



2023 First-Timers Press Conference (BIOS on pg. 2)

Location: Clubhouse Back Lawn

8:00 a.m.

- Tyson Alexander
- Erik Barnes
- Eric Cole
- Thomas Detry
- Ryan Fox
- Ben Griffin
- Tom Kim
- Kurt Kitayama
- Min Woo Lee
- David Lipsky
- Max McGreevy
- Andrew Novak
- Chad Ramey
- Greyson Sigg
- Alex Smalley
- Brandon Wu

9:00 a.m.

- Nico Echavarria
- Harrison Endycott
- Will Gordon
- Nick Hardy
- S.H. Kim
- Justin Lower
- Taylor Montgomery
- Davis Riley
- Justin Suh
- Adam Svensson
- Callum Tarren
- Davis Thompson
- Aaron Rai
- Matthias Schwab
- Austin Smotherman
- Dylan Wu

PLAYER BIOS

Tyson Alexander

Birthplace: Gainesville, Florida

Residence: Jacksonville Beach, Florida

College: University of Florida

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season in what was his third consecutive season on Tour and 13th year as a professional.
- First player in Korn Ferry Tour history to successfully defend a title, winning the 2021 and 2022 Veritex Bank Championship at Texas Rangers Golf Club in Arlington, Texas.
- Played collegiately at University of Florida (2006-10), where he was a 2010 All-Southeastern Conference First Team selection and teammates with Billy Horschel for three seasons.
- Boasts a remarkable golf pedigree; his father, Buddy Alexander, won the 1986 U.S. Amateur Championship and was head coach at University of Florida for 27 seasons (1987-2014); his grandfather, Skip Alexander, won three PGA TOUR events (two in 1948, one in 1950) and represented the United States at the 1949 and 1951 Ryder Cups.

Erik Barnes

Birthplace: Kalamazoo, Michigan

Residence: Birmingham, Alabama

College: Austin Peay State University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Amid the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, Barnes took a job stocking shelves (his official title was "Grocery Replenishment Specialist") at a Publix roughly 200 yards from his home in Palmetto, Florida. Barnes started March 26, 2020 and worked five days a week on the 4 a.m.- 1 p.m. shift while he balanced his practice schedule
- Moved to Birmingham, Alabama in early 2022 after a decade on Florida's west coast. Barnes made the move primarily for a better golf situation, as he has better competition in the area and a membership at Greystone Golf & Country Club.
- When Erik is not on TOUR, he is a dedicated husband to his wife, Ashleigh, and father to two sons, Jaxton (oldest) and Tucker (youngest). Erik is involved with both boys' little league baseball teams in Alabama.
- Collector of bourbon. Erik is always on the hunt for rare bottles to add to his collection.
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season after spending the 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2020-21 seasons on that tour

Eric Cole

Birthplace: Palm Springs, California

Residence: Delray Beach, Florida

College: Nova Southeastern University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Qualified for THE PLAYERS following his runner-up finish at The Honda Classic

- His mother, Laura Baugh, was the 1973 LPGA Rookie of the year and finished with 70 top-10s across a 25-year LPGA career. She also won the 1971 U.S. Women's Amateur as a 16-year-old, making her the youngest winner in history at the time. She eventually worked at Sawgrass Country Club for four years as a teaching professional before establishing her own golf school in St. Augustine
- Earned his 54th career Minor League Golf Tour win in December 2021
- Grew up playing and practicing at Bay Hill
- Best friends with Sam Saunders growing up and coached him until Eric gained Korn Ferry Tour status in 2020. Eric battled back problems, but Sam Saunders says he is honestly one of the best golfers he has ever seen...just hasn't been able to break through

Thomas Detry

Birthplace: Brussels, Belgium

Residence: Dubai, UAE

College: University of Illinois

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Until he started to take golf seriously around 11 or 12 years old, he split most of his childhood years between the driving range, tennis court and field hockey pitch.
- Wants to continue prioritizing the DP World Tour in the hope of qualifying for Team Europe at the 2023 Ryder Cup; owns five career runner-up finishes since joining the DP World Tour in 2017
- Won the 2018 World Cup of Golf with Thomas Pieters, representing Belgium at Metropolitan Golf Club in Melbourne, Australia.
- Starred for four seasons at University of Illinois (2012-16), where he won five times individually, with the crown jewel being medalist honors at the 2016 Big Ten Conference Championship.
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Finals, which he gained entry to via the Non-Member FedExCup Nos. 126-200 category. Posted a T4 in the first Korn Ferry Tour Finals event to ensure himself one of the 25 PGA TOUR cards available through the Finals.

