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2013 CIMB Classic pre-tournament notes

Dates: October 21-27, 2013

Where: Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Par/Yards: 36-36—72/6,967 yards

Field: 78 players

Eligibility: Eligible players for the 78-player field are:

- The top 60 available players from the 2013 final FedExCup Points list.
- The top 10 available money leaders from the Asian Tour Order of Merit as of October 7, 2013.
- Eight sponsor exemptions: One designated for the defending champion, if needed, and five restricted to players who are PGA TOUR members. Two (2) Malaysians will qualify – one (1) via the SapuraKencana National Qualifier held August 26 – 28, 2013 at Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club and one (1) via the Official World Golf Ranking to the highest ranking Malaysian.
- If necessary to fill the field to 78 players, additional players from 2013 final FedExCup Points list in order of their final position.

2012 champion: Nick Watney

Purse: \$7,000,000/\$1,260,000 (winner)

FedExCup: 500 points to the winner

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Twitter: @CIMBClassic

A look back at the 2012 CIMB Classic

Nick Watney came from four shots back with a final-round 61 to beat 2011 champion Bo Van Pelt and Robert Garrigus by one shot to win in his first appearance at the CIMB Classic. Watney came to the 18th tee needing a birdie to shoot 59, but managed to edge Van Pelt and Garrigus despite a bogey on the 72nd hole for a round of 61.

More on Nick Watney

- The 2013 season marked Nick Watney's fifth consecutive appearance at the FedExCup Playoff finale, the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, as he jumped into the top 30 (No. 34 to No. 12) with a runner-up finish at the BMW Championship. Watney eventually finished 15th in the final FedExCup standings.
- Two of Watney's four top-10 finishes in 2013 came during the FedExCup Playoffs (T9-The Barclays, 2-BMW Championship).

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- The California native and former Fresno State All-America is a five-time PGA TOUR winner.

CIMB Classic and the FedExCup

In its fourth year, the CIMB Classic brings together top players from the PGA TOUR's FedExCup standing, top players from the Asian Tour order of Merit and top players from Malaysia. This year's event is the first official FedExCup event on the PGA TOUR to be held in Asia with PGA TOUR members receiving official FedExCup points as part of the newly aligned 2013-2014 PGA TOUR season.

The TOUR embarks on its new wraparound schedule that bridges two years with 45 events over 43 weeks. The 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season kicked off with the Frys.com Open followed by the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open and includes one more domestic and three international tournaments (including the CIMB Classic), with all fall events awarding FedExCup points for the first time. The CIMB Classic is the first-ever official FedExCup event to be held in Asia.

The schedule then resumes in January with the traditional swing through Hawaii before moving to the West Coast. The FedExCup Playoffs once again features four events and concludes in September of 2014 with the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and the crowning of the FedExCup champion.

In addition to 500 FedExCup points and a two-year PGA TOUR exemption, the winner this week (if not previously eligible) receives invitations to the Hyundai Tournament of Champions, a winners-only event in January, along with two major championships (Masters Tournament and PGA Championship) and THE PLAYERS. The player would also earn exemptions into six additional invitationals.

New Venue

The 2013 CIMB Classic will be played for the first time at Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club. The fairways of KLGCC are situated just eight kilometers away from the heart of the city. Originally opened in 1991, the West and East Courses were completely redesigned by renowned international golf course architects E & G Parslow and re-opened in 2008 and 2010, respectively. The course has served as the host of the European Tour and Asian Tour's co-sanctioned Malaysian Open for the past four years, as well as the LPGA Malaysia for the past four. KLGCC has consistently been recognized as the best course in Malaysia and Asia by numerous publications for the past three consecutive years.

