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### **2017 QBE Challenge Tournament Notes**

**Dates:** December 6-10, 2017

**Where:** Tiburon Golf Club (Naples, Fla.)

**Par/Yards:** 72/7,382 yards

**Field:** 24 players (12 two-person teams)

**2016 champions:** Matt Kuchar/Harris English

**2017 purse:** \$3.3 million

**Format:** Scramble (Friday), Modified Alternate Shot (Saturday), Better Ball (Sunday)

### **A look back at the 2016 QBE Shootout**

In 2016, Harris English sank a 12-foot eagle putt on the par-5 17th hole, which turned out to be the decisive shot of the event for he and partner Matt Kuchar. The putt resulted in a 1-stroke victory at 28-under 188 (57-66-65) over Jerry Kelly and Steve Stricker by a stroke. The Kuchar/English winning score of 188 was the highest by a winning team in the event since Kelly and Stricker won in 2009 with a 26-under 190. Between their 2013 and 2016 victories in the event, the Kuchar/English duo finished second in 2014 and 2015.

### **Tournament Notes**

- Founded by World Golf Hall of Fame Member Greg Norman in 1989, this week's QBE Shootout marks the 29<sup>th</sup> playing of the event.
- Tiburon Golf Club at The Ritz-Carlton Resort in Naples, Fla. hosts the 24-player event for a 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Competitors in the 2017 QBE Shootout have combined for 104 victories (95 on the PGA TOUR and nine by Lexi Thompson on the LPGA Tour).
- Fifteen of the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking are in this week's QBE Shootout, highlighted by No. 15, Matt Kuchar.
- With a win this week, defending champions Matt Kuchar and Harris English would become the first team to win the QBE Shootout three times (2013, 2016).
- Paired this year with Tony Finau, Lexi Thompson is just the second woman to compete in the QBE Shootout. Annika Sorenstam teamed with Fred Couples in 2006.
- Two former FedExCup champions are among the 24-player field: Brandt Snedeker (2012) and Billy Horschel (2014).
- The distinction for most individual top-5 finishes in the QBE Shootout (nine) is a three-way tie between tournament founder Greg Norman, Kenny Perry and Mark O'Meara.

- The team with the most top-five finishes in tournament history is Mark O'Meara and Curtis Strange. The pair collected five such finishes between 1989 and 1996, including a victory in the inaugural Shootout of 1989.
- Eleven players have won the QBE Shootout in their first attempt: Mark O'Meara (1989), Curtis Strange (1989), Fred Couples (1990), Scott McCarron (1997), Hank Kuehne (2003), Rod Pampling (2006), Woody Austin (2007), Keegan Bradley (2011), Brendan Steele (2011), Harris English (2013) and Cameron Tringale (2014).