



**2013 World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship** (*The 8<sup>th</sup> of 36 events in the PGA TOUR Season*)

Marana, Ariz. Feb. 18-24, 2013 The Golf Club at Dove Mountain Purse: \$8,750,000 (\$1,500,000 to the winner) Par/Yards: 36-36 – 72/7,791

### Semifinal Notes – Sunday, February 24, 2013

### **Weather**

Partly cloudy, breezy and cool. Temperatures in the mid- to high 40s. Winds increasing to 15-20 mph by midafternoon, with gusts of 30 mph.

### Breakdown of the field of 64 players, by country:

**To start the first round:** International players: 43 U.S. players: 21 Countries represented: 17 Largest international contingent: South Africa (7) After the semifinals: International players: 0 U.S. players: 2 Countries represented: 1 Largest international contingent:0

# Winners by country (Number of players initially in the field in parentheses)

United States (21) Matt Kuchar Hunter Mahan Rickie Fowler (R1) Tiger Woods (R1) Jason Dufner (R1) Keegan Bradley (R1) Dustin Johnson (R1) Zach Johnson (R1) Bil Haas (R1) Rvan Moore (R1) David Toms (R1) Bo Van Pelt (R2) Russell Henley (R2) Charles Howell III (R2) Jim Furyk (R2) Nick Watney (R2) Scott Piercy (R3) Bubba Watson (R3) Robert Garrigus (QF) Steve Stricker (QF) Webb Simpson (QF)

# South Africa (7)

Charl Schwartzel-(R1) Ernie Els-(R1) Branden Grace-(R1) George Coetzee-(R1) Richard Storne (R2) Louis Oosthuizen (R2) Tim Clark (R3)

England (6) lan Poulter (SF) Lee Westwood (R1) David Lynn (R1) Chris Wood (R1) Justin Rose (R2) Luke Donald (R2)

Sweden (5) Henrik Stenson (R1) Carl Pettersson (R2) Peter Hanson (R2) Aleander Noron (R2) Fredrick Jacobson (R3)

Australia (4) Jason Day (SF) Adam Scott (R1) John Senden (R1) Marcus Fraser (R2)

Scotland (3) Paul Lawrie (R1) Stephen Gallacher (R1) Richie Ramsay (R1)

**Spain (3)** Sorgio Garcia (R2) Rafael Cabrera Bello (R2) Gonzalo Fdez-Castano (R3)

Germany (2) Marce Siem (R1) Martin Kaymer (R3) **Denmark (2)** Thorbjorn Olesen (R2) Thomas Bjorn (R1)

Ireland (2) Padraig Harrington (R1) Shane Lowry (R3)

Italy (2) Francesco Molinari (R1) Matteo Manassero (R1)

Northern Ireland (2) Rory McIlroy-(R1) Graeme McDowell (QF)

Belgium (1) Nicolas Colsaerts (R3)

**Japan (1)** Hiroyuki Fujita (R1)

South Korea (1) K.J. Choi-(R1)

Thailand (1) Thongchai Jaidee (R1)

Wales (1) Jamie Donaldson (R1)

# Championship and Consolation Match Starting Times

Consolation Match – 11:55 p.m. MT Championship Match – 12:15 p.m. MT

# **Overtime**

Championship/Consolation matches that go extra holes will play the 1st, 9th, 10th and 14th through 18th repeated if necessary.

#### Prize money and FedExCup breakdown for the Championship and Consolation matches

Winner -	\$1.5 million	550 points
Second -	\$875,000	315 points
Third -	\$615,000	200 points
Fourth -	\$500,000	140 points

Updated all-time Accenture Match Play Championship Records the four remaining players:

Championship Match					
Player	W-L	Years Entered			
Hunter Mahan	15-4	2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013			
Matt Kuchar	14-3	2010, 2011, 2012, 2013			

#### **Consolation Match**

Player	W-L	Years Entered
lan Poulter	22-10	2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
Jason Day	7-3	2011, 2012, 2013

With Hunter Mahan and Matt Kuchar advancing to the finals, it marks the sixth All-American final in the 15-year history of the Accenture Match Play Championship and the first since 2008.

- 2008 Tiger Woods def Stewart Cink, 7 and 8
- 2005 David Toms def Chris DiMarco, 6 and 5
- 2004 Tiger Woods def. Davis Love III, 3 and 2
- 2003 Tiger Woods def. David Toms, 2 and 1
- 2002 Kevin Sutherland def. Scott McCarron, 1 up

With an American guaranteed to win the Accenture Match Play Championship, it continues a streak of Americans winning the first eight events on the PGA TOUR schedule. In 2012, Americans won the first nine events of the 2012 PGA TOUR season; Rory McIlroy broke that streak at The Honda Classic.