Nico Echavarria

Birthplace: Medellin, Colombia

Residence: Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

College: University of Arkansas

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Winner, Puerto Rico Open

Fast Facts:

- Has two older brothers, Andres and Miguel. Andres, a professional golfer since 2011, is a two-time PGA TOUR Latinoamerica winner and has also been a Korn Ferry Tour member. Andres competed at the University of Florida. Miguel played golf for the University of Michigan.
- PGA TOUR Rookie has two victories on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica, both in 2018
- Won the 2014 Mexican Amateur by 12 strokes during his sophomore year at the University of Arkansas
- Lives in Ponte Vedra Beach and has been attempting to qualify for THE PLAYERS
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the Korn Ferry Tour Finals, solidifying it with a T5 at the season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance to finish No. 20 on the Korn Ferry Tour Finals Eligibility Points List

Harrison Endycott

Birthplace: Sydney, Australia

Residence: Scottsdale, Arizona

College: University of Illinois

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Born and raised in Sydney, Australia, spending his entire amateur career there until he turned professional in late 2017 and eventually worked his way to the Korn Ferry Tour via two seasons on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica (2018 and 2019).
- Big coffee drinker who uses Yelp to find local coffee shops when he's on the road. Go-to-order is a cortado, flat white or latte.
- His mother, Dianne, passed away in 2012 after she battled ovarian cancer. He struggled dealing with such a traumatic, emotional event but turned the corner in his mental health battle after the age of 20.
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season, with the highlight of his year being a victory at the Huntsville Championship

Ryan Fox

Birthplace / Residence: Auckland, New Zealand / Ellerslie, New Zealand

College: University of Illinois

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 50 in OWGR through The Honda Classic

Fast Facts:

- Three-time winner on the DP World Tour, most recently the 2022 Alfred Dunhill Links Championship
- Finished second to Rory McIlroy in the 2022 DP World Tour Race to Dubai, and earned the Seve Ballesteros Award after being voted the Player of the Year.
- Plays out of Te Arai Golf Links in New Zealand, 30 minutes south of Tara Iti
- His dad, Grant, played rugby for the All Blacks and played as the fly-half when New Zealand won the 1987 World Cup. He played 46 times for his country and scored 645 points
- Represented New Zealand in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, finishing T39

Will Gordon

Birthplace: Davidson, North Carolina

Residence: St. Simons Island, Georgia

College: Vanderbilt University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Played golf a handful of times with multi-time NBA champion and MVP Stephen Curry while Curry played for the Davidson College men's basketball team. His parents used to host Davidson men's basketball players who were from overseas.
- Often plays pickleball during off weeks in St. Simons Island with fellow TOUR member Davis Thompson as well as Spencer Ralston and John Augenstein, who play on the Korn Ferry Tour. Moved to St. Simons in October 2021.
- Played four seasons at Vanderbilt University (2015-19), closing with a phenomenal senior season which saw him garner a 2019 All-America First Team selection, 2019 Southeastern Conference Player of the Year

- Secured a return to the PGA TOUR via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Finals, which saw him win the Albertsons Boise Open, the first tournament of the three-event series. Gordon was relegated to the Korn Ferry Tour after a No. 159 finish in the 2020-21 FedExCup Standings.

