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**Media Contact:**

Ryan Woodcock

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

**MICKELSON, RAHM AMONG LATEST COMMITMENTS TO 2018 WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** – Three-time WM Phoenix Open champion Phil Mickelson and former Arizona State standout Jon Rahm are among the latest players to commit to the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by The AK-Chin Indian Community, set to tee it up January 29-February 4 at TPC Scottsdale. A field of 132 players will vie for the \$6.9 million purse, the \$1,242,000 first-place check and 500 FedExCup points.

Additionally, notable commitments were received from three players currently in the Top-50 in the Official World Golf Ranking – Tony Finau (40), Si Woo Kim (41) and Brendan Steele (45).

“Phil is an incredible ambassador for our tournament, and as a three-time winner, one of the crowd favorites every year,” said Tournament Chairman Carlos Sugich. “We’re also thrilled to welcome back Jon Rahm, a four-time NCAA All-American and rising young star on the PGA TOUR.”

Mickelson will be making his 29<sup>th</sup> appearance at the Waste Management Phoenix Open and is the all-time WM Phoenix Open money leader with \$3.9 million in winnings. Along with his three WM Phoenix Open wins, Mickelson has finished in the Top-10 in 10 of his 28 starts at TPC Scottsdale. With a win in 2018, Mickelson would become the only player in tournament history to win the event four times. He currently ranks 37<sup>th</sup> in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Rahm ranks fourth in the OWGR and claimed his first PGA TOUR victory during the 2017 season with a win at the Farmers Insurance Open. His stellar rookie campaign included two runner-up finishes, two third-place finishes and 11 top-10s; and he finished the year strong with Top-10 finishes in his final four events of the season to finish fifth overall in the final FedExCup standings. Rahm will be making his third appearance at the WM Phoenix Open – he finished T16 in 2017 and T5 in 2015 playing as an amateur on a sponsor exemption.

Jordan Spieth (2) is the highest-ranked player currently in the field, which currently features five of the Top-10 and nine of the Top-25 in the OWGR. Other ranked players in the field include Hideki Matsuyama (4), Rahm (5), Rickie Fowler (7), Brooks Koepka (8), Alex Noren (17), Francesco Molinari (21), Charley Hoffman (23), Xander Schauffele (25), Kevin Chappell (33), Mickelson (35), Finau (40), Kim (41), Steele (45) and Peter Uihlein (49).

Mickelson is the third former champion (1996, 2005 and 2013) currently in the field, joining Matsuyama (2016, 2017) and Koepka (2015).

PGA TOUR members have until 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, to commit to play in the Waste Management 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 Open.

The 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by the Ak-Chin Indian Community will be held at TPC Scottsdale January 29 – February 4, 2018. “The People’s Open” is the best-attended golf tournament in the world and has gained legendary status for being the most unique stop on the PGA TOUR. The 2017 tournament broke four attendance records, including a PGA TOUR record 655,434 fans for the week. The 2018 edition will mark the 83<sup>rd</sup> playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the ninth as the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

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 250 “life” members. In 2017 The Thunderbirds raised a record \$10.1 million for charity from proceeds from last year’s tournament and have eclipsed \$122 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).



Alpha Field List - PGA TOUR - Dec 26, 2017 5:00 PM  
Waste Management Phoenix Open -

An, Byeong Hun	Hossler, Beau	Piller, Martin
Ancer, Abraham	Howell III, Charles	Points, D.A.
Armour, Ryan	Hughes, Mac	Potter, Jr., Ted
Atkins, Matt	Huh, John	Power, Seamus
Bae, Sangmoon	Hurley III, Billy	Putnam, Andrew
Barber, Blayne	Jaeger, Stephan	Rahm, Jon
Beljan, Charlie	Jones, Matt	Randolph, Jonathan
Bryan, Wesley	Kang, Sung	Reavie, Chez
Burgoon, Bronson	Kaufman, Smylie	Ryder, Sam
Campbell, Chad	Kim, Michael	Saunders, Sam
Cejka, Alex	Kim, Si Woo	Schauffele, Xander
Chalmers, Greg	Kim, Whee	Schenk, Adam
Chappell, Kevin	Kirk, Chris	Shindler, Conrad
Choi, K.J.	Kizzire, Patton	Silverman, Ben
Connors, Corey	Knost, Colt	Smith, Cameron
Cook, Austin	Knox, Russell	Snedeker, Brandt
Dahmen, Joel	Koepka, Brooks	Spaun, J.J.
DeChambeau, Bryson	Kokrak, Jason	Spieth, Jordan
Díaz, Roberto	Laird, Martin	Stallings, Scott
Dou, Zecheng	Landry, Andrew	Steele, Brendan
Duncan, Tyler	Lashley, Nate	Stefani, Shawn
Every, Matt	Lee, Danny	Stegmaier, Brett
Finau, Tony	Lindheim, Nicholas	Streb, Robert
Flores, Martin	List, Luke	Streelman, Kevin
Fowler, Rickie	Loupe, Andrew	Stroud, Chris
Garnett, Brice	Lovelady, Tom	Stuard, Brian
Garrigus, Robert	Lowry, Shane	Swafford, Hudson
Gay, Brian	Martin, Ben	Taylor, Nick
Gómez, Fabián	Matsuyama, Hideki	Taylor, Vaughn
Gooch, Talor	McCarthy, Denny	Thompson, Kyle
Goosen, Retief	McGirt, William	Tracy, Ethan
Gribble, Cody	Merritt, Troy	Tringale, Cameron
Griffin, Lanto	Mickelson, Phil	Tway, Kevin
Grillo, Emiliano	Mitchell, Keith	Uihlein, Peter
Hadley, Chesson	Molinari, Francesco	Van Aswegen, Tyrone

Hadwin, Adam  
Hahn, James  
Harkins, Brandon  
Henry, J.J.  
Hoffman, Charley  
Hoge, Tom

Murray, Grayson  
Noren, Alex  
Oppenheim, Rob  
Palmer, Ryan  
Pan, C.T.  
Piercy, Scott

Varner III, Harold  
Watson, Bubba  
Werenski, Richy  
Wheatcroft, Steve  
Wise, Aaron  
Zhang, Xinjun