

# **Twelve Teams Announced for QBE Shootout**

10 New Teams Featuring 12 of the Top 50 in the World

**NAPLES, FL. (November 22, 2022)** – Tournament officials announced today the 12 two-person teams that will compete in the 2022 QBE Shootout. This year's tournament will be held December 7 - 11 at Tiburon Golf Club at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples.

The 34<sup>th</sup> edition of the QBE Shootout and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Naples will feature 10 new teams competing for the \$3.8 million purse.

One of the familiar teams returning includes **Harris English** and **Matt Kuchar**, a pairing that has accumulated six top-five finishes, including three wins, since joining forces in 2013. **Max Homa** and **Kevin Kisner**, who finished fifth last year, will be together for the second time.

For the first time in tournament history, two LPGA players will be competing. World #1 Nelly Korda, playing in her first QBE Shootout, will be paired with Denny McCarthy. Lexi Thompson, ranked #7 in the world, returns for the sixth time and will join Maverick McNealy.

"Over the years, the QBE Shootout has included many of golf's greatest and most entertaining players – and this first-class field is no different," said QBE North America CEO, Todd Jones. "It's shaping up to be an incredible event, and we look forward to hosting the players and fans again in a few weeks."

This year's field will feature 10 of the top 50 ranked men in the world including No. 16 Homa, No. 17 Billy Horschel, No. 18 Cameron Young, No. 24 Brian Harman, No. 29 Sepp Straka, No. 31 Kisner, No. 33 Corey Conners, No. 36 Tom Hoge, No. 37 K.H. Lee and No. 44 Sahith Theegala.

Conners, Lee, Homa, Horschel, Kisner and Young also competed in the 2022 Presidents Cup.

"We are thrilled with the 12 compelling teams we've been able to put together this year. These dynamic duos comprised of young guns, recent TOUR winners, LPGA stars and established veterans are sure to create an exciting three days of competition," Tournament Director Rob Hartman said.

This year's tournament will have a special mission as tournament organizers, sponsors, volunteers and fans collectively assist to rebuild the local community in the wake of Hurricane

Ian. In addition to the QBE Shootout's traditional giving, all proceeds from QBE Shootout ticket sales will benefit local hurricane relief efforts.

The QBE Shootout will once again feature a scramble format during the first round, a modified alternate shot format on Saturday and a final-round better ball on Sunday. CureSearch for Children's Cancer will continue to be the tournament's primary charitable beneficiary. Since 1989, the Shootout has raised more than \$15 million for charitable causes.

Golf Channel will broadcast Friday's first round competition live from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. ET. Over the weekend, the final two rounds will feature live coverage on both Golf Channel and NBC. Saturday's coverage will begin from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. on Golf Channel, then switch to NBC from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. The final round will air on Golf Channel from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and on NBC from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Following Saturday's round, Live Fest will once again be held on the Tiburon Driving Range from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. This year's lineup includes .38 Special, Jake Owen and Brad Paisley. Tickets are available at LiveFest.com.

For the latest QBE Shootout news and information, visit the official tournament website at <a href="mailto:qbeshootout.com">qbeshootout.com</a>, like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/qbeshootout and follow us on Instagram @QBEshootout.

Below is a snapshot of the 12 teams:

**Max Homa**—**Kevin Kisner** (9 PGA TOUR victories) Last year, this twosome finished fifth in their first start together. Both were members of this year's victorious U.S. team in the Presidents Cup, with Homa going 4-0 in his debut. Kisner will be playing in his sixth Shootout. His best finish was 4<sup>th</sup> place with Kevin Chappell in 2016. Homa won three times on TOUR in the past calendar year, including a successful defense of his 2021 Fortinet Championship this fall.

Harris English—Matt Kuchar (13 PGA TOUR victories and three QBE Shootout wins) English and Kuchar will partner for the eighth time. The most successful pairing in Shootout history has also recorded two runner-up finishes (2014, 2015). The duo holds the tournament record for largest margin of victory, nine strokes in 2020.

**Nelly Korda**—**Denny McCarthy** (8 career victories) World #1 Korda, age 24, and McCarthy, age 29, will be the youngest team in the field. Combined this twosome has accumulated 12 top-10 finishes during the calendar year—Korda seven, McCarthy five. Both are competing for the first time in the Shootout. The last time a rookie team won the QBE Shootout was Keegan Bradley and Brendan Steele in 2011.

**Trey Mullinax—Scott Stallings** (4 PGA TOUR victories) Stallings will be making his second appearance and first since 2011, while Mullinax is a Shootout rookie. Mullinax won the Barbasol Championship this summer for his first TOUR win and recently was fourth in Houston. Stallings has seven top-10 finishes this past season, including a runner-up in the FedExCup playoffs BMW Championship.

**Brian Harman**—**Sepp Straka** (3 PGA TOUR victories and one Shootout win) Both attended the University of Georgia. Harman won with Patton Kizzire in 2018 and will be making his fifth appearance at Tiburon with his fourth different partner. Harman recently was runner-up at the World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba. Straka secured his first PGA TOUR victory at the Honda Classic earlier this year. Born in Austria, he played in the 2020 Olympic Games.

**Jason Day—Billy Horschel** (19 PGA TOUR victories and one Shootout win) These two TOUR veterans, both age 35, will be playing together for the first time. Day, a former World No. 1, won here with Cameron Tringale in 2014. Horschel has finished among the top-five six times in nine Shootout appearances with eight different partners. Horschel played in his first team event for the U.S. this fall at the Presidents Cup. Day has played on four International Presidents Cup teams.