Ben Griffin

Birthplace: Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Residence: St. Simons Island, Georgia

College: University of North Carolina

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Quit professional golf in April 2021 after failed runs on the Korn Ferry Tour and PGA TOUR Latinoamerica. Accepted a job in property management and transitioned into working as a mortgage loan officer in Chapel Hill. Officially made his comeback alter that year with a T29 at Final Stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament.
- Picked up deejaying as a hobby in college. Used to bring his turntables with him on the road when he competed on PGA TOUR Canada
- Played four seasons at University of North Carolina (2014-18), earning All-America Honorable Mentions in 2015 and 2017, winning three individual tournaments (two in fall 2014 as a freshman, one in fall 2017 as a senior), and breaking the program record for career scoring average (72.02) which was once held by Davis Love III
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season, which saw him record three runner-up finishes. Also finished solo fourth as a sponsor exemption at the 2022 Wyndham Championship near his hometown of Chapel Hill

Nick Hardy

Birthplace / Residence: Northbrook, Illinois

College: University of Illinois

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 (Medical)

Fast Facts:

- Played four seasons at University of Illinois (2014-18), where he was the 2018 Big Ten Conference Player of the Year, earned individual medalist honors at the 2015 and 2018 Big Ten Championships, and helped Illinois win four consecutive Big Ten titles.
- Grew up playing Anetsberger Golf Course, a local par-3 course in Northbrook, Illinois (roughly 25 miles northwest of Chicago); he and his father, John, had a “30-degree rule” where as long as it was above 30 degrees outside, they would go play. Nick holds the course record with a 6-under 21, and the scorecard is on display in the pro shop.
- Defeated Scottie Scheffler in the quarterfinals of the 2014 Western Amateur at Beverly Country Club in Chicago, Illinois. Lost to eventual champion Beau Hossler in the semifinals.
- Earliest golf memory was attending the Tucson Open and getting a golf ball from Billy Andrade after the round.
- Honorary Ambassador for First Tee – Greater Chicago.

S.H. Kim

Birthplace / Residence: Changwon, South Korea

College: Korea National Sport University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Based in Dallas, Texas, mostly living in hotels in the area when he is not traveling for events. With PGA TOUR membership secured, he plans to establish something a little more permanent.
- Played his way through First, Second, and Final Stages of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament to earn membership for 2022, then earned his first PGA TOUR card via the Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season with a stellar rookie year that included two runner-up finishes.
- Fellow South Korean K.J. Choi is an iconic figure for Kim; the two often play together at Texas Golf Center in Fort Worth. The two also share a connection through Ferrum Club, a private country club in Yeosu, South Korea which is one of Kim's sponsors and the host of the Korean Tour's K.J. Choi Invitational.
- Two of his biggest moments to date – a win at the 2020 KPGA Championship as a Monday qualifier on the Korean Tour, finishing on the number for guaranteed starts at Final Stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament – were the result of birdies on the 71st hole of competition.

Tom Kim**Birthplace:** Seoul, South Korea**Residence:** Dallas, Texas**How he qualified for THE PLAYERS:** Winner, Wyndham Championship and Shriners Children's Open**Fast Facts:**

- Born in Seoul, his family moved to China when he was an infant and they later spent seven years in Australia, where he learned to speak English. While in Australia, he played cricket, basketball and Australian Rules football but nothing clicked for him until he tried golf. Other adopted countries included the Philippines, where he also learned Tagalog, the national language, and Thailand. While in Philippines, one of the best clubs in the country asked him to play for their team, which gave him full access to their facilities.
- Won the 2022 Wyndham Championship to receive full PGA TOUR membership; followed it up in October with his win at the Shriners Children's Open. First player since Tiger Woods to win twice on TOUR before turning 21.
- Employed caddie Joe Skovron, who was Rickie Fowler's longtime caddie, for the 2022 Presidents Cup. Contributed two points for the International Team with two different partners, K.H. Lee and Si Woo Kim, during Saturday's Foursomes and Four-ball sessions, respectively
- Father, Chang-ik Kim, is also a professional golfer. He played on what is now the Korn Ferry Tour before Tom was born and then became a teaching professional.

