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**2019 Bupa Match Play**

**Field Notes:** <http://bit.ly/2EG3t1V>

**Match Schedule & Results:** <http://bit.ly/2WcklZ0>

**Highlights and Interviews:**<https://goo.gl/2KgGSJ>

**Tour photos on Flickr:**<https://www.flickr.com/photos/pgatourla>

**Attached photo:  The par-3 No. 15 will be a critical hole this week at Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club. (Credit: Enrique Berardi / PGA TOUR)**

**The First Look: 2019 Bupa Match Play**

*The only match-play event on the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica schedule returns for the second consecutive year to Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club*

RIVIERA MAYA, Mexico – For the second consecutive year, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica is at Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club to sanction the Bupa Match Play. With a field of 64 players from 16 countries, this will be the last of eight events scheduled during the first half of the season.

**TOURNAMENT NAME:** Bupa Match Play

**DATES:** May 30 – June 2, 2019

**HASHTAG:** #BupaMatchPlay

**SCHEDULE:** Eighth event of the 2019 PGA TOUR Latinoamérica season

**VENUE:** Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club – Riviera Maya, Mexico

**PAR/YARDS:** 72 (36-36) / 6,704

**2018 CHAMPION:** Toni Hakula (did not qualify)

**PURSE:** US $125,000 – Winner’s share US $30,000

**TOURNAMENT FORMAT:**

Match play golf competition over four days (Thursday through Sunday).

Players are seeded first through 60th according to their PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit ranking, with the four players who entered through the open qualifier taking seeds 61 to 64.

This will be a single-elimination event, with players organized in a bracket according to seed. The winner of each match advances in the bracket, while the loser is eliminated. If a match finishes in a tie after 18 holes of play, the players involved will contest a sudden-death, hole-by-hole playoff to determine a winner.

The first round will feature 32 matches on Thursday, May 30, while the second round features 16 matches on Friday, May 31. There will be two rounds played Saturday, June 1, with the round of 16 in the morning and the quarterfinals in the afternoon. The semifinals will be followed by the final on Sunday, June 2.

**ROUND OF 64 SCHEDULE:** Thursday, May 30, 2019

*The number in parentheses is the player’s seed*

7 a.m. (32) Russell Budd, Canada vs. (33) Paulo Pinto, Argentina

7:10 a.m. (30) Patrick Newcomb, U.S. vs. (35) Maximiliano Godoy, Argentina

7:20 a.m. (28) Clodomiro Carranza, Argentina vs. (37) Will Collins, U.S.

7:30 a.m. (26) Jorge Fernández Valdés, Argentina vs. (39) Carson Jacobs, U.S.

7:40 a.m. (24) Willy Pumarol, Dominican Republic vs. (41) Charlie Bull, England

7:50 a.m. (22) Seth Fair, U.S. vs. (43) Isidro Benítez, Mexico

8 a.m. (20) Leandro Marelli, Argentina vs. (45) Steven Fox, U.S.

8:10 a.m. (18) José Toledo, Guatemala vs. (47) Joshua Lee, U.S.

8:20 a.m. (16) Scott Wolfes, U.S. vs. (48) Michael Davan, U.S.

8:30 a.m. (14) Matt Ryan, U.S. vs. (51) Camilo Aguado, Colombia

8:40 a.m. (12) Santiago Gómez, Colombia vs. (53) Patrick Flavin, U.S.

8:50 a.m. (10) Andrés Echavarría, Colombia vs. (55) Chase Hanna, U.S.

9 a.m. (8) Andreas Halvorsen, Norway vs. (57) Ignacio Marino, Argentina

9:10 a.m. (6) Cristóbal Del Solar, Chile vs. (59) Luis Fernando Barco, Peru

9:20 a.m. (4) Jared Wolfe, U.S. vs. (61) Chandler Blanchet, U.S.

9:30 a.m. (2) Augusto Núñez, Argentina vs. (63) Pedro Lamadrid, Mexico

9:40 a.m. (1) Tom Whitney, U.S. vs. (64) Rafael Echenique, Argentina

9:50 a.m. (3) Mito Pereira, Chile vs. (62) Raúl Pereda, Mexico

10 a.m. (5) Ryan Ruffels, Australia vs. (60) Edward Figueroa, Puerto Rico

10:10 a.m. (7) John Somers, U.S. vs. (58) Nicholas Maruri, Mexico

10:20 a.m. (9) Evan Harmeling, U.S. vs. (56) Samuel Stevens, U.S.

