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2014 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open pre-tournament notes

Dates: October 13-19, 2014

Where: TPC Summerlin / Las Vegas, Nev.

Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,255 yards

Field: 144

2013 champion: Webb Simpson

Purse: \$6,200,000/\$1,116,000 (winner)

FedExCup: 500 points to the winner

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Twitter: @ShrinersOpen

A look back at the 2013 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

Webb Simpson carried the second and third-round leads to a comfortable six shot victory at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, with a 5-under 66 in the final round. Simpson's 72-hole total of 260 matched Ryan Moore (2012) for the 72-hole tournament record.

More on Webb Simpson

- Simpson's last eight rounds have all been 68 or lower, including seven rounds of 67.
- Simpson's scoring breakdown for the week of his win in Las Vegas: Par-3s (-4), Par-4s (-12), Par-5s (-8)
- Simpson is the third consecutive player in his 20s to win the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (Ryan Moore/2012 and Kevin Na/2011).

Shriners Hospitals for Children Open and the FedExCup

This week's Shriners Hospitals Open for Children enters the second season featuring a wraparound schedule that bridges two years with 47 events. The 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season kicked off last week with the Frys.com Open and includes seven events during the fall of 2014, all of which will award FedExCup points. After a seven-week break, the season will resume 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 2015 with the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and the crowning of the FedExCup champion.

Every week is significant in the race for the FedExCup – four of the six winners from the fall calendar of 2013 (Jimmy Walker, Chris Kirk, Dustin Johnson, Webb Simpson) qualified for the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and two others (Harris English, Ryan Moore) finished inside the top 40.

A look at the field

- 2014 FedExCup Champion Billy Horschel makes his first start of the season in Las Vegas. In a span of three weeks during the FedExCup Playoffs, Horschel won the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, BMW Championship and finished T2 at the Deutsche Bank Championship. In the process, he pocketed a cool \$13,477,444, including a \$10 million bonus for winning the FedExCup. Horschel starts the 2014-15 season No. 13 in the Official World Golf Ranking and No. 8 in the U.S. Presidents Cup standings.
- Last week's Frys.com Open winner Sang-Moon Bae became the third player of Korean descent with multiple TOUR victories along with K.J. Choi (8) and Y.E. Yang (2).

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- Postseason honors: PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Chesson Hadley and Web.com Tour Player of the Year Carlos Ortiz will both playing in the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.
- Eight players that advanced to the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola thus finishing in the top 30 in the FedExCup standings: Billy Horschel, Jimmy Walker, Cameron Tringale, John Senden, Kevin Na, Webb Simpson, Morgan Hoffman, Hideki Matsuyama.
- Ten players that are inside the top 50 in the Official World Golf Rankings: Billy Horschel, Jimmy Walker, Hideki Matsuyama, Webb Simpson, Kevin Na, Graham DeLaet, Brandt Snedeker, Ryan Moore, Kevin Streelman, John Senden.
- Two players from the 2014 U.S. Ryder Cup team are competing: Jimmy Walker and Webb Simpson.
- Former UNLV golfers Chad Campbell, Charley Hoffman, Ryan Moore, Andres Gonzales, Derek Ernst and Bill Lunde.
- Seven former Shriners Hospitals for Children Open champions are in the field: Webb Simpson (2013-14), Ryan Moore (2012), Kevin Na (2011), Jonathan Byrd (2010), Martin Laird (2009), George McNeill (2007) and Stuart Appleby (2003).
- Australian Jarrod Lyle continues his comeback after two battles with myeloid leukemia. After Monday qualifying for last week's Frys.com Open and finishing T31, Lyle is playing this week on a sponsor exemption. Prior to last week, the 33-year-old had not played a PGA TOUR event since the 2012 Mayakoba Golf Classic. This season, Lyle has 20 events to earn \$283,825 to retain his TOUR playing privileges.
- Among rookies and first-year members, rookie Jon Curran (T8) and first-year member Brooks Koepka (T8) had top finishes at the Frys.com Open.