Kurt Kitayama**Birthplace:** Chico, California**Residence:** Henderson, Nevada**College:** University of Nevada-Las Vegas**How he qualified for THE PLAYERS:** Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List**Fast Facts:**

- Battled and finished runner-up to Rory McIlroy at the 2022 CJ CUP in South Carolina, his third runner-up finish of the calendar year (T2 at 2022 Mexico Open at Vidanta; 2nd at 2022 Genesis Scottish Open).
- Two-time winner on the DP World Tour and the only player since 2016 with starts on at least 10 different tours recognized by the Official World Golf Ranking; he has starts on 12 OWGR-sanctioned tours since turning professional out of University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

- Played four seasons at UNLV (2011-15), where his teammates included PGA TOUR rookie Taylor Montgomery.
- His passion growing up was basketball, and he started at point guard as an upperclassman at Chico High School.

Min Woo Lee

Birthplace: Perth, Australia

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 50 in OWGR

Fast Facts:

- Originally from Perth, Australia
- Has two victories on the DP World Tour – the 2021 Genesis Scottish Open and 2020 ISPA Handa Vic Open
- Won the 2016 U.S. Junior Amateur, defeating Noah Goodwin, 2 and 1, in the final
- Sister, Minjee, plays on the LPGA Tour and has eight victories, including two majors at the 2021 Evian Championship and the 2022 U.S. Women’s Open

David Lipsky

Birthplace: Los Angeles, California

Residence: Las Vegas, Nevada

College: Northwestern University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Has competed professionally all over the world, including extended stints on the DP World Tour and Asian Tour. Traveled 30 weeks a year and visited an estimated 40-50 countries from 2012-2019.
- Went to the same high school as Colin Morikawa (La Canada High School) and are frequent practice partners as Las Vegas residents
- Attended Northwestern University, where he majored in political science and history. Individual champion of the 2010 Big Ten Championship and an All-American in 2011. Established a close friendship with former World No. 1 Luke Donald, who also attended Northwestern.
- One of 28 members of the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour graduating class who qualified for the 2022 FedExCup Playoffs.

Justin Lower

Birthplace: Akron, Ohio

Residence: Uniontown, Ohio

College: Malone University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Converted an up-and-down par from 30 yards down the fairway of the 72nd hole of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance and secured the last available PGA TOUR card from the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals.
- Played four seasons at Malone University (2007-11), an NAIA program in Canton, Ohio which eventually transitioned to NCAA Division II in the mid-2010s. Lower won the individual title at the 2010 NAIA National Championships, earned the 2010 Jack Nicklaus Award as the NAIA Player of the Year, and was the recipient of the David Toms Award (for overcoming adversity to achieve collegiate excellence) in June 2011.

- Played a lot of golf at Lyons Den Golf Club growing up in Canal Fulton, Ohio; he and the owner had a work-for-play program which allowed him to shag balls by hand range in exchange for playing free golf.
- He and his wife, Janise, welcomed their first child, Ariana Lynn, in December 2022.

Max McGreevy

Birthplace: Edmond, Oklahoma

Residence: Dallas, Texas

College: University of Oklahoma

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Finished T5 at the 2022 Wyndham Championship to move into the top 125 of the FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List and qualify for the 2022 FedExCup Playoffs as a rookie.
- Played four seasons at University of Oklahoma (2013-17), helping the Sooners win the 2017 NCAA Championships for the second team national title in program history.
- Shared a house in Dallas for a couple of years with Scottie Scheffler and two other Korn Ferry Tour members. The most heated competitions involved ping pong or Sequence.
- Member of an athletic family. His father, Brian, played golf at the University of Kansas and won the 1998 Oklahoma State Amateur. An uncle, Tom McGreevy, played golf at Arizona State University, while another uncle, Gary Freeman, played football at Kansas State University.