10:30 a.m. (11) Alex Rocha, Brazil vs. (54) Juan Pablo Luna, Colombia

10:40 a.m. (13) Nicolo Galletti, U.S. vs. (52) Tano Goya, Argentina

10:50 a.m. (15) Alex Weiss, U.S. vs. (50) Matthew Pinizzotto, U.S.

11 a.m. (17) Harrison Endycott, Australia vs. (48) Barrett Kelpin, U.S.

11:10 a.m. (19) Gustavo Silva, Chile vs. (46) Mario Beltrán, Spain

11:20 a.m. (21) Shad Tuten, U.S. vs. (44) Greg Eason, England

11:30 a.m. (23) Mitchell Meissner, U.S. vs. (42) Dalan Refioglu, U.S.

11:40 a.m. (25) Tommy Cocha, Argentina vs. (40) Victor Lange, South Africa

11:50 a.m. (27) Brian Hughes, U.S. vs. (38) Jacob Bergeron, U.S.

Noon (29) Ryan Baca, U.S. vs. (36) Manav Shah, U.S.

12:10 p.m. (31) Rodrigo Lee, Brazil vs. (34) Mario Galiano, Spain

**FIELD NOTES:**

This is a 64-man field consisting of the leading 60 players available from the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit at the conclusion of the 2019 Abierto Mexicano (May 26) and four players—Chandler Blanchet, Raul Pereda, Pedro Lamadrid and Rafa Echenique—who emerged from an 18-hole qualifier held Monday (May 27).

This field features players from 16 different countries.

Players by country: United States (28), Argentina (10), México (4), Colombia (4), Chile (3), Australia (2), Brazil (2), England (2), Spain (2), Canada (1), Dominican Republic (1), Guatemala (1), Norway (1), Peru (1), Puerto Rico (1), South Africa (1).

As the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit leader since his victory at the Abierto OSDE del Centro on April 28, **Tom Whitney** will be the No. 1 seed this week. This will be Whitney’s fourth consecutive event in the No. 1 position. The 30-year old has made the cut in all seven of his starts this season, collecting top-10 finishes in three.

Nineteen of the top-20 players on the Order of Merit are scheduled to play this week, including six of seven 2019 tournament champions: **Jared** **Wolfe** (Buenaventura Classic), **Andrés Echavarría** (Molino Cañuelas Championship), **John Somers** (Abierto de Chile presented by Volvo), **Whitney** (Abierto OSDE del Centro), **Cristóbal Del Solar** (Puerto Plata Open) and **Evan Harmeling** (BMW Jamaica Classic). The only players inside the top 20 who did not make it here is Canada’s Drew Nesbitt (No. 9), winner of last week’s Abierto Mexicano in Tijuana.

The following are the Order of Merit top-10 players through four events:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Pos.** | **Players** | **Earnings U.S.** | **2019 Season Notes** |
| 1.  | Tom Whitney, U.S. | $51,400 | Abierto OSDE del Centro winner |
| 2. | Augusto Núñez, ARG | $43,315 | Four top-10s |
| 3.  | Mito Pereira, CHL | $42,607 | Six top-10s |
| 4. | Jared Wolfe, U.S. | $42,555 | Buenaventura Classic winner |
| 5. | Ryan Ruffels, AUS | $41,741 | Two runner-up finishes |
| 6. | Cristóbal Del Solar, CHL | $38,624 | Puerto Plata Open winner |
| 7. | John Somers, U.S. | $37,800 | Abierto de Chile winner |
| 8. | Andreas Halvorsen, NOR | $37,537 | Two top-threes |
| 9. | Drew Nesbitt, CAN | $34,060 | Abierto Mexicano winner |
| 10. | Evan Harmeling, U.S. | $33,898 | BMW Jamaica winner |

**Isidro Benítez**, a 20-year old from Puebla playing his second season on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, leads a group of four Mexican players in the field. Benitez is only eight weeks away from playing The Open Championship at Royal Portrush, a privilege he earned by winning the 2018 VISA Open de Argentina last November. Benítez has recorded two top-20 finishes this season and currently holds the 46th spot on the Order of Merit. The other Mexicans in the field are **Nicholas Maruri** (Order of Merit No. 67), **Raúl Pereda** (No. 107) and **Pedro Lamadrid** (has not played an event). Both Pereda and Lamadrid entered the event through last Monday’s open qualifier.

