

E-Notes from the PGA TOUR



PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL

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- The 2009 PGA TOUR season begins with 43 members still in their 20s. Of the 43, 20 have already earned TOUR victories—10 of them with more than one. The 10 are **Aaron Baddeley (2 wins), Sergio Garcia (7), J.B. Holmes (2), Charles Howell III (2), Trevor Immelman (2), Anthony Kim (2), Sean O’Hair (2), Adam Scott (6), D.J. Trahan (2) and Camilo Villegas (2).**
- There are 28 rookies on TOUR this year, including 10 who have never played in a TOUR event before—**Tyler Aldridge, Matt Bettencourt, Kris Blanks, Matthew Borchert, Marc Leishman, James Nitties, James Oh, Brendon Todd, Brian Vranesh and Gary Woodland.**
- As the season begins, 11 players on TOUR are under the age of 25. **Jason Day** is the youngest. He won’t turn 22 until after the season ends (Nov. 12). The rest of the list includes (in order) **Derek Fathauer, Webb Simpson, Brendon Todd, Colt Knost, Anthony Kim, Casey Wittenberg, Tyler Aldridge, Dustin Johnson, Spencer Levin and Gary Woodland.**
- Arizona State has the most alumni on TOUR this year with nine. Georgia Tech, Oklahoma State, UCLA and UNLV each have eight with Texas next with seven and Arizona, Florida and New Mexico each with six.
- 2009 PGA TOUR players hail from 19 countries outside the U.S. Australia has 24 members to lead all international nations. The U.S. born players hail from 41 states (plus the District of Columbia).
- International players have made their presence felt in recent years. International players won 41 titles in the ‘80s, 95 in the ‘90s and 138 already in this decade.
- The TOUR will visit 22 states and four countries this season.
- There are 61 members 6 feet, 2 inches or taller this year, including the two tallest players—**Jay Delsing and Brian Vranesh**—each 6 feet, 5 inches tall.

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GIVING BACK: THE HEART OF THE PGA TOUR

- 31 members have won major championships in their careers. The 31 have combined to win 61 major crowns.
- **Ernie Els** might be the man to watch this week at the Sony Open in Hawaii. In his five previous starts at the tournament, he's finished 2-1-1-3-5. In his 20 rounds at Waialae CC he's been in the 60s 18 times and is a collective 66-under.
- Much like **Els**, **David Toms** has found Waialae CC to his liking. While he struggled on the course prior to the renovation in 1999, since then Toms has finished T13-1-T13-T4 in his four starts at the Sony Open in Hawaii. He's 40-under in that stretch with 13 rounds in the 60s (out of 16).
- When **Geoff Ogilvy** won last week's Mercedes-Benz Championship, it marked the eighth consecutive season in which an international player won the season-opening event on the PGA TOUR.
- His runner-up finish last week was the 166th Top-10 finish of **Davis Love III's** career. That's the most of any active player on TOUR. Vijay Singh is one back with 165 career Top-10s.
- A total of 25 rookies are expected to tee it up this week at the Sony Open in Hawaii, including 10 players who have never competed previously in a PGA TOUR event.
- This week's field also includes 26 players who won last year on the PGA TOUR along with 16 who won on the Nationwide Tour, two from the Champions Tour and the winner of the 2008 Qualifying Tournament.