**Steve Stricker**—Cameron Young (12 PGA TOUR victories and two Shootout wins) Stricker, age 55, will be playing in his 13<sup>th</sup> Shootout while PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Young, age 25, will be playing in Naples for the first time. Stricker won four times on the PGA Champions Tour this year and served as an Assistant Captain for the victorious U.S. Presidents Cup team. Young, finished runner-up three times this year, including a solo-second at the Open Championship. Combined this twosome accumulated 18 top-ten finishes on their respective Tours this season.

Maverick McNealy—Lexi Thompson (11 career victories) These two 27-year-olds will represent another new team. Both were highly touted amateurs early in their careers, with McNealy being the world's top amateur in 2017. McNealy recorded three top-10 finishes in his last seven starts of the season and combined the twosome was among the top 20 this season 18 times. Thompson is an 11-time LPGA winner, two-time Olympian and has played on five United States Solheim Cup teams.

**Tom Hoge—Sahith Theegala** (1 PGA TOUR victory) Another true rookie team to the Shootout this year. Hoge had a breakthrough season with a victory at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am surrounded by five top-10 finishes. Theegala, age 24 and joining Korda as the youngest players in the field, came close to securing his first victory with a runner-up finish at The Travelers Championship.

Charley Hoffman—Ryan Palmer (8 PGA TOUR victories) Combined they have played in nine Shootouts prior to this year, but this will be the first time paired together. This represents Hoffman's sixth different partner at Tiburon. Hoffman has finished third on three occasions, the most recent a T3 with Gary Woodland in 2018. Palmer was T3 with Harold Varner III in 2019.

Corey Conners—K.H. Lee (3 PGA TOUR victories) These two were International teammates at the Presidents Cup this fall but were not paired together. Lee was on the winning side of two matches in the team's defeat to the U.S. Conners racked up five top-10 finishes this season, including third at the WGC—Dell Technologies Match Play Championship as well as a sixth place at the Masters. Lee won the AT&T Byron Nelson for his second TOUR win.

**Keith Mitchell—J.J. Spaun** (2 PGA TOUR victories) Both playing in the Shootout for the first time. Spaun won his first PGA TOUR title in the spring at the Valero Texas Open and Mitchell continued his consistency with six top-10 finishes last season.

### The Teams

Max Homa – Kevin Kisner
Harris English – Matt Kuchar
Nelly Korda – Denny McCarthy
Trey Mullinax – Scott Stallings
Brian Harman – Sepp Straka
Jason Day – Billy Horschel
Steve Stricker – Cameron Young
Maverick McNealy – Lexi Thompson
Tom Hoge – Sahith Theegala
Charley Hoffman – Ryan Palmer
Corey Conners – K.H. Lee
Keith Mitchell – J.J. Spaun

## The Field

**Corey Conners** Denny McCarthy Jason Day Maverick McNealy Harris English Keith Mitchell Brian Harman Trey Mullinax Charley Hoffman Ryan Palmer Tom Hoge J.J. Spaun Max Homa **Scott Stallings** Billy Horschel Sepp Straka Kevin Kisner Steve Stricker Nelly Korda Sahith Theegala Matt Kuchar Lexi Thompson K.H. Lee Cameron Young

## **About QBE**—Proud Sponsors of the QBE Shootout

QBE North America is a global insurance leader helping customers solve unique risks, so they can stay focused on their future. Part of QBE Insurance Group Limited, QBE North America reported Gross Written Premiums in 2021 of \$6.3 billion. QBE Insurance Group's results can be found at <a href="mailto:qbe.com">qbe.com</a>. Headquartered in Sydney, Australia, QBE operates out of 27 countries around the globe, with a presence in every key insurance market. The North America division, headquartered in New York, conducts business primarily through its insurance company subsidiaries. The actual terms and conditions of any insurance coverage are subject to the language of the policies as issued. QBE insurance companies are rated "A" (Excellent) by A.M. Best and "A+" by Standard & Poor's. Additional information can be found at <a href="mailto:qbe.com/us">qbe.com/us</a>.

#### **About Live Fest**

Live Fest was founded in 2019 by Naples native and Tiburon Resident, Steve Hagenbuckle. Steve's passion for music and giving back to the Southwest Florida community led him to collaborating with Wasserman Events to create Naples' premier music experience. Live Fest prides itself on delivering first class music performances while raising awareness and funds for charity.

# **About PGA TOUR**

By showcasing golf's greatest players, the PGA TOUR engages, inspires and positively impacts our fans, partners and communities worldwide. The PGA TOUR, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, co-sanctions tournaments on the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry Tour, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica and PGA TOUR Canada. Members on the PGA TOUR represent the world's best players, hailing from 29 countries and territories. The PGA TOUR has long-term domestic distribution 2 partnerships for broadcast coverage on CBS, NBC and Golf Channel and video streaming service on ESPN+. Internationally, PGA TOUR coverage is available across 200+ countries and territories in 27 languages via 43 local broadcast partners, in addition to the digital streaming service platform GOLFTV powered by PGA TOUR. Virtually all tournaments are organized as non-profit organizations to maximize charitable giving, and to date, tournaments across all Tours have generated more than \$3.37 billion. Fans can follow the PGA TOUR on PGATOUR.COM, the No. 1 site in golf, on the PGA TOUR app and on social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram (in Facebook, Spanish, Korean and Japanese), LinkedIn, TikTok, Twitter (in English and Spanish), WeChat, Weibo, Toutiao, Douyin and LINE.

#### **Media Contact:**

Lee Patterson QBE Shootout, Media Director 704.553.4790 pattersonl173@gmail.com

