



PRESENTED BY  
taylor morrison.

# PRESS RELEASE

## WM PHOENIX OPEN | FEB 5 - 11, 2024

### NEWS

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EVENT TAKES PLACE ON THURSDAY, NOV. 30; TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR \$350 PER PERSON OR \$3,000 FOR TABLE OF 10

#### NBA HALL OF FAMER EARVIN “MAGIC” JOHNSON TO HEADLINE WM PHOENIX OPEN TEE-OFF LUNCHEON AT CHASE FIELD

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** – The Thunderbirds – hosts of the WM Phoenix Open presented by Taylor Morrison – announced today NBA legend and prominent entrepreneur Earvin “Magic” Johnson will be the featured guest for the WM Phoenix Open Tee-Off Luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 30, on the diamond at Chase Field in downtown Phoenix.

Tickets are \$350 per person or \$3,000 for a table of 10 and can be purchased online at <https://www.axs.com/festivals/503436>.

“The Tee-Off Luncheon serves as the official start of Open season and is a great opportunity to share with the community all of the new and exciting things we have planned for the 89<sup>th</sup> edition of ‘The People’s Open,’ said WM Phoenix Open Tournament Chairman George Thimsen. “We are extremely excited to have Magic join us on stage and give an inside look into his incredible career, not only as one of the greatest players in the history of the NBA, but also one of the most influential people in all of sports.”

Johnson is an iconic American businessman and philanthropist and is widely recognized as the greatest point guard in NBA history. His illustrious, 13-year Hall-of-Fame NBA career with the Los Angeles Lakers included 12 NBA All-Star appearances, five NBA championships, three NBA MVP Awards and three NBA Finals MVP Awards. For his efforts on the court and dominance in the NBA’s Western Conference, the NBA in 2022 named the Western Conference Finals MVP Award the “Earvin Magic Johnson Trophy”. Since retiring from basketball, he has been a tireless advocate for HIV/AIDS

prevention, a successful entrepreneur, and a prominent figure in sports ownership, with interests in the Los Angeles Dodgers, Los Angeles Sparks, Los Angeles FC, and the Washington Commanders, amassing a total of 14 championships in his career as a player (both collegiately at Michigan State and professionally for the Lakers) and as owner/executive.

The 2024 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 5-11 at TPC Scottsdale. “The People’s Open” has been named the Tournament of the Year by the PGA TOUR four times to acknowledge the tournament’s legendary status as one the most unique events in golf. The 2024 edition will mark the 89th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 15<sup>th</sup> with WM as title sponsor. For more information visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 “active” members and more than 280 “life” members who have helped the tournament eclipse \$190 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932 (through the 2023 tournament). For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2024 WM Phoenix Open, visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).

