



# Primary on-site PGA TOUR media contact:

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## 2014 the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide Insurance Notes

**Dates:** May 26 – June 1, 2014

Where: Muirfield Village Golf Club, Dublin, Ohio

**Par/Yards:** 36-36--72/7,392 yards

**Field: 120** 

**Defending champion:** Matt Kuchar

Purse: \$6,400,000; Winner's Share: \$1,152,000; Format: 72-hole stroke play

FedExCup: 500 points to the winner

Website: www.thememorialtournament.com Facebook: the Memorial Tournament Twitter: @MemorialGolf

**The Host:** Golf legend Jack Nicklaus, who grew up in nearby Upper Arlington and played collegiately at Ohio State, has hosted the Memorial Tournament since its inception in 1976. Nicklaus' signature course, Muirfield Village Golf Club, was recognized as the No. 6 course in the PGA TOUR player survey by Golf World in 2012, hosted the 2013 Presidents Cup as well as the 1987 Ryder Cup, 1992 U.S. Amateur and the 1998 Solheim Cup.

## How the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide Insurance was won in 2013

Matt Kuchar took a 2-shot lead over Kevin Chappell into the final round of the 2013 Memorial and won by the same margin over Chappell. Kuchar was able to hold off Chappell's bogey-free final round, clinching the win with a birdie on the 72nd hole.

### **Defending champion Matt Kuchar**

- In eight starts at the Memorial, Kuchar has five top-10 finishes, each coming in the last six years; 2008/T10, 2009/T5, 2010/T8, 2011/T2 and 2013/Won.
- Kuchar leads the TOUR with 46 top-10 finishes since the start of the 2010 season.
- Kuchar has seven PGA TOUR victories: 2002 Honda Classic, 2009 Turning Stone Resort Championship, 2010 The Barclays, 2012 THE PLAYERS Championship, 2013 World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship, 2013 Memorial Tournament and 2014 RBC Heritage.

## A glance at the field

- 21 of the top 30 in the current FedExCup standings including Nos. 2-3-4 Bubba Watson, Matt Kuchar and Dustin Johnson.
- 17 of the top 30 players in the Official World Golf Ranking, including 7 of the top 10 and World No. 1 Adam Scott and Rory McIlroy who moved to No. 6 with his win last week at the BMW PGA Championship on the European Tour.
- Past Memorial champions: Matt Kuchar (2013); Steve Stricker (2011); Justin Rose (2010); K.J. Choi (2007); Carl Pettersson (2006); Ernie Els (2004); Jim Furyk (2002) and Vijay Singh (1997).
- Seven players with 10 or more career PGA TOUR victories: Phil Mickelson (42), Vijay Singh (34), Ernie Els (19), Jim Furyk (16), Justin Leonard (12), Steve Stricker (12) and Adam Scott (11).
- Adam Scott makes his 10<sup>th</sup> career start at the Memorial with top 10s in 2006 (T4) and 2007 (T5). Scott moved into the top spot of the Official World Golf Ranking Monday (May 19, 2014), supplanting Tiger Woods. With his win last week at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, he became just the fourth player to win the week after becoming No. 1 for the first time, joining Ian Woosnam (1991 Masters), David Duval (1999 BellSouth Classic) and Vijay Singh (2004 RBC Canadian Open).
- Rory McIlroy finished T57 last year and missed the cut in 2012 at the Memorial after finishing T10 (2010) and fifth (2011) in his first two attempts at Muirfield.
- Carlos Ortiz, a 23-year old Web.com Tour member from Guadalajara, Mexico will compete in his first PGA TOUR event. Ortiz has two wins (Panama Claro Championship, El Bosque Mexico Championship)

on the Web.com Tour this season and two third-place finishes in eight total starts. Ortiz grew up playing at Guadalajara Country Club and recalls watching Lorena Ochoa on the driving range when he was a boy.

- Akron native Justin Lower will make his second career TOUR start (MC/2013 Reno-Tahoe Open). Lower won 16 college tournaments at Malone University in Ohio. He was a four-time NAIA All-American there (first-team three times and third-team once). He played on the 2010 NAIA national champion team and was named both Jack Nicklaus Award winner and Arnold Palmer Award winner in 2010. Also earned the 2011 David Toms Award, which goes to the collegiate player who has overcome adversity to achieve excellence and is presented by Toms' Foundation in conjunction with the College Coaches Association of America. Lower uses a ball marker that says "Dad, Chris, 3-26-05" signifying the day that his father and brother passed away. Lower has made two starts on the Web.com Tour this season with a T9 finish two weeks ago at the BMW Charity Pro-Am Presented by SYNNEX Corporation.
- Justin Rose, who won the Memorial Tournament in 2010, will make his final start before defense of his U.S. Open title.
- Steve Stricker will return to the Memorial after a year layoff. He will make his 14<sup>th</sup> career start with a win coming in 2011.

