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2015 OHL Classic at Mayakoba pre-tournament notes

Dates: November 9-15, 2015
Where: Playa del Carmen, Mexico
Course: El Camaleon Golf Club at the Mayakoba Resort
Par/Yards: 36-35—71/6,987
Field: 132
Defending champion: Charley Hoffman
Purse: \$6,200,000 (\$1,116,000 to winner)
FedExCup points: 500 to the winner
Format: 72-hole stroke play

2014 OHL Classic at Mayakoba

Making his fourth start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, Charley Hoffman overcame a three-stroke deficit in the final round to post a 5-under 66 and claim a 1-stroke win at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba over Shawn Stefani. Hoffman came to the 72nd hole leading by one over Stefani, with whom he was paired. When the duo each bogeyed the par-four home hole, Hoffman emerged victorious.

More on Charley Hoffman

- Hoffman earns his third career PGA TOUR victory at the age of 37 years, 10 months and 20 days in his 256th career start on the PGA TOUR. He previously won the 2007 Humana Challenge and 2010 Deutsche Bank Championship.
- Hoffman won in his third start at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (T31/2011, T69/2012).
- Hoffman ended a winless drought of 109 starts since winning the 2010 Deutsche Bank Championship.
- Hoffman becomes the fourth player to come from behind in the final round en route to victory in the eight-year history of the OHL Classic at Mayakoba.
- Hoffman extends the stretch of American-born players to win the OHL Classic at Mayakoba Classic to a perfect 8/8.

OHL Classic at Mayakoba and the FedExCup

The OHL Classic at Mayakoba is the sixth event in the PGA TOUR's wraparound schedule that bridges two years with 47 official events. Over the span of 43 weeks, players vie to become the FedExCup Champion, which distinguishes the one player who not only performs well during the PGA TOUR Season, but also excels through the four-event FedExCup Playoffs, culminating with the 2016 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola.

The OHL Classic at Mayakoba made golf history when it became the first PGA TOUR co-sanctioned event to ever be contested outside of the United States and Canada in February of 2007. Today, the OHL Classic at Mayakoba remains "Mexico's Only PGA TOUR Event."

The 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season kicked off with the Frys.com Open and includes seven events during the fall of 2015, all of which will award FedExCup points. After a break, the season will resume in January with the traditional swing through Hawaii before moving to the West Coast.

Every week is significant in the race for the FedExCup – four of the seven winners from the fall calendar of 2014 (Sangmoon Bae, Robert Streb, Bubba Watson and Charley Hoffman) qualified for the 2015 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and two others (Ryan Moore and Ben Martin) finished inside the top 40.

A look at the field

- The season has started with five consecutive first-time winners, all Web.com Tour graduates, with three of those -- Russell Knox (WGC-HSBC Champions), Smylie Kaufman (Shriners Hospitals for Children Open) and Peter Malnati (Sanderson Farms Championship) – in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba field.

- Continuing a trend from 2014-15 that saw a TOUR-record 24 victories by players under the age of 30, four of the five winners in the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season have been under the age of 30.
- Twelve players inside the top 30 in the FedExCup standings including three in the top 10 -- Russell Knox (3), Smylie Kaufman (4) and Peter Malinati (8).
- Three players in the field played in the 2015 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola: Charley Hoffman, Matt Kuchar and Harris English.
- The highest ranked-player in the field in the Official World Golf Rankings is Matt Kuchar at No. 16. Kuchar will make his third start in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (2007/T18 and 2008/T3).
- Graeme McDowell will return to Mayakoba for the first time since finishing T63 in 2007 as a sponsor exemption.
- Keegan Bradley, who is the last player to win twice during his rookie season (2011), will make his first start at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. Bradley is looking for his first win on TOUR since the 2012 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational.
- Former PGA Championship winner Jason Dufner will make his third career start in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (2008/T71 and 2009/T28).
- Cameron Beckman and Chris Stroud are the only golfers to play in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba each of the first eight years of the event.

Five Mexican players highlight the 2015 Mayakoba field:

- **Yoshio Yamamoto** – He has played on the Web.com Tour and PGA TOUR Latinoamerica. He will make his first start on the PGA TOUR.
- **Oscar Fraustro** – The native of Chihuahua, Fraustro played his rookie season on TOUR last year, but was not able to keep his PGA TOUR card this season. Fraustro at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba: 2012/MC, T49/2013 and T9/2014.
- **Abraham Ancer** – Ancer, who was born in Texas, but raised in Reynosa, Mexico, is playing his rookie season on the PGA TOUR and will make his first start in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. He holds dual citizenship in the United States and Mexico. Ancer won the Nova Scotia Open on the Web.com Tour last season.
- **Rodolfo Cazaubon** – Cazaubon will be making his second career start on the PGA TOUR and in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (MC/2014).
- **Carlos Ortiz** – Mexican star Carlos Ortiz finished No. 93 in the FedExCup standings last season as a rookie on the PGA TOUR. He was a three-time winner and Player of the Year on the Web.com Tour in 2014. Ortiz will make his second career start at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (T9/2014).

