

THE PLAYERS First-Timers Press Conference Wednesday, March 19, 2021

PLAYER BIOS



Cameron Davis

Birthplace: Sydney, Australia **Residence:** Seattle, Washington

College: N/A

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

Fast Facts:

- Surprisingly won the 2017 Australian Open at The Australian Golf Club after beginning the final round six strokes back of the lead. Held off the likes of Jason Day and Jordan Spieth to win his first professional tournament in his backyard.
- Moved to Seattle after turning professional where he met girlfriend **Jonika Melcher**, whom he proposed to on April 21, 2019. They were married on September 5, 2020 in Seattle.
- Best PGA TOUR finish: 3rd at 2021 The American Express



Doug Ghim

Birthplace: Des Plaines, Illinois

Residence: Las Vegas, Nevada **College:** University of Texas

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Non-exempt below the No. 10 position in FedExCup standings as necessary to fill the field to 154 players

Fast Facts:

- Was the 2018 Ben Hogan Award recipient (nation's best collegiate golfer) as a senior at the University of Texas.
- Because he was a recipient of an AJGA ACE Grant, which gave him the financial means necessary to play a national golf schedule, Doug gives back to the AJGA Foundation.
- Played the 2018 Masters (T50) as the runner-up of the 2017 U.S. Amateur.
- Doug grew up playing municipal courses; he was not a member of a country club. He recalled playing with used clubs purchased off eBay. He said he didn't open a box of new golf balls until he was about 16; even then they were free.
- Extremely close with his father, Jeff, who introduced him to golf and caddied for Doug throughout amateur golf.



Scott Harrington

Birthplace: Eugene, Oregon **Residence:** Scottsdale, Arizona

College: Northwestern

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

- At 38 years old, Harrington was the oldest PGA TOUR rookie entering the 2019-20 season.
- Wife, Jenn, overcame Hodkin's lymphoma (twice) with many players on Tour donating to support her medical costs. Steph Curry also donated after learning of her struggle.
- Played with Luke Donald at Northwestern University, where they were roommates and Donald was his "big" in the fraternity.
- He grew up playing with Ben Crane often (also from Oregon), and both of their parents are close friends.



Kramer Hickok

Birthplace: Austin, Texas **Residence:** Dallas, Texas **College:** University of Texas

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Non-exempt below the No. 10 position in FedExCup standings as necessary to fill the field to 154 players

Fast Facts:

- Always wanted to go to the University of Texas but thought they didn't want to recruit him because
 he didn't get letters. It turned out they originally had the wrong mailing address. Dad and brother
 also went there.
- Lived with Jordan Spieth for a while after each were pursuing professional golf. Very good friends, roommates in college. Hickok was going to go live with his parents, and Spieth offered to let him stay with him. Hickok has mentioned that while he always had the work ethic to be a great player, Spieth taught him how to prepare and how to be mentally strong. Said Spieth was the clean one of the house, Hickok was probably the dirty one of the two.
- Piano class was his favorite class in college.
- Huge outdoors guy, especially fly fishing. Also likes fishing and hunting.
- Considers Fred Couples a friend and mentor. Said Couples usually texts him after tournaments, offering words of encouragement.



Harry Higgs

Birthplace: Camden, New Jersey

Residence: Dallas, Texas

College: SMU

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Non-exempt below the No. 10 position in FedExCup standings as

necessary to fill the field to 154 players

Fast Facts:

- Thought about quitting professional golf in 2017 when he had no status and was playing mini tours and was going to be out of money soon.
- Former teammate of Bryson DeChambeau's at SMU
- Order of Merit winner on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica in 2018. Put a post-it note on his bathroom mirror and one on the wall leaving his bedroom that said, "I'm going to win the money list this year".
- Originally from Kansas City area, grew up playing junior golf around there. Debuted on the Korn Ferry Tour as a 17-year-old at the KC Golf Classic after winning a junior qualifier.



Bo Hoag

Birthplace: Columbus, Ohio **Residence:** Columbus, Ohio **College:** Ohio State University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

- Born and raised in Upper Arlington, Ohio, attended the same high school and college as Jack Nicklaus. The high school's mascot is the Golden Bear.
- His grandfather, Bob, was on the founding Board board at Muirfield Village Golf Club when it opened in 1974. He employed Jack Nicklaus in the insurance business before Jack turned to golf professionally. Bob was a great player who competed against Nicklaus, Palmer and Player as an amateur.
- Bo spent time with Nicklaus and his wife, Barbara during his childhood. When he won the Korn Ferry Tour's WinCo Foods Portland Open to secure his PGA TOUR card, Nicklaus gave him a congratulatory phone call.



