O apparel, Hansa Medical Group, JetLinx, Titleist, Swag Golf (putters) and My Golf Club Label.
- Was featured on Golf Channel in 2016 as a judge for the launch of a new Wilson Triton driver, designed by the reality show competition winner. Streelman began the 2017 season using that driver. Also tested the Cortex driver (winner of 2018 show, Driver vs Driver 2).
- In 2015, Streelman won the Masters Par-3 contest, with a 13-year-old caddie who had made it to the Masters via the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Their story was featured on ESPN.

Nick Taylor

Things To Know

- Two PGA TOUR wins: 2014 Sanderson Farms Championship (the first win on the PGA TOUR for a Canadian-born player in seven years), and the 2020 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

- Went to University of Washington (Economics) with Joel Dahmen. Majored in Economics (and apparently MarioKart 64, which he played with Dahmen almost as much as they played golf.)
- At 18 he set the record for the largest winning margin ever in the Canadian Junior – 11 shots.

Background

- Born in Winnipeg, Canada, but grew up in Abbotsford, BC (greater Vancouver)
- First significant golf memory was playing in Fiji at the Aaron Baddeley Championship.
- Won the 2007 Canadian Amateur Championship at 19 years old. Was only the second player to win the Canadian Junior Boy's Championship and then follow it up by winning the Canadian Men's Amateur (Brent Franklin of Calgary was the first).
- Home course is Ledgeview Golf and Country Club in Abbotsford, British Columbia (also the home club of Adam Hadwin.)

Family

- Wife, Andie (a social worker in Abbotsford); first child, Charlie, born in 2019.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Fan of Toronto Blue Jays (baseball) and Seattle Seahawks (football).
- Favorite pre-game meal is Fruit Loops.
- Gamer: Mario Kart 64 expert (jokingly claims to be top-5 in world.)
- Loves astronomy; has visited NASA's Johnson Space Center.
- Loves Star Wars.

Charity

- In 2017, founded the Nick Taylor Charity Pro-Am presented by the University of the Fraser Valley in support of the University of the Fraser Valley Men's and Women's Golf programs, and local charity beneficiaries Holmberg House, 27blue and Starfish Pack.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- In addition to being close with Dahmen, he's good friends with fellow Canadians, Adam Hadwin, Corey Connors and Mackenzie Hughes.
- Competed for Canada with playing partner, Adam Hadwin, at the 2018 ISPS Handa World Cup of Golf in Melbourne.

Other

- Threw out first pitch at Toronto Blue Jays game (against the Yankees) the week of 2019 RBC Canadian Open.
- 2010 Ben Hogan award winner (given to top collegiate player); Number one amateur in world for 20 weeks coming off runner-up finish at the 2008 NCAA Division 1 men's golf championship.
- Low amateur at 2009 U.S. Open (Bethpage); finished 36th.
- Selected to carry the Olympic Torch in advance of the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver.

Kyle Westmoreland

Things To Know

- Westmoreland is the first United States Air Force Academy graduate to earn a PGA TOUR card. Westmoreland played collegiately at the Air Force Academy for four seasons (2010-14), departing as one of the most decorated golfers in program history with four individual victories and All-Mountain West Conference honors in 2013 and 2014. As a senior, he finished fourth at the 2014 Mountain West Conference Championship, the highest finish in a conference championship by an Air Force golfer since 1985. Westmoreland was a three-time team MVP and, as a senior, was captain of the 2013-14 team.
- Westmoreland served a five-year term and attained the rank of captain in the United States Air Force following graduation from the Academy in 2014. From 2014 through 2017, Westmoreland was stationed in Charleston, South Carolina, where he worked in financial management. In summer of 2017, Westmoreland was called back to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where he served as a combative instructor which involved a mix of wrestling and ground grappling. When Westmoreland concluded his service in summer 2019, his official exit interview was delayed roughly two weeks because he Monday qualified into the Korn Ferry Tour's Utah Championship in late June and finished T25 for entry into the following week's event. Kyle said the people around him were the greatest part of his military experience, and it taught him nothing is possible without a great team.
- Of his time at the Air Force Academy and professional golf becoming his top goal, Westmoreland said, "I was fortunate, going to the Academy, to have some success as a junior and senior, which opened a few doors and opened my eyes to this being my end goal. It made me not want to be a pilot because I wanted to do five years (of service) and not 12, but I'm so thankful for the experiences I've had on different continents and different countries and to be able to see the mission of what we're doing."
- During his five-year active service term, Westmoreland had limited time for golf but took advantage of some unique facilities and opportunities. Whenever time allowed after work, Westmoreland made the short trip to Patriots Point Links and practiced at its lighted driving range until closing time at 10 p.m. Through a connection at the College of Charleston, Westmoreland got to play with its golf team on the weekends for competition. A go-to drill of his during nights in his room was to putt on a ruler or yardstick, which helped him with alignment and stroke path. And on the way to a deployment in Africa, he spent a week in Roda, Spain and utilized a practice facility which allowed him to rent one club per day; he chose a different iron each day to stay sharp. Westmoreland's college coach, Chris Wilson, connected him with Allen Terrell, formerly the Director of Golf at Coastal Carolina University (Wilson coached under Terrell for two seasons there). The three developed a plan Westmoreland utilized as he ramped up to play mini-tour events, Monday qualifiers, and Q-School once his service term concluded in summer 2019. When time allowed during his three years in Charleston, Westmoreland would make the two-hour drive to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to work directly with Terrell.