Taylor Montgomery

Birthplace / Residence: Las Vegas, Nevada

College: University of Nevada-Las Vegas

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Among the PGA TOUR leaders in Strokes Gained: Putting, an unsurprising development given the fact he won the inaugural Major Series of Putting in 2017 in Las Vegas. The winnings from the event bankrolled the beginning of his professional career.
- Played four seasons at University of Nevada-Las Vegas (2013-17), where he enjoyed success as an underclassman but bounced in and out of the lineup as an upperclassman, saying, "I feel like if anyone had my college career, they would have quit for sure. It was so brutal. That was the most frustrating time in golf for me."
- At various points in his amateur career, struggled to keep driver in play, which led to him hitting no more than 2-iron off the tee for entire tournaments.
- Frequently plays and practices at Southern Highlands Golf Club and Shadow Creek Golf Club in Las Vegas. Grew up playing with a number of high-profile celebrities – including Michael Jordan, Brian Urlacher, Jerome Bettis, Larry Fitzgerald, and professional poker players Phil Ivey and Ben Lamb – at Shadow Creek, where his father, Monte, started as a caddie in the early 1990s after a collegiate golf career at UNLV and eventually became general manager.
- Grew up participating in First Tee – Southern Nevada (no longer in operation) and became the fourth First Tee alum to earn a PGA TOUR card (Austin Smotherman, 2021; Cameron Champ, 2017; Scott Langley, 2013).

Andrew Novak

Birthplace: Raleigh, North Carolina

Residence: St. Simons Island, Georgia

College: Wofford College

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Second golfer in Wofford College history to make it to the PGA TOUR (William McGirt).
- Earliest golf memory is when former Wolfpack star Carl Pettersson gave him his ball at a college tournament when he was three years old. Novak still has it at home, it has a NC State logo on it
- Die hard Carolina Panthers fan
- Won 2020 Korn Ferry Tour Lecom Suncoast Classic to earn his Tour card for finishing in the Top 25 on the money list.

Aaron Rai

Birthplace: Wolverhampton, England

Residence: Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- One of few professionals to wear two gloves, which began when he was eight years old when someone sent him a pair.
- Got into golf by accident after hurting himself with a hockey stick. His mother returned with plastic golf clubs as a safer alternative
- Has two wins on the DP World Tour, including the 2020 Genesis Scottish Open
- Recently established a U.S. home base in Ponte Vedra Beach and practices at TPC Sawgrass
- Earned his PGA TOUR card via the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals and qualified for the 2022 FedExCup Playoffs in his rookie season on TOUR

Chad Ramey

Birthplace / Residence: Fulton, Mississippi

College: Mississippi State University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Winner, Corales Puntacana Championship

Fast Facts:

- Won the 2022 Corales Puntacana Championship and was one of two rookies who won an event in the 2021-22 PGA TOUR season, with Tom Kim being the other.
- Became the first native Mississippian to win on the PGA TOUR since Pete Brown won the 1970 Farmers Insurance Open.
- Grew up playing alongside three-time LPGA Tour winner Ally Ewing at Fulton Country Club, a public 9-hole course with no driving range where his father, Stanley, was the superintendent/manager. The Ramey family lived in the only house on the course, which was 100 yards from the first tee.
- Played four seasons at Mississippi State University (2010-13), where he was a two-time All-Southeastern Conference First Team selection. Actually grew up an Ole Miss fan before he attended Mississippi State.

Davis Riley

Birthplace / Residence: Hattiesburg, Mississippi

College: University of Alabama

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- One of eight rookies who qualified for the 2022 BMW Championship in the FedExCup Playoffs last season, and finished runner-up at the 2022 Valspar Championship (lost to Sam Burns in a playoff).
- Turned professional without any status in early 2019 prior to the second semester of his senior season at University of Alabama, and played the Korn Ferry Tour through Monday qualifiers and a sponsor exemption en route to Special Temporary Membership.
- Won twice during the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour season and earned his first PGA TOUR card at season's end.
- Played in consecutive U.S. Junior Amateur Championship title matches, falling to Scottie Scheffler in 2013 and Will Zalatoris in 2014.

Matthias Schwab**Birthplace:** Schladming, Austria**Residence:** Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida**College:** Vanderbilt University**How he qualified for THE PLAYERS:** Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List**Fast Facts:**

- Played collegiately at Vanderbilt, where he was a two-time All-American and was named Athlete of the Year in 2016
- Sustained a back injury in 2014 that nearly ended his career
- Father, Andreas, represented Austria in the bobsleigh event at the 1976 Winter Olympics; Matthias competed in Tokyo 2020 and finished T27
- Earned his PGA TOUR card via the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals and qualified for the 2022 FedExCup Playoffs in his rookie season on TOUR