Tom Lewis

Birthplace: Welwyn Garden City, England **Residence:** Welwyn Garden City, England

College: N/A

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 on the 2019-20 FedExCup Points List

Fast Facts:

- Tom was named after his father's golfing hero, Tom Watson
- Led the 2011 Open Championship after the first round, posting the lowest score by an amateur in Open history, having being partnered with Tom Watson
- Earned his PGA Tour card by winning the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Championship
- Tom is from Welwyn Garden City (an hour north of London and the same home town as Nick Faldo), and still lives in the area
- Played soccer to a high level before focusing on golf and is a Liverpool FC fan.



Robert MacIntyre

Birthplace: Oban, Scotland Residence: Oban, Scotland

College: McNeese State University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 50 in OWGR through WGC-Workday Championship

- The left-hander attributes his golf success to the game of shinty
- He shot 79 in his first round as a professional and then in the third round of the tournament he broke the course record. He missed out on a playoff by one stroke.
- In his short career so far he has had three runner-up finishes on the European Tour and a tied 6th finish in his first major, the 2019 Open Championship.
- He represented GB&I at the 2017 Walker Cup and beat Cameron Champ 6&4 in Singles
- His mother and father are longtime foster parents.



Tyler McCumber

Birthplace: Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

Residence: Lyons, Colorado **College:** University of Florida

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

Fast Facts:

- Earned PGA TOUR membership by finishing No. 22 on the Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season points list and entered the 2019-20 season 46th in the final priority ranking.
- Grew up in Jacksonville, Florida and attended Nease high school with fellow KFT graduate Vince Covello. The pair are the first Nease graduates to be exempt on Tour since Len Mattiace.
- Moved from Jacksonville Beach to Lyons, Colorado in the summer of 2020 after falling in love with
 the area on vacation. Wanted a change of scenery being a lover of the outdoors and nature and also
 enjoyed a few golf courses in the area.
- Tyler's father is Mark McCumber, a 10-time champion on the PGA TOUR highlighted by wins at THE PLAYERS Championship and the TOUR Championship.
- First time playing with Tiger at the 2020 Farmers Insurance Open, Tyler shot a 3rd round 68 to Tiger's 69.



Maverick McNealy

Birthplace: Stanford, California **Residence:** Las Vegas, Nevada **College:** Stanford University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

- Through his senior year at The Harker School in San Jose, he played club ice hockey on the San Jose Jr. Sharks (a four-time captain).
- # 1 Amateur in the World in 2015, 2016 and 2017
- Won every major college / amateur award possible....including Hogan Award, Haskins Award, Byron Nelson Award, Nicklaus Award, and Mark McCormack Medal.
- Two Time Walker Cup Member and went 4-0 in 2017 Walker Cup.
- Finalist for PGA Tour Rookie of the Year in 2020
- Management science and engineering major at Stanford
- Shares Stanford's school wins record with Tiger Woods and Patrick Rodgers (11).



Matthew NeSmith

Birthplace: North Augusta, South Carolina

Residence: Aiken, South Carolina **College:** University of South Carolina

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

- Possibly the greatest player in the history of the University of South Carolina's program. Only player in program history to be named a First-Team All-American (as a senior) and is the school's all-time leader in scoring average (71.65) and top-10 finishes (25).
- As a junior golfer, NeSmith won the AJGA's FootJoy Invitational in 2012, earning him a spot as an amateur in the 2012 Wyndham Championship. He missed the cut by two strokes
- Competed at the Junior PLAYERS Championship at TPC Sawgrass
- Supports Curing Kids Cancer, even has their logo on his golf bag



Henrik Norlander

Birthplace: Danderyd, Stockholm, Sweden

Residence: Augusta, Georgia **College:** Augusta University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

Fast Facts:

- Three-time All-American at Augusta University where won the 2010 NCAA Championship
- Plays a lot of tennis "escape from golf"
- Earned his TOUR card for the 2019-20 season after winning the first five-man playoff at the Wichita Open
- Lost in a five-man playoff at the 2016 RSM Classic after entering the week as a sponsor's exemption



