Report (14 players)

Max Greyserman

Things To Know

- Earned PGA TOUR membership for the first time via the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season, which awarded TOUR cards to the top 30 players on its points list.
- Played the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season via exempt medical status. With fully exempt status in 2022, played the first five events but took time off and eventually had surgery for a nagging wrist injury. Greyserman believed the wrist injury dated back to a cortisone shot late in his high school career. The pain went away until years later when, in 2020, the wrist nagged at him again. Pain and prescription medications would alleviate the pain, though it would return for weeks at a time. The injury was incorrectly diagnosed multiple times until an MRI revealed a fractured lunate, one of eight carpal bones forming part of the wrist joint. Greyserman elected to have surgery in April 2022 and returned to action -- admittedly a little too early -- for two events in August 2022. Returned to full strength at the start of the 2023 season.
- Played four consecutive seasons (across five straight years) on the Korn Ferry Tour prior to earning PGA TOUR membership. Greyserman finished No. 80 on the 2019 points list, No. 46 on the 2020-21 points list, and missed significant time in 2022 due to wrist surgery before he played the majority of the 2023 season with exempt medical status, finishing in the top 30 of the points list to earn PGA TOUR membership.
- Turned professional in 2017 following four seasons at Duke University; he played a season and a half on PGA TOUR Canada (four starts in 2017, eight in 2018) before he earned Korn Ferry Tour membership for the 2019 season via the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament (now known as PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry).
- Has a dog, Lily, who is a goldendoodle. Max's parents, Alex and Elaine, have two goldendoodles, and his older sister, Jacquie, has a goldendoodle. One of his parents' dogs, Leo, is a service dog to help with Elaine's MS diagnosis.
- Was a nominee for the 2024 Arnold Palmer Award (PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year), which was awarded to Nick Dunlap.

Background

- Grew up primarily in New Jersey, but also spent some time in south Florida. Greyserman plays from Short Hills, New Jersey.
- Current home course is Medalist Golf Club in Jupiter, Florida.
- Introduction to golf came at PGA National Resort in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida; his parents, Alex and Elaine, were vacationing there and saw an ad for free lessons. Without any golf experience, they attended the session and brought Max in a stroller.
- Played varsity golf at Pine Crest School in south Florida as a seventh grader. Later attended The Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey, where he helped the team win three state championships.
- Named a 2012 AJGA Rolex Junior All-America Second Team (alongside Scottie Scheffler).
- Played four seasons at Duke University (2013-17).
- Won the 2015 New Jersey State Golf Association Amateur Championship, as well as the 2014 New Jersey State Golf Association Open Championship.

Family

- Max and his wife, Alyssa, wed in December 2022 in West Palm Beach, Florida. The two met while attending Duke together and began dating in February 2014.
- Wife, Alyssa, played four seasons of tennis at Duke (2013-17).
- Parents, Alex and Elaine, both came to the United States as teenage refugees from the Soviet Union (they were born in and left what is now modern-day Ukraine), but they did not meet until they both settled in New Jersey and attended Rutgers University.
- Mother, Elaine, played collegiate tennis at Rutgers, earning varsity letters from 1990-92.
- Father, Alex, holds four degrees -- including a PhD in statistics from Rutgers University -- and served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Mathematics at Columbia University from fall 2001 through January 2022, in addition to working as a hedge fund manager during that time; he now works as a chief portfolio strategist.
- Alex and Elaine have been to all seven continents.
- Older sister, Jacquie, played college tennis at Emory University.
- Has two younger brothers -- Dean and Reed. Dean plays on the golf team at Stanford University (2024-25 marks his junior season), while Reed won the 2024 New Jersey State Amateur and plays on the golf team at Princeton University (2024-25 marks his freshman season).

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Aspires to own a lot of dogs.
- Can read Russian but does not speak the language.
- Enjoys reading non-fiction books on his Kindle and watching documentary movies / TV series.