Kuchar was ranked No. 23 and Mahan was ranked No. 25 in the Official World Golf Ranking entering the Accenture Match Play Championship. Only four Accenture Match Play Championships have been won by players ranked lower than 23<sup>rd</sup> entering the week.

#### Where Accenture Match Play Championship winners were in the OWGR the week they won.

Hunter Mahan	No. 22
Luke Donald	No. 9
lan Poulter	No. 11
Geoff Ogilvy	No. 8
Tiger Woods	No. 1
Henrik Stenson	No. 8
Geoff Ogilvy	No. 53
David Toms	No. 16
Tiger Woods	No. 1
Tiger Woods	No. 1
Kevin Sutherland	No. 65
Steve Stricker	No. 91
Darren Clarke	No. 19
Jeff Maggert	No. 25
	Luke Donald lan Poulter Geoff Ogilvy Tiger Woods Henrik Stenson Geoff Ogilvy David Toms Tiger Woods Tiger Woods Kevin Sutherland Steve Stricker Darren Clarke

Both Kuchar and Mahan have will have faced five different countries in their six matches this week:

Kuchar: Japan, Spain, Belgium, US (twice), Australia

Mahan: Italy, South Africa, Germany, USA (twice), England

Only Ian Poulter (who won in 2010) and Tiger Woods (who finished second) faced six different countries in their six matches.

# Semifinal match highlights

#### Match No. 61 – Matt Kuchar (21) defeated Jason Day (No. 41), 4 and 3

Matt Kuchar advances to the Championship Match for the first time in his career. The last two years, he's been knocked out of the Accenture Match Play Championship by the eventual champion (losing to Luke Donald, 6 and 5, in the 2011 semifinals; and losing to Hunter Mahan, 6 and 5, in the 2012 quarterfinals). Obviously, the only way he can guarantee that won't be the case this year is to win the Accenture Match Play Championship trophy. Kuchar has yet to play the 18<sup>th</sup> hole this week. Only Luke Donald (2011) has won the Accenture Match Play Championship without playing the final hole in any of his six matches.

In his semifinal match against Jason Day, Kuchar found himself 1 down after the second hole – the first time he had been down in a match since the fourth hole of round one versus Hiroyuki Fujita. But just like in round one, the deficit didn't last long. Day made bogey on No. 4 to bring the match back to all square, and then a birdie on No. 6 by Kuchar gave him a 1 up lead that he would not relinquish.

Day did not post a birdie in the semifinals, making bogey on holes No. 4, 7, 9, 12 and a double-bogey on 13.

Kuchar's path to the Championship Match:

- R1: Defeated Hiroyuki Fujita (No. 44), 3 and 2
- R2: Defeated Sergio Garcia (No. 12), 2 and 1
- R3: Defeated Nicolas Colsaerts (No. 37), 4 and 3
- QF: Defeated Robert Garrigus (No. 36), 3 and 2
- SF: Defeated Jason Day (No. 41), 4 and 3

Kuchar's record improves to 14-3. Since losing in round two of the 2010 event, his first appearance, Kuchar has finished 3<sup>rd</sup> (2011) and T9 (2012).

Kuchar is looking to join Hunter Mahan (2012), Luke Donald (2011), Ian Poulter (2010), Henrik Stenson (2007) Kevin Sutherland (2002), Steve Stricker (2001) and Darren Clarke (2000) as players to win the Accenture Match Play Championship in their first appearance in the finals (does not include 1999).

Kuchar has four PGA TOUR wins, with only one coming in the first four months of the season (The Honda Classic – March 2002, his first win). His other TOUR wins: Turning Stone Resort Championship (October 2009); The Barclays (August 2010); and THE PLAYERS Championship (May 2012).

But Kuchar's performance this week, and this early in the season, should be no surprise based on his first three events of 2013. He was the only player to finish in the top 10 at both events in Hawaii (T9-Hyundai Tournament of Champions; T5-Sony Open in Hawaii), and he finished T16 at the Humana Challenge before taking three weeks off to rest up for the Northern Trust Open (T38).

Kuchar is looking to break a recent streak by PLAYERS champions; Phil Mickelson (2007) is the last winner of the event to record another victory within a year of THE PLAYERS (Mickelson won later that season at the Deutsche Bank Championship). Since then, Sergio Garcia (2008) didn't win again until the 2012 Wyndham Championship; and Henrik Stenson (2009), Tim Clark (2010) and K.J. Choi (2011) have yet to capture another PGA TOUR title.