Background

- Grew up in Fort Worth, Texas until his high school years, which saw him move to Katy, Texas to attend Cinco Ranch High School. Kyle actually grew up annually attending the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial Country Club.

- As a talented junior golfer growing up in Katy, Texas (roughly 30 miles west of Houston), Westmoreland wanted to be a Texas Longhorn and follow in the footsteps of notable alums Ben Crenshaw, Tom Kite, and Justin Leonard. Westmoreland said of this, "When you live in Houston as a kid, that's the goal. I was fortunate to play well in junior golf and have opportunities to visit some Kansas schools, Colorado schools and Texas schools. Going into the five visits I did take, I thought the Air Force Academy would be the last one I'd choose."
- Of his decision to attend Air Force, Westmoreland said, "I love my country and I wanted to serve. I also wanted to challenge myself."
- When Westmoreland was called back to the Academy in Colorado Springs in summer 2017, he was given 30 days off. Westmoreland hit the road from Charleston, South Carolina and played Monday qualifiers, saying, "Mondays worked well while in transit because if I didn't make it, I just kept going." Westmoreland Monday qualified into the Korn Ferry Tour's Wichita Open in June 2017 and the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae in August 2017.
- Earned PGA TOUR Canada status via Q-School in 2020 and played eight events during the 2021 season; he ended the year with T19 finish at Final Stage of the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament for guaranteed starts on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2022.

Family

- Wife, Erin; the couple wed in May 2018 in Colorado Springs.
- Parents are Don and Kim Westmoreland, and Kyle has one sister.
- Kyle credits his father for having the biggest influence on his sports career.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Westmoreland's staff bag is decorated with military badges from various Air Force members and military squadrons.
- Longtime disciple of kickboxing and Muay Thai and taught hand-to-hand combat at the Air Force Academy.
- Has bench-pressed upwards of 375 pounds and squatted in excess of 500 pounds.
- Excelled in geometry as a student.
- Enjoys pork chops, The Sandlot, and was a fan of The Big Break on GOLF Channel.
- Person in history he would most like to meet is Ben Hogan.
- Supports Texas professional sports teams: Houston Texans (NFL football), Texas Rangers and Houston Astros (MLB baseball). He would love to take batting practice with either the Rangers or Astros.

Other

- Air Force Academy's home course is the Eisenhower Golf Course, which opened in 1959 and was named after former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who took part in the dedication ceremony. The complex has two courses: Blue Course, a Robert Trent Jones Sr. design which measures just over 7,500 yards, and the Silver Course, a newer, shorter layout known for its tricky greens, narrow fairways, and numerous penalty areas.
- Qualified for the 2021 U.S. Open at Torrey Pines, which made him the first United States Air Force Academy graduate to compete in one of golf's four major championships. Westmoreland made the cut and said of the week, "What an awesome experience. The support has been incredible. To play in my country's national championship, in a great military town like San

Diego, with so many friends and family out here cheering me on... it really is a dream come true."

- Prior to earning a PGA TOUR card for the 2022-23 season, Westmoreland received sponsor exemptions from the Military Tribute at The Greenbrier (2019), WM Phoenix Open (2020), Shriners Children's Open (2021), and The Honda Classic (2022).