Charity

- In summer 2022 (while still injured), helped his older sister, Jacquie, raise money for the Youth Renewal Fund, the philanthropic and strategic funding partner for Darca Schools in Israel (it is the No. 1-ranked network of schools in Israel, operating 47 high schools and learning centers serving more than 27,000 students. Max utilized his connections and donated rounds with members at high-profile golf clubs to the Youth Renewal Fund Golf Tournament Auction. The courses included Riviera Country Club, Oak Hill Country Club, Winged Foot Golf Club, and Medalist.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Spent a year (2018) living with Wyndham Clark in Las Vegas. Greyserman was a PGA TOUR Canada member at the time, while Clark played the Korn Ferry Tour as a rookie and earned his PGA TOUR card for the 2019 season.
- Cites Ben Griffin -- a University of North Carolina alum and PGA TOUR member -- as a friend.
- Also close with Jake Knapp.
- Played his final two seasons at Duke University (2015-17) alongside PGA TOUR member Alex Smalley, who joined the program as a freshman for the 2015-16 season.

Other

- Previously made golf headlines for being a Rory McIlroy lookalike. The PGA TOUR Facebook page posted a photo in 2012 with the caption, "Max Greyserman is Rory McIlroy," and the story resurfaced in 2019, his rookie season on the Korn Ferry Tour. Max has leaned into the bit, even signing "Rory McIlroy" autographs for unwitting fans. Greyserman and McIlroy played a Monday practice round together at the 2017 U.S. Open.

Xander Schauffele

Things To Know

- Represented the United States in his second Olympics, at the Paris 2024 Olympics, following his gold medal performance at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics (2021). Represented Team USA alongside Wyndham Clark, Collin Morikawa and eventual Gold Medal winner, Scottie Scheffler.
- Qualified for his fourth Presidents Cup and represented the United States at Royal Montreal in September 2024.
- Represents the New York Golf Club alongside teammates Matt Fitzpatrick, Cameron Young and Rickie Fowler in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR which began in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league, which will complement the PGA TOUR Season, was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and will fuse advanced technology, innovation and live action for ESPN's primetime television audience. New York Golf Club is owned by Steven A. Cohen and Cohen Private Ventures.

Background

- Born and raised in San Diego, Xander fixed his sights on golf at the age of 10. His father, a graduate of San Diego Golf Academy (now Golf Academy of America) encouraged his interest. He went on to play golf at Scripps Ranch High School before going on to play in college.
- Father Stefan put pressure on Xander early on, telling him "I can't pay for your college. I paid for your brother and I just don't have money left. You need to get a scholarship. You must perform." Under the pressure, Xander finished top three in each of his next three events against southern California's stiffest competition, earning a scholarship to Long Beach State.
- Transferred to San Diego State after one year at Long Beach State. The assistant coach, Evan Emerick, who spent 15 consecutive years with Aztecs in (formerly a player and now associate head coach) prior to becoming head coach at University of San Diego in June 2024, is a good family friend. Xander and his caddie, Austin Kaiser, were teammates for three years at San Diego State.
- Graduated from San Diego State University with a degree in Social Sciences in 2015.

Family

- Born in San Diego in 1993, he is the only natural-born United States citizen of his family of four. His father, Stefan, is French/German and grew up in Germany as an Olympic decathlete hopeful, before a car crash with a drunk driver caused loss of vision in his left eye, ending his Olympic dream at age 20. He moved to San Diego and met Xander's mother Ping Yi, who is from Taiwan and grew up in Japan. His older brother, Nico, was born in Stuttgart, Germany, but grew up in Tokyo. His wife, Maya, is half Japanese and grew up in Okinawa.
- Married longtime girlfriend Maya Lowe on July 5, 2021. The pair met in 2014 while attending colleges in the San Diego area - SDSU (Xander) and UC-San Diego (Maya). They married at their home in Las Vegas the week after the 2021 U.S. Open in an intimate ceremony with just family members, one officiant and the couple's two dogs dressed in formal wear. Schauffele would go on to win his sixth PGA TOUR title at the 2022 Travelers Championship on their one-year anniversary.
- Xander and Maya welcomed their first child, son Victor, in August 2025.