A look at the field

- Thirteen players who advanced to the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola thus finishing in the top 30 in the FedExCup standings: Graham DeLaet (8), Phil Mickelson (9), Nick Watney (15), Billy Horschel (16), Keegan Bradley (18), Roberto Castro (21), Sergio Garcia (22), Gary Woodland (23), Bill Haas (24), Kevin Streelman (25), Brendon de Jonge (26), Boo Weekley (29) and D.A. Points (30).
- Nineteen players who are inside the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking: Phil Mickelson (3), Keegan Bradley (15), Sergio Garcia (18), Ernie Els (23), Bubba Watson (26), Nick Watney (27), Bill Haas (28), Hideki Matsuyama (29), Graham DeLaet (32), Rickie Fowler (33), David Lynn (34), Jonas Blixt (35), Billy Horschel (36), Kevin Streelman (37), Scott Piercy (41), Bo Van Pelt (44), Jimmy Walker (45), Ryan Moore (46), Boo Weekley (50)
- Seven Presidents Cup participants are in the field including Graham DeLaet, Phil Mickelson, Keegan Bradley, Bill Haas, Marc Leishman, Ernie Els and Hideki Matsuyama.
- The winner of the kickoff event to the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season, Jimmy Walker. Walker posted rounds of 62-66 on the weekend to capture the Frys.com Open (Oct. 10-13) for his first TOUR title.
- Seventeen players who will have participated in the first three events of the 2013-2014 PGA TOUR Season through the CIMB Classic: Tim Clark, Brian Davis, Lucas Glover, David Hearn, Charles Howell III,

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John Huh, Hideki Matsuyama, Bryce Molder, Patrick Reed, Rory Sabbatini, Kyle Stanly, Brendan Steele, Daniel Summerhays, Josh Teater, Cameron Tringale, Camilo Villegas and Jimmy Walker.

- Bo Van Pelt won the 2011 CIMB Classic and nearly defended his title, finishing T2, one stroke behind Nick Watney in 2012.
- Of the 78-man field, 46 have combined for a total of 175 PGA TOUR victories including 15 major championship titles and an additional 123 international victories worldwide.

Select player updates

Phil Mickelson

- First appearance at the CIMB Classic.
- In a 2013 season highlighted by his fifth major championship, The Open Championship, also recorded a wire-to-wire victory at the Waste Management Phoenix Open where he flirted with a 59 in the first round.
- Left-hander also finished runner up at the U.S. Open (a record sixth runner-up finish at the event).
- Qualified for the FedExCup Playoff finale for the seventh consecutive year, joining Steve Stricker and Hunter Mahan as the only players to do so.
- With wins in each of the last 10 seasons on the PGA TOUR, owns the longest active streak on TOUR.
- 42 career PGA TOUR wins ranks ninth all-time.

Graham DeLaet

- First appearance at the CIMB Classic.
- In third full season on the PGA TOUR in 2013, Canadian set career highs for top 10s (7), including a runner-up finish at The Barclays and a third-place finish at the Deutsche Bank Championship.
- Two top-three finishes during the FedExCup Playoffs assured start in the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, where he eventually finished No. 8 in the FedExCup standings.
- Earned a berth on the International Presidents Cup Team, becoming only the second Canadian to compete in the event (Mike Weir). Fashioned a 3-1-1 record that included a chip-in to halve a match on No. 18 with Jason Day vs. Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley and a holed bunker shot on No. 18 to clinch his Singles match against Jordan Spieth.
- Played collegiately at Boise State (Idaho).

Ernie Els

- South African is playing the CIMB Classic for the second time, having finished T5 in 2010.
- Among his 66 career victories (19 PGA TOUR wins and 47 other victories worldwide) are four major championships: the U.S. Open in 1994 at Oakmont and in 1997 at Congressional; and The Open Championship in 2002 at Muirfield and in 2012 at Royal Lytham & St Annes.
- One of six golfers to twice win both the U.S. Open and The Open Championship.
- Other highlights in career include topping the 2003 and 2004 European Tour Order of Merit.
- Formerly No. 1 in the OWGR, held the record for weeks ranked among the top 10 until 2013.
- Elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2010, on his first time on the ballot, and was inducted in May 2011.

Bubba Watson

- First appearance at the CIMB Classic.
- Four-time PGA TOUR winner including the 2012 Masters Tournament.
- Ranked in the top five in Driving Distance every year since joining the PGA TOUR (2006-2013) and led the TOUR in 2006-2008 and 2012.

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- 2012 Masters Tournament will be remembered for amazing wedge out of the trees right of No. 10 fairway on second playoff hole that resulted in a par and a defeat of Louis Oosthuizen.
- Self-taught golf swing which includes very rarely hitting the ball straight, rather choosing to bend and shape shots, take imaginative lines at holes and play what he refers to as “Bubba Golf.”