Miscellaneous 2014-15 PGA TOUR notes

- Entering the 2014-15 season, 29 of the top 30 players in the Official World Golf Ranking are PGA TOUR members, including 2014-15 new members Victor Dubuisson and Jamie Donaldson. Thomas Bjorn (30) is the lone non-member inside the top 30.
- The 2014-15 rookie class of 24 players includes 21 players under the age of 30. The list of 24 includes three players playing on medical extensions from previous years but remain in the rookie category.
- There are 86 active international players representing 24 countries in 2014-15. Australia has the most international members (16).
- Four new members earned PGA TOUR cards through the non-member FedExCup points list but are not considered part of the rookie class: Victor Dubuisson (France); Francesco Molinari (Italy); Jamie Donaldson (Wales); and Brooks Koepka (United States).

2013-14 year in review

- Billy Horschel, thanks to victories at the two final FedExCup Playoff events, became the youngest winner of the FedExCup at the age of 27 years, 9 months and 7 days.
- Rory McIlroy, winner of three events including back-to-back majors (The Open Championship and PGA Championship), was voted the PGA TOUR Player of the Year. McIlroy also captured the Arnold Palmer Award as the leader in official earnings and the Byron Nelson Trophy for lowest adjusted scoring average.
- Chesson Hadley, winner of the Puerto Rico Open presented by seepuertorico.com, was voted the PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year.
- Sixteen different players under the age of 30 won PGA TOUR events in 2013-14, accounting for a total of 22 of the 45 events. The last time there were 16 winners under the age of 30 in a season was 2011, with a total of 18 victories.
- Jimmy Walker held the top spot in the FedExCup rankings for 36 of 37 weeks in 2013-14, including a record 30 straight weeks starting with his victory at the Sony Open in Hawaii. Billy Horschel won the

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FedExCup thanks to victories and the last two FedExCup Playoff events, the BMW Championship and TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola.

- There were no repeat winners in 2013-14, the last being Tiger Woods who won the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard back-to-back in 2012 and 2013. Ian Poulter came closest, finishing second in the defense of his World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions title.
- 25 of the 45 PGA TOUR events in 2013-14 were decided by one stroke (19) or a playoff (6).
- Hunter Mahan is the only player to qualify for the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola every year since the inception of the FedExCup in 2007. Over the eight years, Mahan is also the only player to play in every FedExCup Playoff event (32).

Notable changes for the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season:

- The field sizes for the Frys.com Open and the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open have increased from 132 to 144 in 2014-15.
- Starting in January 2015, winners of the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard and the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide will receive a three-year PGA TOUR exemption and a three-year exemption into THE PLAYERS Championship.
- The 2015 Presidents Cup team eligibility for the U.S. Team will be based on FedExCup points instead of money. Presidents Cup points for the FedExCup Playoffs will be weighted the same as World Golf Championships (550 for first place, 315 for second, etc.).
- The Top 125 Money List from the previous season, established following the conclusion of the 2014 Wyndham Championship, will remain as an exempt category in 2014-15 for standard, open events only.
- The Humana Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation and the RBC Heritage will include the Top 10 from the Previous Tournament Category.

Graduates of the Web.com Tour that will make their second starts of the season include the Web.com Tour Regular Season money-leader Carlos Ortiz and Web.com Tour Finals money-leader Derek Fathauer along with overall Web.com Tour money leader Adam Hadwin. Below are the 2014-15 PGA TOUR rookies:

2014 Web.com Tour Regular Season Graduate Rookies (13)				
Player	(Cuts/Starts)	Birthdate	Age as of October 9, 2014	College
Carlos Ortiz	(1-1)	4/24/91	23 years 5 months, 15 days	North Texas
Andrew Putnam	(0-1 pro, 0-1 amateur)	1/25/89	25 years, 8 months, 14 days	Pepperdine
Zack Sucher	(0-1 amateur)	10/2/86	28 years, 7 days	UAB
Adam Hadwin	(8-11)	11/2/87	26 years, 11 months, 7 days	Louisville
Justin Thomas	(3-7 pro, 3-4 amateur)	4/29/93	21 years, 5 months, 10 days	Alabama
Blayne Barber	(2-3)	12/25/89	24 years, 9 months, 14 days	Auburn
Tony Finau	(1-3)	9/14/89	25 years, 25 days	--
Jon Curran	(2-5)	2/17/87	27 years, 7 months, 22 days	Vanderbilt
Daniel Berger	(1-1)	4/7/93	21 years, 6 months, 2 days	Florida State
Jonathan Randolph	(2-2 pro, 1-2 amateur)	8/10/88	26 years, 1 month, 29 days	Ole Miss
Mark Hubbard	(1-2)	5/24/89	25 years, 4 months, 15 days	San Jose State
Byron Smith	(0-0)	3/31/81	33 years, 6 months, 8 days	Pepperdine
Roger Sloan	(1-2)	5/15/87	27 years, 4 months, 24 days	UTEP