Greyson Sigg**Birthplace:** Augusta, Georgia**Residence:** St. Simons Island, Georgia**College:** University of Georgia**How he qualified for THE PLAYERS:** Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List**Fast Facts:**

- Played four seasons (2013-17) at University of Georgia, where he was a two-time All-America Third Team selection and was teammates with Keith Mitchell and Sepp Straka. Sigg lived next door to Straka in college.
- Recently took in an English Cream Retriever puppy and named it "Bean" in honor of the famous tourist attraction in Chicago ("The Bean"), because that's where Sigg was when he received word he and his wife, Katie, were approved for the puppy.
- Once caddied for Tony Kornheiser, host of ESPN's Pardon the Interruption, when he was in high school and has periodically received shout-outs from Kornheiser on the show.
- Father, David is a nuclear engineer and got he and his older brother, William (who went on to play at Presbyterian College), started in the game. Mother, Karen, works at Augusta National Golf Club.

Alex Smalley**Birthplace:** Rochester, New York

Residence: Greensboro, North Carolina

College: Duke University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs as a rookie last season and was one of eight rookies who advanced to the 2022 BMW Championship.
- Played four seasons at Duke University (2015-19) and was named the 2018-19 Atlantic Coast Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year; he was a 2019 All-America Second Team selection and graduated with a bachelor's degree in environmental science.
- Won the 2018 and 2019 Sunnehanna Amateurs in Pennsylvania and became the first player to win the event in consecutive years since Rickie Fowler (2007 and 2008).
- Father, Terry, is a research assistant professor at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, while his mother, Maria, earned a Ph.D from Duke in 1995.

Austin Smotherman

Birthplace: Loomis, California

Residence: Dallas, Texas

College: Southern Methodist University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Finished 25th on the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season Points List for the last available PGA TOUR card, and recorded six top-25s as a PGA TOUR rookie last season.
- Official ambassador for First Tee and one of four First Tee alumni to earn a PGA TOUR card (Cameron Champ, Scott Langley, Taylor Montgomery); he was an active member in First Tee – Greater Sacramento from ages 7-17 and represented the chapter at the 2009 and 2010 PURE Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach.
- Enjoys Bruce Lee movies, as well as his journey through martial arts. Smotherman took karate classes as a kid and notes they helped develop his competitive focus.
- Austin and his wife, Jessica, have a Mini Australian Shepherd, Cypress, named after Cypress Point Club, as well as a cat, Pebbles, named after Pebble Beach.

Justin Suh

Birthplace: San Jose, California

Residence: Las Vegas, Nevada

College: University of Southern California

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Leading points earner from 2022 Korn Ferry Tour

Fast Facts:

- Won the 2022 season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance and rose to No. 1 on the final 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List; he closed out the season with 10 top-10s across his final 19 starts.
- Sticks to a 90-minute daily stretching routine and has not skipped a day since fifth grade; he typically meditates for 15-20 minutes afterward, a wrinkle he added to the routine as a sophomore in college.
- Spent much of his senior season at University of Southern California, where he played from fall 2015 through summer 2019, at No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking.

- Has used the Nike Core Method putter for 10-plus years; he acquired one for the first time when, before a junior tournament as a freshman in high school, he bent the shaft of his putter, bought the Nike mallet putter off the pro shop rack for \$50 and shot 64 the following day. While at USC, he retired the original and acquired the same model with his initials stamped on it, and later bought a third on eBay after Nike exited the equipment business.

Adam Svensson

Birthplace: Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

Residence: Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

College: Barry University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Winner, The RSM Classic

Fast Facts:

- Won the 2022 RSM Classic, posting a two-stroke victory over co-runners-up Brian Harman, Callum Tarren, and Sahith Theegala.
- Two-time Korn Ferry Tour graduate (2018 and 2020-21 seasons) who qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs for the first time last season.
- Joined Golf Canada's Young Pro Squad at age 16 and came up through the program with fellow PGA TOUR winners Corey Connors and Mackenzie Hughes.
- Enjoyed a dominant college career at NCAA Division II Barry University, just outside Miami, and turned professional midway through his junior season (February 2015); he was especially dominant as a sophomore, winning seven of 13 starts with a season scoring average of 70.05 en route to earning the NCAA Division II Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year Award.

