



**Release Date:**

January 16, 2020

**Media Contact:**

Ryan Woodcock

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

**THREE-TIME MAJOR WINNER JORDAN SPIETH COMMITS TO  
2020 WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**

**SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.** – Tournament Chairman Tim Woods announced today three-time major champion Jordan Spieth is the latest golfer to commit to play in the 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open which will tee it up Jan. 27 – Feb. 2 at TPC Scottsdale. Additionally, Cameron Smith, who currently sits 31<sup>st</sup> in the Official World Golf Rankings and is coming off a win at last week’s Sony Open in Hawaii, also committed to play in “The People’s Open”.

Spieth has racked up 11 PGA TOUR victories since he turned pro in 2012, including his three major wins before his 24<sup>th</sup> birthday. Just one year removed from college in 2013, Spieth was named the PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year thanks to a win at the John Deere Classic and three runner-up finishes.

He put together a phenomenal 2015 season – holding the No. 1 spot in the Official World Golf Rankings for 26 weeks – where he won five times including two major wins (Masters and U.S. Open) and a second-place finish at the PGA Championship en route to a FedExCup Championship and PGA TOUR Player of the Year honors.

In 2017, Spieth picked up his third Major victory at the Open Championship at Royal Birkdale to go along with two other victories that year (AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Travelers Championship). Spieth has been a member of three U.S. Presidents Cup teams and two U.S. Ryder Cup teams and is currently ranked No. 43 in the Official World Golf Rankings. He has two Top-10s in three WM Phoenix Open appearances, finishing T7 in 2015 and T9 in 2017.

Australian native Cameron Smith is coming off a win last week at the Sony Open in Hawaii where he won a sudden-death playoff over Brendan Steele for his first individual victory on the PGA TOUR. Smith's other win on the PGA TOUR also came via sudden-death playoff at the 2017 Zurich Classic with playing partner Jonas Blixt. Additionally, Smith has two victories on the European Tour – back-to-back victories at the Australian PGA Championship (2017, 2018).

Currently the field has 16 players ranked in the Top-50 of the Official World Golf Rankings, led by Jon Rahm who sits 3<sup>rd</sup> in the standings. The other top-ranked players include Justin Thomas (4), Xander Schauffele (8), Webb Simpson (11), Gary Woodland (14), Bryson DeChambeau (16), Hideki Matsuyama (21), Rickie Fowler (22), Kevin Na (27), Cameron Smith (31), Sungjae Im (35), Billy Horschel (36), Chez Reavie (37), Jordan Spieth (43), Byeong Hun An (44) and Brandt Snedeker (47).

The field also includes 21 of the Top-30 in the current FedExCup standings, along with 13 players who finished in the Top-25 in last year's FedExCup race.

A total of 132 players will vie for the \$7.3 million purse, the \$1,314,000 first-place check and 500 FedExCup points. PGA TOUR members have until 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24, 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 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by The Ak-Chin Indian Community will be held at TPC Scottsdale January 27 – February 2, 2020. "The People's Open" was recently named the Tournament of the Year by the PGA TOUR for 2019, an honor that has been awarded four times in the last six years (2014, 2015, 2018, 2019) to help the tournament gain legendary status for being one the most unique events in golf. The 2020 edition will mark the 85<sup>th</sup> playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 11<sup>th</sup> 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 280 "life" members. The Thunderbirds raised a record \$13.2 million for charity from proceeds from the 2019 WM Phoenix Open and have eclipsed \$147 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).

