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2013 World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship Pre-Tournament Media Notes

Dates: February 18-24, 2013

Where: The Golf Club at Dove Mountain, Marana, Ariz.

Par/Yards: 36-36-72/7,791

Field: Top 64 from the Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) as of February 11, 2013

Format: Match Play (hole-by-hole competition)

Defending Champion: Hunter Mahan (USA)

Purse: \$8,750,000; Winner's Share: \$1.5 million

Accenture Match Play Championship seeding to be based off OWGR as of Monday, Feb. 20

The field was finalized on Monday, February 11, but the seedings for the tournament bracket are based off the most recent Official World Golf Ranking, released Sunday, February 17, following the conclusion of the Northern Trust Open, to ensure the brackets reflect the most recent OWGR to more accurately seed the players.

The top four top seeds are World No. 1: Rory McIlroy (Northern Ireland), No. 2-ranked Tiger Woods (USA), No. 3 Luke Donald (England) and No. 4 Louis Oosthuizen (South Africa).

How the Accenture Match Play Championship was won by Hunter Mahan in 2012

Hunter Mahan earned his fourth career PGA TOUR victory and second World Golf Championships title with a 2-and-1 victory over Rory McIlroy in the Championship Match, the first time in tournament history that two 20-somethings met in the finals. Mahan joined Tiger Woods as the only players to win multiple World Golf Championships events in their 20s.

Mahan did not trail in any match after the third hole of the second round (versus Y.E. Yang), a span of 74 holes. He made 35 birdies in 96 holes for the week to lead the field, and he did not have a match extended to No. 18 over his last five matches. His first-round match against Dustin Johnson ended in 19 holes.

Mahan's path to the title:

R1	defeated Zach Johnson	19 holes
R2	defeated Y.E. Yang	5 and 3
R3	defeated Steve Stricker	4 and 3
Quarterfinal	defeated Matt Kuchar	6 and 5
Semifinal	defeated Mark Wilson	2 and 1
Finals	defeated Rory McIlroy	2 and 1

Mahan became the lowest-ranked (in the OWGR) American (No. 22) to win the Accenture Match Play Championship since Kevin Sutherland (No. 65) in 2002. Overall, he was the lowest-ranked player to win the Accenture Match Play Championship since Geoff Ogilvy (No. 53) in 2006.

Rory McIlroy – Northern Ireland (No. 1 seed overall, No. 1 seed in the Bobby Jones Bracket; faces Ireland's Shane Lowry in the first round)

Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy becomes the seventh player to enter the tournament as the No. 1 seed, joining Luke Donald (2012), Lee Westwood (2011), Steve Stricker (2010), Tiger Woods (1999, 2000, 2002-2004, 2006-2009), Vijay Singh (2005) and Ernie Els (2001).

Making his 16th start in a World Golf Championships event, McIlroy has 10 top-10 finishes. The closest he came to winning was last year's runner-up at the Accenture Match Play Championship, losing to Hunter Mahan in the championship match, 2 and 1.

This is McIlroy's fifth time competing in the Accenture Match Play Championship, a tournament where he made his professional U.S. debut in 2009. He has a 10-4 record and has advanced beyond the first round in each of his four previous appearances.

The No. 1 overall seed has not advanced beyond the second round of the event since 2008, with the No. 1 seed losing in the first round twice during that time.

McIlroy is kicking off his PGA TOUR season at the Accenture Match Play Championship. He's made one start on the European Tour thus far, a missed cut at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship.

McIlroy's first-round opponent, Shane Lowry, is playing in the Accenture Match Play Championship for the first time in his career.

Tiger Woods – United States (No. 2 seed over all, No. 1 seed in the Gary Player Bracket; faces Charles Howell III in first round)

With a victory at the Farmers Insurance Open already under his belt in 2013, Tiger Woods returns to the Accenture Match Play Championship as a three-time winner of the event (2003, 2004, 2008). Woods, who has dominated the World Golf Championships with 16 wins in his career, holds the Accenture Match Play Championship record for both matches played (42) and matches won (33) as well as most appearances in the finals (4). He won a tournament record 13 consecutive matches from 2003-2005.