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2013 Web.com Tour Finals Graduates (8)				
Player	(Cuts/Starts)	Birthdate	Age as of October 9, 2014	College
Zac Blair	(1-1)	8/20/90	24 years, 1 month, 9 days	BYU
Tom Hoge	(0-1)	5/25/89	25 years, 4 months, 14 days	TCU
Whee Kim	(0-0)	2/22/92	22 years, 7 months, 17 days	Yonsei University
Scott Pinckney	(0-1 pro, 0-1 amateur)	3/13/89	25 years, 6 months, 26 days	Arizona State
Nick Taylor	(0-3 pro, 2-6 amateur)	4/14/88	26 years 5 months 25 days	Washington
Oscar Fraustro	(1-3)	6/14/82	32 years, 3 months, 25 days	--
Sung Joon Park	(0-0)	6/9/86	28 years, 4 months	--
Carlos Sainz Jr.	(0-0)	11/7/85	28 years, 11 months, 2 days	Mississippi State

2013 Web.com Tour Graduates – Major Medical Extension (2)				
Player	(Cuts/Starts)	Birthdate	Age as of October 9, 2014	College
Patrick Cantlay	(10/19 pro, 7/8 amateur)	3/17/92	22 years, 6 months, 22 days	UCLA
Benjamin Alvarado	(1-7)	9/2/85	29 years, 1 month, 7 days	Arizona State
2010 Web.com Tour Graduates – Major Medical Extension (1)				
Joe Affrunti	(5/17)	8/1/81	33 years, 2 months, 8 days	Illinois

Shriners Hospitals for Children update

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a network of 22 non-profit hospitals across North America, which has relied on self-funding and local fundraising efforts. Minors under the age of 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients' ability to pay. Shriners Hospitals for Children has cared for more than one million patients. In addition to the two national ambassadors that will be on-site (Joe Dertinger of Minnesota and Katie Ladlie of Missouri), three former Shriners Hospital patients will play in the Wednesday Pro-Am, having been chosen as this year's "Dream Team."

R.J. Wren: Born with a brachial plexis injury, a birth injury that required him to be seen by specialists to correct nerve damage that affected mobility in his shoulder and arm. Wren and his family turned to Shriners Hospitals for Children, where R.J. underwent a procedure known as an arthroscopic shoulder release, allowing him to regain movement. R.J. currently boasts a 0.4 handicap and is one of the best high school golfers in the state of Pennsylvania. Through his own Birdies for Charity program, R.J. has raised nearly \$5,000 for Shriners which contributed to the purchase of a new x-ray machine for the hospital where he was treated.

Jared Brentz: Now 25 and residing in Nashville, Tenn., Jared was born with arthrogryposis and clubfeet. He was just 6 months old when he made his first visit to the Shriners Hospital in Lexington, KY and remained under the excellent care of the medical staff there until he turned 21. At the age of 12, Jared personally made the decision to undergo bi-lateral below the knee amputation surgery in hopes of living a more normal life. In July 2013, Jared competed in the first National Amputee Long Drive Competition at the Tennessee National Golf Course in Loudon, TN, where he won the overall championship and multiple divisions with the longest drive of the day at 367. He hit a 409 yard drive on May 9 at the ParaLong Drive Nationals in which he was crowned National Champion.

Kim Moore: At birth in 1981, Kim had a right transtibial below the knee amputation in her hometown of Ft. Wayne, Ind. She was born with a severe clubbed left foot, as well as spina bifida. Amazingly, she was able to

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start playing golf at the age of 15 and still does to this day. Moore attended college at the University of Indianapolis, where she excelled on the golf team from 1999 to 2003. In 2003 she became a professional golfer on the Duramed Futures Tour. Today, Kim is the head golf coach at St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind., and also serves as a Midwest Trustee on the National Amputee Golf Association.

Enhanced fan experience featuring swimming pools

New this year, the Zappos.com Fan Experience brings families together with interactive games and activities to enjoy throughout the four days of competition. The experience will feature a 9-hole miniature golf course and the highly-anticipated swimming pools alongside the 18th hole. In addition to the two public pools located in the Zappos.com Fan Experience, four private pools will be located off The Hill.