FIELD INCLUDES 10 OF TOP-25, 23 OF TOP-50 IN OFFICIAL WORLD GOLF RANKING

KEEGAN BRADLEY, KEVIN KISNER, EMILIANO GRILLO AMONG FINAL COMMITMENTS AS FIELD IS NEARLY SET FOR 2019 WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Top-ranked players Keegan Bradley (32), Kevin Kisner (40) and Emiliano Grillo (49) are among the final players to commit to play in the 2019 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by The Ak-Chin Indian Community, set to tee it up January 28-February 3 at TPC Scottsdale.

Additionally, Daniel Berger and Steve Stricker committed to the field, while PGA TOUR veteran and six-time TOUR winner Bill Haas received the fourth of five available sponsor exemptions for the 2019 tournament. The previous three exemptions were awarded to Oklahoma State All-American Matthew Wolfe and former WM Phoenix Open champions Aaron Baddeley and Hunter Mahan.

The field for next week’s tournament is nearly set as one sponsor exemption and three qualifying spots are still up for grabs. A field of 132 players will vie for the $7.1 million purse, the $1,278,000 first-place check and 500 FedExCup points.

PGA TOUR members had until 5 p.m. ET today 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.

Non-committed players participating in the Farmers Insurance Open have a half-hour from the end of second round play to commit. In addition, any previously uncommitted players placing in the Top-10 at the Farmers Insurance Open also can commit to play Sunday evening.
“As always we have a top-notch field and we’re excited to welcome this group of past champions, Ryder Cup favorites, Major winners and the next group of up-and-coming PGA TOUR stars to play in ‘The People’s Open’,” said Chance Cozby, Tournament Chairman. “Nearly half of the Top-50 golfers in the world are coming to our event, which is really special and something we’re tremendously proud of.”

The 2019 field includes 23 of the Top-50 players in the Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR). Justin Thomas (4) is the highest-ranked player currently in the field, which features four of the Top-10 and 10 of the Top-25 in the OWGR. Other ranked players in the field include Xander Schauffele (6), Jon Rahm (7), Tony Finau (10), Rickie Fowler (11), Bubba Watson (18), Webb Simpson (19), Alex Noran (21), Matt Kuchar (22), Gary Woodland (24), Phil Mickelson (26), Cameron Smith (28), Tyrrell Hatton (29), Keegan Bradley (32), Hideki Matsuyama (33), Kyle Stanley (34), Billy Horschel (37), Kiradech Aphibarnrat (38), Kevin Kisner (40), Andrew Putnam (46), Brandt Snedeker (48), Emiliano Grillo (49) and Satoshi Kodaira (50).

The field includes 11 players who have combined to win 18 Major championships including Phil Mickelson (5), Zach Johnson (2), Martin Kaymer (2), Bubba Watson (2), Keegan Bradley (1), Stewart Cink (1), Lucas Glover (1), Justin Thomas (1), Charl Schwartzel (1), Webb Simpson (1) and Jimmy Walker (1).


Bradley is coming off a strong 2018 campaign in which he carded five Top-10 finishes and secured his fourth PGA TOUR victory at the 2018 BMW Championship. Bradley’s win at the BMW catapulted him from No. 52 in the FedExCup standings to No. 6, earning him a spot in the TOUR Championship for the first time since 2013, eventually finishing eighth after a T26 finish in the final event of the season. Bradley has notched three Ryder Cup appearances for the U.S. team (2012, 2014, 2016) serving as a captain’s pick for the 2016 event.

A two-time PGA TOUR winner, Kinser had a solid 2018 wrap-around season making 18 cuts in 25 starts with four Top-10 finishes including a T2 at the 2018 Open Championship – his best finish in a Major.

Argentina native Emiliano Grillo won his first PGA TOUR event his rookie professional season in 2016 at the Frys.com Open, besting Kevin Na in a playoff. He carded six Top-10 finishes in 2018, the best of which
was third-place finishes in the Houston Open and Fort Worth Invitational leading to a No. 32 spot in the final FedExCup standings.

Haas has accumulated six PGA TOUR wins in his 13-year professional career including the 2013 AT&T National, the 2015 Humana Challenge and the 2011 TOUR Championship. Haas also was a member of the victorious United States Presidents Cup teams in 2011, 2013 and 2015.

The 2019 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by The Ak-Chin Indian Community will be held at TPC Scottsdale January 28 – February 3, 2019. “The People’s Open” was recently tabbed the 2018 Tournament of Year by the PGA TOUR, is the best-attended golf tournament in the world and has gained legendary status for being the most unique events in golf. The 2019 edition will mark the 84th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 10th 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 285 “life” members. In 2018 The Thunderbirds raised a record $12.2 million for charity from proceeds from last year’s tournament and have eclipsed $134 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932. For more information on The Thunderbirds or the 2019 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.