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EUROPEAN RYDER CUP CAPTAIN LUKE DONALD RECEIVES SECOND SPONSOR EXEMPTION FOR 2024 WM PHOENIX OPEN

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Tournament Chairman George Thimsen announced today 23-year PGA TOUR veteran and current European Ryder Cup Captain Luke Donald will receive the second of five available sponsor exemptions for the 2024 WM Phoenix Open presented by Taylor Morrison, set to tee it up February 5-11 at TPC Scottsdale.

“Luke has had an outstanding career and is an incredible friend of the game of golf,” Thimsen said. “We’re thrilled and honored to have the current European Ryder Cup captain back at ‘The People’s Open’ and can’t wait to see him compete at TPC Scottsdale.”

Donald has enjoyed an enviable 22-year career winning 13 times in 421 tournaments across multiple professional tours including the PGA TOUR and the DP World Tour. Donald’s first career win came his rookie season at the 2002 Southern Farm Bureau Classic and would win another four times between 2002 and 2011. During the 2011 and 2012 seasons, Donald exploded collecting three PGA TOUR victories, four international wins and the coveted Official World Golf Rankings No. 1 spot which he held for 56 total weeks. Donald was a playing member of four winning European Ryder Cup teams (2004, 2006, 2010, 2012) and Captain of the victorious 2023 European team. Donald will make his 10th appearance at “The People’s Open” in 2024.

The Thunderbirds and WM have a total of five exemptions to award for the 2024 WM Phoenix Open. 2014 WM Phoenix Open champ Kevin Stadler received the first exemption, while the remaining three will be announced leading up to the tournament.

The 2024 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 5-11 at TPC Scottsdale. “The People’s Open” was named Tournament of the Year at the 2023 PGA TOUR annual meetings, garnering the award for the fifth time 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 15th with WM as title sponsor. For more information visit www.wmphenixopen.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.wmphenixopen.com.