Callum Tarren

Birthplace: Darlington, England

Residence: Jacksonville Beach, Florida

College: Radford University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Missed the cut in his first eight starts but rallied and qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs as a PGA TOUR rookie last season.
- Played four seasons at Radford University (2010-14) before spending three years playing in China and winning the 2018 Order of Merit for PGA TOUR Series – China for Korn Ferry Tour membership.
- Massive Ultimate Fighting Championship fan, enjoys biking and owns both a mountain and road bike, and is a Liverpool F.C. fan for Premier League soccer.
- Forged a friendship with three-time PGA TOUR winner Boo Weekley while the two played the Korn Ferry Tour together; they often played practice rounds together, roomed together on the road on occasion, and went on fishing trips.

Davis Thompson

Birthplace: Auburn, Alabama

Residence: St. Simons Island, Georgia

College: University of Georgia

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- PGA TOUR rookie who finished runner-up to Jon Rahm at The American Express in January.
- Finished No. 2 in the inaugural PGA TOUR University Velocity Global Ranking in 2021, and solidified his first PGA TOUR card with a victory on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2022.
- Reached No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking during a four-season career at University of Georgia (2017-21), where he was the 2020-21 Southeastern Conference Player of the Year and a two-time All-America First Team selection.
- In addition to winning individual state titles in 2013 and 2015 and helping Lee-Scott Academy in Auburn, Alabama win six consecutive team state titles in golf from 2012 through 2017, Thompson helped Lee-Scott Academy's boys basketball team win the 2016 state title his junior year.

Brandon Wu

Birthplace: Danville, California

Residence: Dallas, Texas

College: Stanford University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Top 125 in 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs & Eligibility Points List

Fast Facts:

- Two-time PGA TOUR runner-up (T2 at 2023 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am / T2 at 2022 Mexico Open at Vidanta) who qualified for last season's FedExCup Playoffs as a PGA TOUR rookie.
- Born in Danville, California, lived in Beijing for five years and speaks fluent Mandarin, grew up predominantly in Scarsdale, New York, roughly 10 minutes from Winged Foot Golf Club, and attended a boarding school in Massachusetts, where he earned four varsity letters as a swimmer.
- Attended the WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai as a kid and also played in the pro-am after winning a junior event that was part of the HSBC Junior Golf Programme in China. Interacted with Trevor Immelman, Retief Goosen and K.J. Choi, and received a golf ball from Tiger Woods.
- Capped his four-season career at Stanford University (2015-19) with a team national title at the 2019 NCAA Championships, where he went 3-0 in match play for the Cardinal and defeated University of Texas freshman Pierceson Coody in the title round.
- Rewrote golf records by becoming the first amateur since 1967 to qualify for the British and U.S. Opens in 2019.
- Played his way out of conditional status on the Korn Ferry Tour amid the 2020-21 season – which became a two-year season as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic – and earned his first PGA TOUR card with a win and two runner-up finishes.

Dylan Wu

Birthplace: Medford, Oregon

Residence: Scottsdale, Arizona

College: Northwestern University

How he qualified for THE PLAYERS: Below Top 10 in 2022-23 FedExCup standings

Fast Facts:

- Four-year starter and three-time team best defenseman award winner for North Medford High School's varsity hockey team; he also played travel hockey throughout southern Oregon from ages 9-14.
- Oldest of four siblings who played Division I golf; his two brothers, who are twins (Jeremy and Josh) played golf collegiately at Valparaiso University and the United States Air Force Academy,

respectively, while his sister, Kaylee, is currently playing golf for Lipscomb University (a senior for the 2022-23 season).

- Earned his first PGA TOUR card by finishing No. 17 on the Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season Points List. largely off the strength of a win at the Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper. Had played one previous Korn Ferry Tour season (finished No. 72 on the regular season points list) and played his first season out of college on PGA TOUR Canada (40th on Order of Merit).
- His 71.77 career scoring average at Northwestern ranked second in program history, only trailing Luke Donald's 70.95 from 1997-2001.