



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 30, 2017

Contact: Royce Thompson (321) 246-7687

FInal-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Marty Dou	65-67-61-66—259 (-25)
2	Kyle Thompson	65-69-63-65—262 (-22)
	Luke Guthrie	67-66-62-67—262 (-22)
	Billy Kennerly	66-67-63-66—262 (-22)

Marty Dou becomes first Chinese-born player to earn PGA TOUR card with victory at the Digital Ally Open

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. – Marty Dou had an historic week in Overland Park becoming the first Chinese-born player to win on the Web.com Tour. In a 36-hole marathon on Sunday, at the Nicklaus Club at LionsGate, the 20-year-old from Henan carded 61-66 and posted a 25-under-par 259 total, good for a three-stroke victory at the Digital Ally Open.

"I was talking to my team and I didn't know if I needed to keep practicing or get more experience on the Web.com Tour instead of trying to get to the PGA TOUR so fast," said Dou. "I never thought I could win this year."

Before his victory, the former PGA TOUR China Order of Merit winner had one top-10 and was No. 53 on the money list. Now Dou is headed to the PGA TOUR after earning a first-place prize of \$117,000.

"It's a big honor to represent China and come play in the United States," he said. "Playing and learning from the best, competing and earning my TOUR card, it feels amazing right now."

Dou's game has evolved since turning pro in 2014. Dou competed on PGA TOUR China the past two seasons. In 2016, the Dou recorded four wins on his way to winning the Order of Merit, including a victory at the Henan Open in front of friends and family.

"That was everything," said Dou about his time on PGA TOUR China. "As an amateur I was playing on PGA TOUR China in a couple of events. Just trying to grow my confidence and work on my skills while learning. Then, the second year, when I turned pro, I finished fourth on the money list and came to Q School and didn't play well enough to make it. And the third year I played in China and won. It was a breakthrough for me. I'm now more prepared than I was."

Dou and fellow countryman XinJun Zhang have been traveling together this season and competing every week to try and earn their TOUR card. While Dou was still a little shell-shocked after his maiden Tour win, he understood the importance of this triumph and what it meant for his country.

"It's going to be pretty big," said Dou, about the win in Kansas. "We've been talking to the Chinese media this year about a Chinese player potentially getting to the PGA TOUR. How soon will they get their card and I just did it here. It just happened."

Dou's charge came in the third round where he recorded a 10-under score to take the 54-hole lead. He attacked the Jack Nicklaus design with precision iron-play, hitting 14 of 18 greens and making 23 putts.

"The 61 beat my low-record by two shots," said Dou, who bested his lowest score on Tour by four strokes. "It was amazing. I did everything perfect. I don't know what to say. I feel like my game is in pretty good shape."

Entering the final round, Dou felt the pressure of trying to earn his first title. He parred the first five holes and then settled in with a birdie at six, a hole he played in 3-under for the week. Dou added birdies at holes seven, 10, 14 and 15 to take control of the tournament.

"I was pretty nervous the first five holes," he said "I couldn't get my iron shots in the right direction and was left with some long putts. Then after my first two birdies, all the way to the end I wasn't nervous anymore. I just felt like if I played my best I could win this."

"I started thinking during the round if I win, what could I get," he continued. "I still want to do better than this. I want to carry this into the rest of the season."

With Hoa Tong Li's performance at THE OPEN Championship and Dou and Zhang currently inside the top 25 on the money list, China has a crop of rising stars ready to represent their country of golf's grandest stage.

Sunday Notes:

- * Sunday weather: Partly cloudy. High: 95, Low: 78, Winds: S-SW 8-16 mph.
- * This week's event is the 18th of 22 regular season events on the 2016 schedule. The top-25 money winners following the season-ending WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft Heinz at the end of this month will earn PGA TOUR cards for the 2016-17 wraparound season.
- * This week's purse is \$650,000, with \$117,500 going to Marty Dou. Dou moves to No. 15 on the money list with \$186,094 and becomes the first player from China to qualify for the PGA TOUR.
- * Dou is the first Chinese-born player to win on the Web.com Tour.
- * At age 20 years, 6 months, 8 days, Dou is the third-youngest winner of in Tour history:

Jason Day – 19 years, 7 months, 26 days, 2007 Legend Financial Group Classic

Si Woo Kim – 20 years, 21 days, 2015 Stonebrae Classic

Marty Dou -20 years, 6 months, 8 days

- * Three international-born players have accounted for four victories on Tour this season: Stephan Jaeger (Germany) BMW Charity Pro-Am, Rust-Oleum Championship; Aaron Wise (South Africa) Air Capital Classic; Marty Dou China) Digital Ally Open
- * Dou's tournament in detail:

Fairways: 45/56 (T15) GIR: 53/72 (T39) Putts: 100 (1)

- * Dou's season in detail (starts/cuts made/top-10s/wins): 18/10/2/1
- * Dou's third-round 10-under-par 61 was the lowest score of the tournament and the lowest of his Tour season.
- * In 2016, Dou played on PGA TOUR China and earned Player of the Year honors with four titles and a No. 1 finish on the Order of Merit, setting a single-season earnings' record in the process (¥1,144,350). He won four times (Henan Open, United Investment Real Estate Open, Nanjing Open, Yulongwan Yunnan Open).

Scoring Average for Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate for the week:

	Front (35)	Back (36)	Total (71)
Round 1:	34.756	34.378	69.135
Round 2:	35.013	34.682	69.695
Round 3:	33.650	33.563	67.213
Round 4:	34.075	34.438	68.512
Cumulative:	34.533	34.347	68.880

* **NEXT WEEK:** The Web.com Tour heads west for the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae where two-time NBA Champion Stephen Curry will compete for the first time on the Web.com Tour, July 31 – August 6.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INTERVIEWS from today's play are available via the following FTP site:

website: https://moveit.pgatourhq.com < https://moveit.pgatourhq.com/>

Username: webcom_Highlights Password: pgatour13

* First click on "FOLDER" on the top left of the main page. From there, navigate to the following folders: /Home/Highlights and then locate the event folder of your choice.

* All footage is HD and use is free.

For the latest information and updates on the Web.com Tour visit <u>www.pgatourmedia.com</u>
Scores available at <u>www.pgatour.com</u> or on the Associated Press wire

Follow the Web.com Tour on Twitter at http://twitter.com/webdotcomtour on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/WebDotComTour and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/webdotcomtour