E-Notes from the PGA TOUR



PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL

March 17, 2009

Written by Dave Lancer, Director Information

- There are 37 events in the PGA TOUR regular season. In 2008, six of the Top-10 players in the standings in the FedExCup through the first 12 tournaments finished the regular season among the Top-10. The TOUR hit the 12 event mark this past weekend and the current Top-10 includes Geoff Ogilvy, Phil Mickelson, Nick Watney, Kenny Perry, Dustin Johnson, Zach Johnson, Pat Perez, Steve Stricker, John Rollins and Y.E. Yang.
- There's a really strong field assembled this week for the Transitions Championship with 27 players who have won in 2008 or 2009 entered. Included among them are **K.J. Choi**, a two-time winner of the event, and **Vijay Singh**, also a former champion. They'll be joined by such others as **Jim Furyk**, **Retief Goosen**, **Trevor Immelman**, **Zach Johnson**, **Kenny Perry**, **Adam Scott**, **Boo Weekley** and defending champ, **Sean O'Hair**.
- When **Sean O'Hair** opened eagle-eagle last week at the World Golf Championships-CA Championship, it marked the first time a player had started eagle-eagle since **Chris Tidland** at the 2007 Ginn sur Mer Classic. The last player to start eagle-eagle at Doral CC was **David Toms** who performed the feat back in 1999.
- **Michael Bradley** had gone 11 years and 7 days since his last win before taking home the title at last week's Puerto Rico Open presented by Banco Popular. It was also his first Top-10 finish since a T9 at the 2000 Michelob Championship at Kingsmill.
- **Michael Campbell**, the 2005 U.S. Open champ, will make his first PGA TOUR start since last year's PGA Championship at this week's Transitions Championship.
- In winning last week's CA Championship, **Phil Mickelson** needed only 99 putts thanks to four chip-ins during the week. Even at that, he didn't lead the field in fewest putts. That honor went to **Wen-Tang Lin** who needed just 98.
- The teenagers had a good week last week. **Rory McIlroy** finished T20 at the CA Championship while **Tadd Fujikawa** finished T31 at the Puerto Rico Open presented by Banco Popular. Another teenager will give it a go this week when **Ryo Ishikawa** makes his second TOUR start at the Transitions Championship.

CHAMPIONS TOUR

- **Dan Forsman** became the fifth different winner in five events on the 2009 schedule with his victory last week at the AT&T Champions Classic. It was his first Champions Tour victory since turning 50 last July and his first victory since the 2002 SEI Pennsylvania Classic on the PGA TOUR.
- Forsman edged out a couple of other players who were also seeking their first Champions Tour victory. **Fulton Allem, Ben Crenshaw and Joey Sindelar** all finished T4 just two strokes back.
- **Joey Sindelar** is off to a strong start in his second season on the Champions Tour. In his four starts this year, he's finished T21 in his opener and since then has finished T7-T2-T4. He's fifth on the Charles Schwab Cup points list.

NATIONWIDE TOUR

- There was an interesting oddity at the three events Down Under. In the Moonah Classic in Australia, Aussie players finished 1-2-3. The following week at the HSBC New Zealand PGA Championship, Kiwi players finished 1-2-3. Finally, at last week's Michael Hill New Zealand Open, U.S. players finished 1-2-3.
- **Richard Johnson** had a shot for the ages at last week's Michael Hill New Zealand Open, holing his tee shot on the 347-yard, par-4 15th hole during the final round. It's the second ace on a par-4 in Nationwide Tour history and just the third on any of the three Tours.
- The victory by **Michael Bradley** last week at the Puerto Rico Open presented by Banco Popular was the 242nd win on the PGA TOUR by a former Nationwide Tour player.