In 12 previous appearances, he has only lost in the first round twice; however, Woods has not advanced beyond the second round since his win in 2008.

Tiger Woods' victories in the World Golf Championships

Bridgestone Invitational 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009

Accenture Match Play Championship 2003, 2004, 2008

Cadillac Championship 1999, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007

Woods will play Charles Howell III in the opening round. Howell is 4-7 in seven previous starts at the Accenture Match Play Championship. His last appearance at the event was 2008. The two have never faced each other at the event before.

Luke Donald – England (No. 3 seed overall, No. 1 seed in the Sam Snead Bracket; faces Germany's Marcel Siem in the first round)

In winning the 2011 Accenture Match Play Championship, Donald never trailed in any of his six matches and none of his six matches made it to the 18th hole. He joined Tiger Woods (2003) as the only players to win the Accenture Match Play Championship without playing the 18th hole. The deepest in any of his six matches Donald was all square was through 10 holes, which occurred in the Championship Match versus Kaymer and in the Second Round versus Italy's Edoardo Molinari.

Luke Donald's path to victory in 2011

- Round 1 – 6 and 5 over No. 56 Charley Hoffman (USA)
- Round 2 – 2 and 1 over No. 24 Edoardo Molinari (ITA)
- Round 3 – 3 and 2 over No. 57 Matteo Manassero (ITA)
- Quarterfinal – 5 and 4 over No. 48 Ryan Moore (USA)
- Semifinal – 6 and 5 over No. 13 Matt Kuchar (USA)
- Finals – 3 and 2 over No. 2 Martin Kaymer (DEU)

Donald made his PGA TOUR debut last week at the Northern Trust Open, where he finished T16.

Donald holds a 16-7 record at the Accenture Match Play Championship in eight starts. Last year, he became only the fourth defending champion to be eliminated in the first round (was defeated by Ernie Els, 5 and 4). Ian Poulter (2011), Steve Stricker (2002) and Jeff Maggert (2000) are the other three.

Donald will play Marcel Siem of Germany in the opening round. Siem is playing in the event for the first time in his career – his third career start in a World Golf Championships event (T60-2012 Bridgestone Invitational, T11-2012 HSBC Champions).

Louis Oosthuizen – South Africa (No. 4 seed overall, No. 1 seed in the Ben Hogan Bracket; faces Scotland's Richie Ramsay in the first round)

Oosthuizen moved to No. 5 in the Official World Golf Ranking on Sunday, passing **Justin Rose** (ENG) and taking the No. 1 seed in the Ben Hogan Bracket due to Snedeker's withdrawal. Oosthuizen is making his fourth Accenture Match Play Championship appearance and will be looking to improve upon his 1-3 record. Last year was the first time he advanced beyond the first round before losing to Steve Stricker on the 18th hole in round two.

In his three previous appearances, Oosthuizen has entered the event seeded 49th in 2009, 20th in 2011 and 28th in 2012.

Like McIlroy, Oosthuizen is making the Accenture Match Play Championship his first PGA TOUR start of the season. In January on the European Tour, Oosthuizen won the Volvo Golf Champions and finished T34 at the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters.