Kuchar (currently No. 23 in the OWGR) will move into the top 10 of the Official World Golf Ranking if he wins today; he's guaranteed to be in the top 15 by advancing to the Championship Match. His highest career ranking is No. 5, most recently following the 2012 Crowne Plaza Invitational.

Kuchar is guaranteed his best finish in a World Golf Championships event. His previous best, of 11 career starts, is third place here in 2011 and a T3 at the 2010 Cadillac Championship.

Day's path to the Consolation Match:

R1: Defeated Zach Johnson (No. 24), 6 and 5 R2: Defeated Russell Henley (No. 56), 19 holes R3: Defeated Bubba Watson (No. 8), 4 and 3 QF: Defeated Graeme McDowell (No. 17), 1 up SF: Lost to Matt Kuchar (No. 21), 4 and 3

Day's overall record is now 7-3. He was the only Australian to advance past the second round (four made the field). Day is guaranteed his best World Golf Championships finish in eight career starts, either a third or a fourthplace finish today. His previous best finish is a T4 at the 2011 Bridgestone Invitational. Day will leave this week with three top-10 finishes in four PGA TOUR starts this season (T9-Farmers Insurance Open; 6-Northern Trust Open).

#### Match No. 62 - Hunter Mahan (No. 23) defeated Ian Poulter (11), 4 and 3

Hunter Mahan took a 1-up lead with a birdie on No. 2 in his semifinal match against Ian Poulter, then gave that lead back with a bogey on No. 4. On the next hole, it was Poulter who made bogey to give Mahan his 1-up lead again, a lead that would only increase the remainder of the match,

Mahan made birdie on No. 8, 12, 13 and 15 with one bogey on No. 11 – but Poulter also bogeyed the hole, one of the Englishman's three bogeys versus two birdies in the match.

Hunter Mahan has played 76 holes en route to the Championship Match (14 in round one; 15 in round two; 14 in round three; 18 in the quarterfinals; 15 in the semifinals). Only Luke Donald in 2011 played fewer holes prior to the Championship Match (73).

Mahan has yet to fall behind in any of his matches this week. He last trailed in a match at the Accenture Match Play Championship during round one of the 2012 event, when he was 1 down to Zach Johnson through six holes. That is a streak of 166 holes (90 in 2012 and 76 thus far this week).

Mahan's path to the Championship Match:

- R1: Defeated Matteo Manassero (No. 42), 5 and 4
- R2: Defeated Richard Sterne (No. 55), 4 and 3
- R3: Defeated Martin Kaymer (No. 26), 5 and 4
- QF: Defeated Webb Simpson (No. 15), 1 up
- SF: Defeated Ian Poulter (No. 11), 4 and 3

Mahan becomes the third defending champion to advance to the finals.

2006 champion Geoff Ogilvy in 2007 (Ogilvy finished second that year) 2003 champion Tiger Woods in 2004 (Woods successfully defended his title)

Mahan's record improves to 15-4. He has won 13 of his last 14 matches.

Mahan (currently No. 25 in OWGR) will move into the top 15 of the Official World Golf Ranking if he wins today; he's guaranteed to move into the top 20 by advancing to the finals. His highest career ranking is No. 4, most recently after the 2012 Shell Houston Open.

With a win, Mahan would join Tiger Woods (16) and Geoff Ogilvy (3) as the only players with more than two World Golf Championships titles. Woods and Ogilvy are also the only other players with more than one Accenture Match Play Championship win (Woods: 2003-04, 2008; Ogilvy: 2006, 2009).

Poulter's path to the Consolation Match:

- R1: Defeated Stephen Gallacher (No. 54), 2 and 1
- R2: Defeated Bo Van Pelt (No. 22), 3 and 1
- R3: Defeated Tim Clark (No. 59), 5 and 3
- QF: Defeated Steve Stricker (No. 14), 3 and 2
- SF: Lost to Hunter Mahan (No. 23), 4 and 3

Ian Poulter (currently No.13 in OWGR) will move into the top 10 of the Official World Golf Ranking, regardless of his finish today. His highest career ranking is No. 5, most recently following the 2010 Masters.

Poulter's record improves to 22-10. Only Tiger Woods (33) and David Toms (24) have won more matches at the Accenture Match Play Championship; Stewart Cink also has 22. By the end of the day, Poulter will have competed in 33 matches in his career. Only Tiger Woods (43), David Toms (35) and Stewart Cink (34) have more.

Poulter is the only English player to advance past the second round, of the six who began the event. This week's finish will mark his fifth top five in World Golf Championships events; he has two wins, a T2 at the 2006 Cadillac Championship and a fourth-place finish at the 2005 Accenture Match Play Championship.

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