Ben Griffin

Things To Know

- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season, which saw him record three runner-up finishes. Ben also finished solo-fourth as a sponsor exemption at the 2022 Wyndham Championship, the final event of the PGA TOUR regular season. Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, North Carolina is roughly 60 miles west of Ben's hometown of Chapel Hill.
- Quit professional golf in April 2021 after a failed runs on Korn Ferry Tour (six missed cuts in eight starts in 2019) and PGA TOUR Latinoamerica (four missed cuts in four starts for the 2020-21 season), citing burnout and financial strain and saying, "I wasn't making enough money to support myself. My parents have always been supportive of me, but I never wanted to ask them for more help. I wanted to start making some financial decisions on my own, and that's why I had to go to work. I wasn't confident in myself to make it all the way to the (PGA) TOUR back then." He accepted a job in property management at the beginning of April, earned a license and transitioned into working as a mortgage loan officer in his hometown of Chapel Hill, North Carolina in May.
- First pondered a return to professional golf in July 2021, when he accidentally drove to the golf course instead of the office. One of the key moments in his return was when he Monday qualified into the 2021 Price Cutter Charity Championship at Springfield, Missouri's Highland Springs Country Club, where a friend, Mike Swann, was a member. Swann flew him out for a member-guest tournament at the club, and he and other members of the club encouraged Griffin to enter the Monday qualifier. Griffin, who estimated he played 12 rounds in the four months prior to the qualifier, missed the cut but ultimately decided it was time for another run at professional golf. Ben and Mike remain close friends.
- Completed his professional golf comeback with a T29 at Final Stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament for guaranteed starts in the first eight events of 2022. "It was hard, but I had a couple things telling me I needed to go back," Griffin said of the decision to quit his job as a mortgage loan officer. "For a while, I had lost my dreams."
- During his comeback, Griffin made significant changes to his diet, changing to a plant-based diet which he says gives him more energy throughout the day and his rounds. He also gave up alcohol in summer 2021 as he made his way through the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament.
- Picked up djaying as a hobby in college. His senior year at University of North Carolina, he traded some golf clubs with Tar Heels basketball player K.J. Smith, son of Kenny "The Jet" Smith, for a travel turntable kit K.J. had stopped using. Ben traveled with the turntable kit while he played PGA TOUR Canada his first summer out of college. He said, "it was a fun hobby" for him on the road. Because of the hobby, some friends began to call him "Benny Beats" and "Spinny Griff" both for his djaying and spinny wedges shots. Ben would love to meet Kygo, a Norwegian DJ, and Gryffin, a popular American DJ.

Background

- Born and raised in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he attended East Chapel Hill High School and the University of North Carolina.
- Held and swung a club as early as 11 months old (family has a photo), but he enjoyed baseball, basketball, and soccer more than golf until he was 10 or 11 years old.
- Won two U.S. Kids Golf Teen World Golf Championships at Pinehurst, winning the Boys 14 title in 2010 and the Boys 15-18 crown in 2011. The 2010 field included PGA TOUR winner Sam Burns, who finished T9. Griffin beat PGA TOUR member Will Gordon by a stroke to take the 2011 title.
- Won the 2013 AJGA Rolex Tournament of Champions over a field which included Doug Ghim (T4), Sam Burns (6th), Zecheng Dou (7th), Carl Yuan (9th), Scottie Scheffler (T10), and Cameron Champ (T15), in addition to earning a spot on the 2013 AJGA Rolex Junior All-America First Team with Scheffler and Collin Morikawa.
- Won individual North Carolina state titles as a freshman (2011) and junior (2013); he chipped in on the second playoff hole when he won the 2011 title as freshman.
- Grew up playing mostly at Chapel Hill Country Club until 2008, after which he mostly played and practiced at University of North Carolina Finley Golf Course, a Tom Fazio design which opened in 1999 and is home to UNC's golf program.
- Chapel Hill Country Club, did not have a sprawling practice facility, just a small chipping area and putting green, a key reason why his short game became one of his greatest strengths.
- Played four seasons at University of North Carolina (2014-18), earning All-America Honorable Mentions in 2015 and 2017, winning three individual tournament titles (two in fall 2014 as a freshman, one in fall 2017 as a senior), and breaking the program record for career scoring average (72.02) which was once held by Davis Love III (72.57 from 1982-85). Also fell in a playoff for individual medalist honors at the 2017 Atlantic Coast Conference Championship, losing to Korn Ferry Tour member Jimmy Stanger, then at University of Virginia.
- Held PGA TOUR Canada status when he turned professional out of University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill in the summer of 2018, won the 2018 Staal Foundation Open, his sixth PGA TOUR Canada start, and finished eighth on the Order of Merit; he passed up an equipment sponsorship when he turned professional to play the season with familiar equipment.
- Spent the early part of his professional career in St. Simons Island, Georgia (September 2018 through December 2020) before moving back to Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He moved back to St. Simons Island in April 2022. The driving force behind returning to St. Simons Island in 2022 was for the golf environment at Sea Island and number of PGA TOUR players in the area, which keeps him sharp.