Cameron Percy

Birthplace: Chelsea, Victoria, Australia **Residence:** Raleigh, North Carolina

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Non-exempt below the No. 10 position in FedExCup standings as

necessary to fill the field to 154 players

- Played first full season on the PGA TOUR in 2010; has recorded nine top-10s including a career-best runner up at the 2010 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open; won the 2014 Price Cutter Charity Championship on the Korn Ferry Tour
- Non-golf related jobs include working as a sports reporter and a bartender.
- Lists qualifying for the 2003 Open Championship with wife, Katie, on the bag, as his biggest thrill in golf.
- Growing up, played every other sport but golf including Aussie rules, cricket, tennis, soccer and basketball. Did not start playing golf until age 15, using an old set of his grandmother's clubs.



Doc Redman

Birthplace: Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Residence: Jacksonville, Florida **College:** Clemson University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

Fast Facts:

 Went to Clemson University; received the Outstanding Freshman Award from the College of Science's department of mathematical sciences; studied actuarial math

- Began working with short-game coach Josh Gregory in the fall of 2019, working hard to improve weakness in his game that he identified over the past year of
- Made the decision to change his path to the PGA TOUR after four 2019 starts on the Mackenzie
 Tour-PGA TOUR Canada, promising to earn his 2019-20 TOUR card through the nonmember FedExCup points list and accomplished his goal. Flew from the Lethbridge Open in
 Lethbridge, Alberta, to the Open Qualifier for the 2019 Rocket Mortgage Classic, where he shot 62
 to earn medalist honors and get into the field. Went on to finish solo-second in the tournament to
 help secure 2019-20 PGA TOUR card.
- Won the 2017 U.S. Amateur at Riviera Country Club



Robby Shelton

Birthplace: Mobile, Alabama **Residence:** Birmingham, Alabama **College:** University of Alabama

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

- Was an All-American all three years at University of Alabama. As a freshman in 2013-14, he was named SEC Player of the Year and the team won the National Championship at Prairie Dunes.
- As the highest-ranked amateur golfer in the state of Alabama, he earned a spot in the PGA TOUR's 2015 Barbasol Championship, where he'd go on to finish tied for third – at the time, it was the best result by an amateur on the PGA TOUR since Phil Mickelson won the 1991 Northern Telecom Open.
- Won the 2012 Junior PLAYERS Championship, a tournament that also included Cameron Champ, Kris Ventura, Doug Ghim and Scottie Scheffler.
- Passionate about bow hunting and bass fishing.



Will Zalatoris

Birthplace: San Francisco, California

Residence: Plano, Texas

College: Wake Forest University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 50 in Official World Golf Ranking through the WGC-Workday

Championship

- Grew up in San Francisco but his family moved to Dallas when his father, Rick, took over a major mall renovation at the Metroplex; the family joined Bent Tree Country Club where he played the local Legends Junior Tour with Jordan Spieth and Scottie Scheffler.
- Received the Arnold Palmer scholarship to play golf at Wake Forest
- Made his first professional cut on the PGA TOUR at Pebble Beach in 2018, playing with Tony Romo. Used the money to buy a plane ticket to go to the Monday qualifier for L.A. the following week.
- Completed his psychology degree last year while playing the Korn Ferry Tour Monday Qualifier circuit – taking online classes while traveling.



Xinjun Zhang

Birthplace: Shanxi, China **Residence:** Houston, Texas

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in FedExCup standings from start of 2019-20 season

through 2021 WGC-Workday Championship

Fast Facts:

- Had to walk through mountains in order to go to school in the poor countryside town of Shanxi
- Around 2007, he was working as a security guard at a golf course in Xian. He eventually picked up a club and loved the sport.
- Became the first Chinese player to win on PGA TOUR Series-China, when he captured the Beijing Open in June 2014.
- Received no formal training until earning a spot on the Chinese National Team in 2007.
- Launched a junior charity program in 2019 in his hometown province, Xian as a way of giving back to the community and encouraging youngsters to learn the sport

Player Schedule

Wednesday, March 10 8:30 a.m.

Will Zalatoris (pool bay) Bo Hoag Henrik Norlander Matthew NeSmith Scott Harrington

9:00 a.m.

Harry Higgs
Tyler McCumber (pool bay)
Cameron Davis
Robby Shelton
Doug Ghim
Kramer Hickok

9:30 a.m.

Tom Lewis
Robert MacIntyre
Maverick McNealy (pool bay)
Doc Redman
Xinjun Zhang
Cameron Percy