Last year, Oscar Fraustro and Carlos Ortiz were the only of seven Mexican players in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba field who made the cut. They also both claimed T9 honors for the best finish by a Mexican player in the history of the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. The previous best was 11th place by Esteban Toledo in 2008.

Esteban Toledo (2007, 2008, 2009, 2012), Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (2009, 2012), Oscar Fraustro (2013, 2014) and Carlos Ortiz (2014) are the only Mexicans to make the cut in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba in the eight-year history of the event.

Mexican golfers who have/had membership on the PGA TOUR:

Player	First Year of Membership (Hometown)
Cesar Sanudo	1969 (Navajoa)
Victor Regalado	1973 (Tijuana)
Rafael Alarcon	1983 (Guadalajara)
Esteban Toledo	1998 (Mexicali)
Alex Aragon	2006 (Mexico City)
Carlos Ortiz	2014-15 (Guadalajara)
Oscar Fraustro	2014-15 (Mexico City)
Carlos Ortiz	2015-16 (Guadalajara)
Abraham Ancer	2015-16 (Reynosa)

Cesar Sanudo and Victor Regalado are the only native Mexican golfers to win on the PGA TOUR. Regalado won the 1974 Pleasant Valley Classic and 1978 Ed McMahon-Jaycees Quad Cities Open (John Deere Classic). Sanudo took top honors at the 1970 Azalea Open Invitational.

Three exemptions will be given to Spanish golfers Jon Rahm, Nacho Elvira and Gonzalo Fernandez-Castaño. Rahm, winner of the 2015 Ben Hogan Award while at Arizona State as the collegiate player of the year, missed the cut here last year and tied for fifth at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Elvira is a four-time winner on the European Tour's Challenge Tour and will be playing in his first OHL Classic at Mayakoba. Fernandez-Castaño is a seven-time winner on the European Tour who finished tied for 51st at Mayakoba last year.

Past Champions in the field

Seven of the eight past champions of the OHL Classic at Mayakoba are in the field this week. The only defending champion missing is Brian Gay who is injured.

Champion	Year(s) won
Charley Hoffman	2014
Harris English	2013
John Huh	2012
Johnson Wagner	2011
Cameron Beckman	2010
Mark Wilson	2009
Fred Funk	2007

Major Champions in the field

There are seven former major champions in the field this week:

Player	# Majors won
Angel Cabrera	2
Stewart Cink	1
Jason Dufner	1
Keegan Bradley	1
Graeme McDowell	1
Geoff Ogilvy	1
Justin Leonard	1

2015-16 PGA TOUR Notes

The first three winners of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season were under the age of 24, with the streak of seven consecutive winners under the age of 30 being the longest since an identical seven won in 1986. Russell Knox, 30, broke the streak last week with his win at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champion. Here's a look at the winners to the start of 2015-16:

Tournament	Winner	Age won
Frys.com Open	Emiliano Grillo	23 years, 1 month, 4 days
Shriners Hospitals for Children Open	Smylie Kaufman	23 years, 10 months, 25 days
CIMB Classic	Justin Thomas	22 years, 6 months, 3 days
WGC-HSBC Champions	Russell Knox	30 years, 4 months, 18 days
Sanderson Farms Championship	Peter Malnati	28 years 4 months, 27 days

All five winners to start the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season have been first-time PGA TOUR champions.

2014-15 PGA TOUR year in review

- Thanks to five wins on the season, including the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, 22-year-old Jordan Spieth became the youngest winner of the FedExCup (22 years, 2 months). He also became the youngest player to win five times in a season since Horton Smith in 1929. Spieth was voted PGA TOUR Player of the Year by his peers, joining on Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy as those who've earned the distinction while in their 20s.
- With five victories in the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, including the PGA Championship, The Barclays and BMW Championship, Australia's Jason Day gave Jordan Spieth serious contention for PGA TOUR Player of the Year honors. Beginning at the U.S. Open, Day played his last 36 competitive rounds of golf with 33 at par-or-better and 28 in the 60s. In that span of time, he combined for a total of 103-under-par.
- Rory McIlroy, winner of the World Golf Championships-Dell Match Play Championship and Wells Fargo Championship this past season, held the world's No. 1 ranking, before ending the season ranked third.
- Daniel Berger, with six top-10 finishes, including a pair of runner-up finishes, was voted the PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year.
- 24 players under the age of 30 won PGA TOUR events in 2014-15 (47 events), the most on TOUR since 1970.

About the El Camaleon Golf Club

El Camaleón Golf Club at the Mayakoba resort is yet another of Greg Norman's signature courses. The 7,039-yard layout is unique—not just to Mexico but to the entire world of golf. The course bends through three distinct landscapes—mangrove jungles, limestone canals and stunning, oceanfront stretches of sand. El Camaleón incorporates a cenote, a massive underground cavern, into the heart of the opening fairway. The handsome, Mayan influenced clubhouse rises above the 18th green and features stunning views over the course. The adjoining practice facility and driving range are of international caliber. With Mayakoba's unique system of waterways, golfers can step out of their rooms and into a boat, which will ferry them directly to the first tee.