



PRESENTED BY
 taylor
morrison.

PRESS RELEASE

WM PHOENIX OPEN | FEB 6 - 12, 2023

Release Date:

January 18, 2023

Media Contact:

Ryan Woodcock

Woody@wmphoenixopen.com, (480) 766-1221

CAMERON YOUNG, SUNGJAE IM AND SHANE LOWRY AMONG OTHER TOP-20 PLAYERS TO COMMIT

**JUSTIN THOMAS AND WILL ZALATORIS HEADLINE THIRD WAVE OF COMMITMENTS TO
2023 WM PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY TAYLOR MORRISON**

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Tournament Chairman Pat Williams announced today the WM Phoenix Open presented by Taylor Morrison received a third wave of commitments from some of the top PGA TOUR players in the world who will tee it up at “The People’s Open” February 6-12 at TPC Scottsdale. Joining the star-studded field at TPC Scottsdale include 15-time PGA TOUR winner Justin Thomas and 2021 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Will Zalatoris.

Additionally, the tournament received commitments from World No. 17 Cameron Young, World No. 19 Sungjae Im and World No. 20 Shane Lowry.

“We couldn’t be more excited to welcome back Justin and Will to TPC Scottsdale,” Williams said. “When on the course, both players are absolutely electrifying, and off the course, are incredible ambassadors for the game. We can’t wait to see them compete at ‘The People’s Open.’”

Since turning professional in 2013, Justin Thomas has put together one of the best PGA TOUR resumes of his generation, earning 15 PGA TOUR victories, two Major Championship titles (2017, 2022 PGA Championships) and a FedExCup title (2017) in just under a decade. Thomas was named the PGA Player of the Year twice (2017, 2020), the PGA TOUR Player of the Year in the 2016-2017 wrap-around season, and three times led the PGA TOUR in earnings (2016-17, 2017-18, 2019-20). Thomas has represented the United States on three victorious

Presidents Cup teams (2017, 2019, 2022) and the victorious 2020 US Ryder Cup team. Thomas held the No. 1 spot in the Official World Golf Rankings for five weeks in 2018 and is currently ranked No. 8 in the world. Last year Thomas racked up 10 Top-10 finishes and three third place outings to go along with his PGA Championship win at Southern Hills Country Club, while finishing fifth overall in the final FedExCup standings. This will be Thomas' ninth appearance at the WM Phoenix Open, he finished solo eighth in 2022 and turned in his best performance (T3) in 2019 and 2020.

Zalatoris is coming off an impressive 2021-22 campaign, earning his first career PGA TOUR win (FedEx St. Jude Classic), along with runner-up finishes at the PGA Championship, the U.S. Open and the Farmers Insurance Open. His year included nine Top-10 finishes and 13 Top-25's on his way to a 30th place finish in the FedExCup standings. His rookie campaign in 2021 was nearly as impressive, with a runner-up finish at the Masters, a total of eight Top-10s and 14 Top-25's on his way to Rookie of the Year honors. Zalatoris will be making his second WM Phoenix Open appearance – he finished T17 in 2021 playing on a sponsor exemption.

Up-and-coming PGA TOUR star Cameron Young is coming off an impressive rookie season in which accrued seven Top-10s including five runner-up finishes on his way to a 19th place finish in the FedExCup standings and PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year honors. Young's additional Top-10 finishes in his rookie season came in Major Championships, finishing T3 at the 2022 PGA Championship and a solo second-place finish at the 2022 Open Championship. Young is currently ranked No. 17 in the Official World Golf Rankings and will make his second WM Phoenix Open appearance in 2023.

Sungjae Im is quickly making his mark on the PGA TOUR since turning professional and earning PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year honors in his debut season in 2018. In 2022, Im had a standout season, earning his second career PGA TOUR title at the Shriners Children's Open and finishing T2 in the FedExCup standings. Currently ranked No. 19 in the Official World Golf Ranking, Im will be making his fourth appearance at TPC Scottsdale, with his best finish solo seventh in 2019.

Irishman Shane Lowry has had a solid 14-year PGA TOUR career, beginning in 2009, when he won his first professional tournament at the 3 Irish Open. Since that win, Lowry added

several other titles to his record, including the 2015 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational and his first Major title at the 2019 Open Championship at Royal Portrush, making Lowry the first Irishman to win the Open Championship since Pádraig Harrington. Lowry is currently ranked No. 20 in the Official World Golf Rankings and will make his fourth appearance at “The People’s Open” in 2023 (solo sixth his best finish in 2016).

The competitive WM Phoenix Open field will vie for the increased purse of \$20 million, the \$3,6 million first-place check and 500 FedExCup points. PGA TOUR members have until 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3, to commit to play in the WM Phoenix Open. Eligible players are assigned one of 34 PGA TOUR priority ranking categories based on their past performance on TOUR. The field will continue to change as players with higher priority rankings commit to play in the WM Phoenix Open. This year, the WM Phoenix Open is guaranteed to have the majority of the Top-20 players at its event thanks to the commitment from PGA TOUR players in the Player Impact Program. The 2023 WM Phoenix Open has been named one of the PGA TOUR’s “designated status” events.

The 2023 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 6-12 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 2023 edition will mark the 88th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 14th with WM as title sponsor. For more information visit 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 \$165 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932 (through the 2021 tournament). For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2023 WM Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.