Additional field notes

- Hunter Mahan enters his title defense against Italy's Matteo Manassero in Round One and will look to become just the second player to claim back-to-back Accenture Match Play Championship titles (Tiger Woods, 2003-2004). Manassero is playing in the event for the third consecutive year having beaten Steve Stricker (2011) and Webb Simpson (2012) in the first rounds of his previous two appearances.
- Brandt Snedeker and Phil Mickelson are not competing. They were replaced in the field by Shane Lowry (65 on Feb. 11) and Fredrik Jacobson (66 on Feb. 11). Snedeker withdrew from the field due to sore ribs after playing in five of the first six events of the PGA TOUR season, while Mickelson is not competing due to a scheduled family vacation. Ireland's Lowry earns a spot in the field for the first time and will be making only his fourth-career start in a World Golf Championships event. Jacobson, of Sweden, will make his fourth Accenture Match Play Championship start after just missing out on a playoff at the Northern Trust Open. The T3 finish moved him up to the No. 45 seed where he will face Ernie Els.
- Ten tournament winners of the 2013 season on both the PGA TOUR and the European Tour are in the field. The PGA TOUR winners are: Dustin Johnson (Hyundai Tournament of Champions); Russell Henley (Sony Open in Hawaii); Tiger Woods (Farmers Insurance Open). The European Tour winners are: Scott Jamieson (Nelson Mandela Championship presented by ISPS Handa); Charl Schwartzel (Alfred Dunhill Championship); Louis Oosthuizen (Volvo Champions); Jamie Donaldson (Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship); Chris Wood (Commercial Bank Qatar Masters); Stephen Gallacher (Omega Dubai Desert Classic); and Richard Sterne (Joburg Open).
- Defending champion Hunter Mahan is one of seven past champions of the Accenture Match Play Championship in the field who have won a combined nine titles.
 - Hunter Mahan (2012)
 - Luke Donald (2011)
 - Ian Poulter (2010)
 - Tiger Woods (2003, 2004, 2008)
 - Henrik Stenson (2007)
 - David Toms (2005)
 - Steve Stricker (2001)
- There are 12 players making their first-career start at the Accenture Match Play Championship. They are: Jamie Donaldson (Wal); Marcus Fraser (Aus); Stephen Gallacher (Sco); Robert Garrigus (USA); Branden Grace (Zaf); Russell Henley (USA); Shane Lowry (Ire); David Lynn (Eng); Thorbjorn Olesen (Dnk); Scott Piercy (USA); Richie Ramsay (Sco); and Marcel Siem (Deu). Henley is the only player in the field making his World Golf Championships debut.
- The No. 64 seed has defeated the No. 1 overall seed three times in the 14-year history of the Accenture Match Play Championship, including last year when South Africa's Ernie Els defeated England's Luke Donald, 5 and 4.

- Fifteen upsets (lower seed defeating higher seed) occurred in the first round last year at the Accenture Match Play Championship, the most since the tournament's first year in 1999 when there were 18.

Upsets (yearly, by round):

Year	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Quarter	Semi	Final
2012	15	3	5	0	0	1
2011	14	7	2	0	0	1
2010	12	12	2	1	0	1
2009	13	6	3	2	0	0
2008	13	8	2	2	0	0
2007	11	7	3	0	0	0
2006	13	6	7	4	1	1
2005	13	7	4	3	1	0
2004	12	7	3	0	0	0
2003	13	9	4	1	0	1
2002	13	11	3	4	2	2
2001	12	10	6	1	2	2
2000	11	7	1	1	1	1
1999	18	9	4	3	1	0
Totals	168	105	44	22	8	9

Golf's Global Summit

A total of 17 countries are represented by the field, with 43 international players. South Africa leads the way with seven players. England and Sweden follow with six and five players, respectively. Next are Australia (4), Scotland (3), Spain (3), Germany (2), Denmark (2), Ireland (2), Italy (2), Northern Ireland (2) and Belgium, Japan, Korea, Thailand and Wales with one each.

The most countries ever represented at the Accenture Match Play Championship is 19 (2006, 2009, 2010).