Family

- His father, Cowan, and mother, Erika, met at University of North Carolina and settled in Chapel Hill after college.
- Cowan has a knack for surprising Ben at tournaments but refrains from watching too much. He surprised Ben when he won on PGA TOUR Canada at the 2018 Staal Foundation Open in Thunder Bay, Ontario, flying from North Carolina to Minneapolis, renting a car and making an 8-hour drive to the golf course. Ben recalled, "I turned to the left and saw him (on the 10th hole). That was a lot of emotions... I can't believe he did it. I love it." Ben proceeded to birdie Nos. 10-12 and Nos. 16-18 to win by a stroke.

- Erika worked as a loan officer and convinced Ben to become one himself when he quit professional golf in April 2021.
- Has a younger brother, Stuart.
- His grandpa, Douglas Griffin, was one of his biggest golf mentors as a youngster, and his passing in July 2021 influenced Ben's return to professional golf. Ben noted, "In his obituary he said, hit them long and straight. When I saw that, and after I had accidentally driven to the course (instead of work), I was like, 'Maybe I need to give this another run.'"
- His great grandfather, Benjamin Cowan Shields, played professional baseball (pitcher) for the New York Yankees from 1924-25, Boston Red Sox in 1930, and Philadelphia Phillies in 1931. He joined the Yankees late in 1923, pitched batting practice, and Babe Ruth hit a line drive into the right side of his chest. Near the end of 1925, Shields had recurring medical problems and discovered the line drive damaged his lung and it became infected over the two-year period. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis and voluntarily retired until a brief return in the early 1930s.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Does not drink coffee or soda, humorously saying he does not need any added energy from caffeine.
- Enjoys going to the lake, wakeboarding, surfing, and being outside as much as possible.
- Huge fan of music in general, including electronic dance music.
- Also a huge Jim Nantz fan, in large part because Ben's father, Cowan, was a huge fan. Ben says it would be awesome to have an opportunity to meet Nantz.
- Remains an avid North Carolina Tar Heels supporter.
- Does not really have a favorite professional sports team, but does get interested in the Carolina Hurricanes as they make runs in the NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Lives with fellow professional golfer Bryson Nimmer in St. Simons Island, Georgia, and the two frequently play the Sea Island courses with PGA TOUR members J.T. Poston and Andrew Novak.
- Girlfriend, Dana Myeroff, works as a strategy and innovation consultant for Ernst & Young.

Other

- Shot a 59 at Sea Island in July 2022, holing out an approach shot for from the fairway for an eagle on his final hole. A friend was filming the shot and captured Ben's crazed reaction. Tweet: <https://twitter.com/KornFerryTour/status/1545872340885671936?s=20&t=hfd29IKJR0CHRpTt2sN7cA>
- In a 2011 magazine story published when he was 14 years old, he was quoted as saying, "Golf will help me get through other things in life."

Dean Burmester

- Burmester was born in Mutare, Zimbabwe but holds a South African passport

- His father, Mark Burmester, played international cricket for Zimbabwe while his mother Michelle holds (as of 2022) the women's course record at Royal Harare Golf Club, his home course
- Lists Nick Price and Mark McNulty as his golfing inspirations growing up
- Given the honor of hitting the inaugural tee shot on the DP World Tour (formerly European Tour) to get the 2022 season underway at the 2021 Joburg Open in his native South Africa
- Enjoys fishing on his off-weeks
- Has eight Sunshine Tour victories