Sergio Garcia

- First appearance at the CIMB Classic.
- Native of Spain is eight-time winner on the PGA TOUR with 15 other victories worldwide.
- In 2013, qualified for fourth FedExCup finale, the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, thanks to six top-10 finishes.
- Ryder Cup mainstay for Europe has compiled a career 16-8-4 record in the biennial competition.

Kiradech Aphibarnrat

- Native of Thailand defeated a host of stars including major winners Charl Schwartzel and Padraig Harrington to win the 2013 Malaysian Open at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club. Victory also propelled him to the top of the Asian Tour Order of Merit.
- Known as the ‘John Daly of Asia’ for his grip-it and rip-it style of play, had three other top-five results in Asia this season and finished tied 25th at the US PGA Championship in August.

Nicholas Thompson

- Nicholas is trying to become the second member of the Thompson family to win at Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club in a matter of weeks. Lexi Thompson, Nicholas’ sister, won the 2013 Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia event earlier this month. It was Lexi’s second win on the LPGA Tour.
- Only two brother-sister pairs have posted wins on the PGA TOUR and LPGA Tour, respectively. Cathy (Kratzert) Gerring won three times on the LPGA Tour in 1990. Her brother Bill Kratzert owns three official PGA TOUR victories. Jackie Gallagher, Jr. won five PGA TOUR events, and his sister Jackie Gallagher won an LPGA event in 1999. In neither case did the brother/sister duo win an event during the same season.

Hideki Matsuyama

- 21-year-old native of Japan, who played for the International Team at The Presidents Cup in October, makes his third start as a PGA TOUR member, having finished T3 at the Frys.com Open (and is playing at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open this week).
- Turned professional in 2013 and finished inside the top 10 at both the U.S. Open and The Open Championship en route to earning his PGA TOUR card via the non-member FedExCup points list.
- Before turning professional, enjoyed a successful amateur career including wins at the Asian Amateur Championship in 2010 and 2011, earning exemptions into the 2011 and 2012 Masters Tournament. Became the first Japanese amateur to play in the Masters in 2011 and was only amateur to make the cut in the event.

Miscellaneous

Together, anything’s possible

Making a positive impact on the communities where PGA TOUR tournaments are held and players live has become an even larger focus in the golf organization’s charitable mission with the *Together, anything’s possible* campaign. The charitable effort was celebrated in late 2005 when the PGA TOUR and its tournaments reached the “Drive to a Billion” milestone. That cumulative effect, since the first donation in 1938, reached more than \$1.86 billion at the beginning of 2013—including more than \$1 billion in the last 15 years—and is the cornerstone of the



Together, anything's possible campaign. The forecast is for the second billion-dollar mark to be reached in late 2013 or early in 2014 and is being celebrated in the TOUR's "\$2 Billion & Beyond" campaign.

Alpha Field list:

Kiradech Aphibarnrat
Aaron Baddeley
Sang-Moon Bae
Seuk-hyun Baek
Gaganjeet Bhullar
Jonas Blixt
Keegan Bradley
Roberto Castro
Kevin Chappell
K.J. Choi
Stewart Cink
Tim Clark
Brian Davis
Brendon de Jonge
Graham DeLaet
Ernie Els
Harris English
Matt Every
Martin Flores
Rickie Fowler
Nicholas Fung
Sergio Garcia
Brian Gay
Lucas Glover
Retief Goosen
Bill Haas

David Hearn
Scott Hend
Russell Henley
Berry Henson
Charley Hoffman
Billy Horschel
Charles Howell III
John Huh
Rashid Ismail
Matt Jones
Shiv Kapur
Jerry Kelly
Chris Kirk
Jason Kokrak
Anirban Lahiri
Martin Laird
Richard H.Lee
Marc Leishman
David Lingmerth
David Lynn
Prayad Marksang
Hideki Matsuyama
John Merrick
Phil Mickelson
Bryce Molder
Ryan Moore

Wade Ormsby
Ryan Palmer
Scott Piercy
D.A. Points
Siddikur Rahman
Patrick Reed
John Rollins
Rory Sabbatini
Kevin Stadler
Scott Stallings
Kyle Stanley
Brendan Steele
Kevin Streelman
Chris Stroud
Daniel Summerhays
Josh Teater
Michael Thompson
Nicholas Thompson
Cameron Tringale
Bo Van Pelt
Camilo Villegas
Jimmy Walker
Nick Watney
Bubba Watson
Boo Weekley
Gary Woodland