The rookies

- 14 of the 30 players in the 2013 rookie class are 25 years of age or younger.
- Six of the rookies had never played a PGA TOUR event entering the 2013 season.
- Rookies in the Accenture Match Play Championship field include
 - **Nicolas Colsaerts** – Belgium's first-ever PGA TOUR member played for the European squad at the 2012 Ryder Cup. Nicolas Colsaerts made his first TOUR start as a member at the Farmers Insurance Open (T44); he missed the cut at the Waste Management Phoenix Open and at the Northern Trust Open. This is Colaserts' second Accenture Match Play Championship start (T33-2012).
 - **Peter Hanson** – The 35-year-old Swede certainly has more World Golf Championships experience than a typical rookie (17 starts coming into this week). Peter Hanson qualified for the PGA TOUR by virtue of the 2012 non-member money list. In 2012, Hanson finished T5 at the Accenture Match Play Championship, T4 at the Cadillac Championship, T3 at the Masters Tournament and T7 at the PGA Championship. He's making his PGA TOUR season debut this week, his sixth consecutive start at the Accenture Match Play Championship.
 - **Russell Henley** – A true rookie, Russell Henley won in just his third official start on the PGA TOUR (first as a professional), at the Sony Open in Hawaii. He became the first rookie to win in his first start as an official member of the PGA TOUR since Garrett Willis at the 2001 Touchstone Energy Tucson Open. His 256 total was also the third-lowest 72-hole total (tie with Mark Calcavecchia at the 2001 Phoenix Open) in PGA TOUR history. Henley is the only player in the field making his first start in a World Golf Championships event.
 - **Martin Kaymer** – Like Hanson, Germany's Martin Kaymer took up PGA TOUR membership for the first time this year after qualifying via the 2012 non-member money list. Kaymer is making his 20th start in a World Golf Championships event. He owns one title (2011 HSBC Champions) and one runner-up finish here, also in 2011. Kaymer kicked his PGA TOUR season off at the Waste Management Phoenix Open, where he missed the cut. He posted a T6 and a T9 finish in his two European Tour appearances in January.

- **David Lynn** – England's David Lynn qualified for the TOUR by finishing in the top 125 on the 2012 PGA TOUR non-member money list, thanks to a second-place finish at the PGA Championships, worth \$865,000. He has only one previous World Golf Championships start – a T69 at the 2012 HSBC Champions. So far this season, Lynn has competed in four PGA TOUR events, with his best finish a T46 at the Northern Trust Open.

The Golf Club at Dove Mountain

A few facts about The Golf Club at Dove Mountain, as the course hosts the Accenture Match Play Championship for the fifth-consecutive year:

- Longest Match – 24 Holes (Paul Casey def. Camilo Villegas, 2010 Semifinals)
- Shortest Match – 8 and 7 (Ben Crane def. Rory McIlroy, 2011 Second Round)
- 33 – Number of matches to go extra holes since 2009.
- 53 – Number of matches decided on No. 18 since 2009.
- 38 – Number of matches that ended prior to No. 15 since 2009.

“Follow the Leaders” at the 2013 Accenture Match Play Championship

After a successful debut in 2012, “Follow the Leaders” is a back for the 2013 Accenture Match Play Championship, giving fans an opportunity to fall in behind the Championship Match and follow the players down each fairway until the champion is decided. “Follow the Leaders” will give fans the unique chance to experience the crowd, walk the fairways and view the greens from a player's perspective. All Sunday ticket holders will be invited to “Follow the Leaders” at the Accenture Match Play Championship.

Groups of volunteers will be stationed on two holes at a time – the hole currently being played and preparing for the next hole to be played – holding ropes that allow fans to follow behind the final group up to within 40 feet of play. The gallery will not be allowed near greenside bunkers, within approaches to the green or between a bunker and a green. Marshals will also ensure fans do not walk in front of the players at any point.

2013 PGA TOUR Storylines

Structural changes to the PGA TOUR

- For the first time in the FedExCup era, the 40-tournament official money schedule will give the season a definitive end at the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, the fourth event in the FedExCup Playoffs. The 2013-2014 PGA TOUR Season officially begins three weeks later with those tournaments that formerly made up the Fall Series; those events begin awarding full FedExCup points.
- Year seven of the FedExCup includes 36 events before the Playoffs, one less than 2012 due to the Mayakoba Golf Classic moving to its own unencumbered fall date in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season.
- The CIMB Classic and World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions become official events on the PGA TOUR (official victory, full FedExCup points, official money; winners qualify for Hyundai Tournament of Champions).
- For the first time, the Web.com Tour becomes the path for the PGA TOUR's 50 new membership cards. The top 25 players on the money list for the Web.com Tour Regular Season will earn cards but must play the Finals for positioning. The Web.com Tour Finals will determine an additional 25 cards, based on cumulative earnings in those events, as well as the positioning of all 50 cards.