#### **Miscellaneous Tournament Notes**

- Kevin Chappell's final-round 68 was the only bogey-free round last year at the Memorial. The previous record at the Memorial was two bogey-free rounds the entire week in 1984.
- In the 38-year history of the Memorial Tournament, only seven International players have won at Muirfield Village Golf Club, most recently Justin Rose in 2010.
- Kenny Perry's victory in 2008 came at the age of 47 years, 9 months and 22 days, making him the tournament's oldest champion. Tiger Woods is the youngest champion in tournament history, winning the event in 1999 at 23 years, 5 months and 7 days.
- Tiger Woods holds the longest active streak of consecutive cuts made at the Memorial having made the cut in each of his 14 times playing the event.
- The tournament record at the Memorial Tournament is 268 (-20) by Tom Lehman in 1994 while the course record at Muirfield Village Golf Club is 61 (-11) by John Huston in 1996.
- The 54-hole leader/co-leader has gone on to victory 18 times in the 37-year history of the Memorial Tournament. The 1997 event was shortened to 54 holes due to inclement weather.

### Miscellaneous 2013-14 Notes

- Jimmy Walker (3), Patrick Reed (2) and Bubba Watson (2) are the only multiple winners, with Chesson Hadley the lone rookie to win.
- Through the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, 21 of the 28 PGA TOUR wins have come from U.S.-born players, with the six international winners hailing from South Korea (Seung-Yul Noh), Germany (Martin Kaymer) and Australia (Jason Day/World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship, John Senden/Valspar Championship, Steven Bowditch/Valero Texas Open, Matt Jones/Shell Houston Open, Adam Scott/Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial).
- First-time winners include Jimmy Walker, Kevin Stadler, Chesson Hadley, Matt Every, Steven Bowditch, Matt Jones, Seung-Yul Noh, Brendon Todd.
- Low final rounds for winners this year have included a 63 (Jimmy Walker/Sony Open in Hawaii), a 64 (Bubba Watson/Northern Trust Open; Matt Kuchar/RBC Heritage) and a 65 (Harris English/OHL Classic at Mayakoba).
- Through the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, 12 of the 24 different winners in 2013-14 have been under the age of 30: Webb Simpson/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, Chris Kirk/The McGladrey Classic, Dustin Johnson/WGC-HSBC Champions, Harris English/ OHL Classic at Mayakoba, Patrick Reed/Humana Challenge and WGC-Cadillac Championship, Scott Stallings/Farmers Insurance Open, Jason Day/World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship, Russell Henley/The Honda Classic, Chesson Hadley/Puerto Rico Open, Seung-Yul Noh (Zurich Classic of New Orleans), Martin Kaymer/THE PLAYERS, Brendon Todd/HP Byron Nelson Championship.
- Seven players currently under the age of 30 have at least three PGA TOUR wins: Dustin Johnson (8), Rory McIlroy (6), Webb Simpson (4), Keegan Bradley (3), Anthony Kim (3), Scott Stallings (3) and Patrick Reed (3).

## Hole-in-one

The average number of holes-in-one each season on TOUR from 2000-2013 is 31.29 (14 seasons). So far the 2013-14 season has produced just seven aces through the first 28 events (through Crowne Plaza Invitational).

- Since 1972, there have been no fewer than 17 holes-in-one in a season (1974, 1976 and 1977).
- In 1971 there were only eight holes-in-one on TOUR.
- The record for the most aces in a season since 1971 is 44 during the 1994 season.
- Hal Sutton (10) and Robert Allenby (9) have the most holes-in-one on TOUR since 1971.
- Two weeks ago at the HP Byron Nelson Championship, 17-year-old amateur Scottie Scheffler recorded the sixth hole-in-one of the TOUR season.

## Charity

The PGA TOUR and its tournaments continue a commitment to charity through the "Together, anything's possible" initiative. In January, the TOUR and its tournaments announced it had collectively surpassed \$2 billion in all-time charitable giving, including \$1 billion over the last eight years.

For 39 years, Muirfield Village Golf Club and the Memorial Tournament have been committed to giving back to central Ohio and points beyond. Each year, a portion of the proceeds from the Tournament is passed on to Central Ohio charities, principally Nationwide Children's Hospital and Dispatch Charities. The total contributions to date have surpassed the \$22 million mark, with over \$15 million going to Nationwide Children's.