There are 20 players who are playing this event for the second consecutive year. Colombia’s **Santiago Gómez** and England’s **Charlie Bull** both reached the 2018 semifinals. Gómez lost to eventual winner Toni Hakula (1-down), while Bull lost to eventual runner-up Sebastián Saavedra (2 and 1).

The following are the 20 players making their second Bupa Match Play appearances:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Player, Country** | **2018 seed, performance** | **2019 seed** |
| Santiago Gómez, Colombia | 25, reached semifinals | 12 |
| Charlie Bull, England | 51, reached semifinals | 41 |
| Tommy Cocha, Argentina | 20, reached quarterfinals | 25 |
| Harrison Endycott, Australia | 39, reached quarterfinals | 17 |
| Clodomiro Carranza, Argentina | 33, deached round of 16 | 28 |
| Nicolo Galletti, U.S. | 36, reached round of 32 | 13 |
| Andreas Halvorsen, Norway | 16, reached round of 32 | 8 |
| Cristóbal Del Solar, Chile | 11, reached round of 32 | 6 |
| Leandro Marelli, Argentina | 56, reached round of 32 | 20 |
| Rodrigo Lee, Brazil | 23, reached round of 32 | 31 |
| Shad Tuten, U.S. | 58, lost in round of 64 | 21 |
| Dalan Refioglu, U.S. | 57, lost in round of 64 | 42 |
| Ignacio Marino, Argentina | 52, lost in round of 64 | 57 |
| Maxi Godoy, Argentina | 48, lost in round of 64 | 35 |
| Rafael Echenique, Argentina | 46, lost in round of 64 | 64 |
| Alex Rocha, Brazil | 21, lost in round of 64 | 11 |
| Chase Hanna, U.S. | 41, lost in round of 64 | 55 |
| Juan Pablo Luna, Colombia | 40, lost in round of 64 | 54 |
| Mario Galiano, Spain | 27, lost in round of 64 | 34 |
| Michael Davan, U.S. | 28, lost in round of 64 | 48 |

**TOUR LEADERS:** The following are the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica stat leaders through seven events:

**EARNINGS:** USD $51,400 – Tom Whitney, U.S.

**SCORING AVERAGE:** 68.75 – Mito Pereira, Chile

**TOP-10s:** 6 – Mito Pereira, Chile

**LOWEST ROUND:** 61 – Gustavo Silva, Chile

**SUB-PAR ROUNDS:** 22 (out of 28) – Mito Pereira, Chile

**ROUNDS IN THE 60s:** 18 (out of 28) – Mito Pereira, Chile

**PAR-5 PERFORMANCE:** 68-under – Augusto Núñez, Argentina

**PAR-4 PERFORMANCE:** 19-under – Tom Whitney, U.S.

**TOTAL BIRDIES:** 134 – Mito Pereira, Chile

**TOTAL EAGLES:** 7 – Will Collins, U.S., Ryan Ruffels, Australia

**CUTS MADE:** 7 – Tom Whitney, Mito Pereira, Augusto Núñez

**THE GOLF COURSE:** Hosting this event for the second consecutive year, Iberostar Playa Paraíso Golf Club, has hosted a strong share of events in the past. This was one of two venues welcoming the World Amateur Team Championship in 2016. It has also hosted an open qualifier for the PGA TOUR’s Mayakoba Classic and several editions of the Iberostar Riviera Maya Open, an event sanctioned by the Canadian Tour before it became the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada. Golf Channel filmed “Big Break Mexico” here in January of 2013.

**DESIGNER:** P.B. Dye

**OPENING:** June 2005

**PAR:** 72 (36-36)

**YARDS:** 6,805

**GRASS:** Paspalum

**18-HOLE RECORD:** 63, Custis Luck, Australia (2016 World Amateur Team Championship)

**PREMIER PARTNERS:** As PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Premier Partners, **Volvo Car Latin America**, **Hilton** and **Go Vacaciones** are joining the Bupa Match Play for the first time. This week **Go Vacaciones** is also offering the winner of the tournament a two-night all-expenses stay at Hacienda Tres Ríos in Playa Del Carmen for use immediately after the tournament or at another time.

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