- Xander has been coached by his father since he was young and taught him to work hard and deal with adversity. Has learned discipline from his father and his Olympic training. They call it the "Schauffele Way."
- Xander's older brother Nico, three years his senior, helps manage Xander's social channels, his communications and his foundation work. Quote from Nico: "Do I remember him having talent? How could I not? He was so good at golf that I quit. Anything that involved a ball, anything round, he was instantly the best."
- Sporting blood runs in the family as two of Xander's great-grandfathers played soccer at the European premier level. Johann Hoffmann played for the Austrian national team and won multiple Austrian national titles. Besides playing soccer for the German Bundesliga club VFB Stuttgart, Richard Schauffele excelled in track and field, garnering over 40 titles in discus, javelin and shot put.
- He spent a couple of years in Hawaii when he was a baby as his father Stefan worked as an assistant club professional at Princeville on Kaui.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Xander has a strong work ethic and focuses on discipline, hard work and precision. He is a witty, smart, humble, understated guy. Prefers to spend time with his family and friends.
- Interests outside of golf include wine (Stefan is a connoisseur), fine food (his parents introduced him to a wide range of foods growing up) and fashion. He is starting a tradition of steak dinner on Wednesday of tournament weeks.
- Music interests/inclinations: Red Hot Chili Peppers, Coldplay, mood oriented, a bit of rap, rock. Enjoys good food, especially Asian food, Chinese, Japanese food.

Charity

- In March of 2021 the Xander Schauffele Foundation announced the start of construction on the sustainable Junior Club House at Goat Hill Park for the North County Junior Golf Association and junior caddy program.
- In support of the devastating fires in Lahaina in 2023, Xander made a $400,000 donation to aid in relief. In addition to a financial contribution, Xander also gave his time at The Sentry hosting a Junior Golf Clinic for youth golfers impacted by the fires.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- His caddie Austin Kaiser has become a close friend and is close knit within the Schauffele circle. Kaiser and Schauffele were teammates on the golf team at San Diego State. "We have a perfect balance of professionalism and friendship," said Kaiser in an interview for Golf Monthly. "I don't think I'd work for anyone else. It's like being drafted by your favorite team growing up. You can't get that with anyone else, I think I have the best job in the world."
- He is part of the famous high school class of 2011 which includes Jordan Spieth, Daniel Berger, Justin Thomas and Emiliano Grillo.
- Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay have been paired together at both the Presidents Cup and Ryder Cup team events, becoming close friends. The two also teamed up to win the 2022 Zurich Classic of New Orleans.
- Quote from Cantlay about Xander: "I don't think either of us would have gone out of our way to be friends with each other, but spending time together (at match play events), we realized we really get along. X is incredibly smart, and he's incredibly conscientious. He's someone who probably brings out the best in me. He's more positive and he has a way of being lighter

as opposed to me being serious. Yet, he's quiet and reserved so we have that bond too. He balances me out a little bit."

Other

- On Sunday, July 31, 2021, Schauffele won the gold medal at the Men's Olympic Golf competition with a final-round 4-under, 67 at Kasumigaseki Country Club. The victory came nearly four decades after the accident that ended his father Stefan's Olympic aspirations.
- In October of 2021, Xander played in the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP in Chiba, Japan where he was finally able to play in front of his grandparents (Sunday's final round) for the first time in many years.
- In 2021, Xander qualified for the Olympic Games in Tokyo. He said: "My grandparents from my mom's side live in Tokyo, so I would really, really, really love to go and play over there in front of them and some family. I love Japan. I've been there, I don't know, 10 times. Definitely a dream to go over there and play on that team."
- Earned the Arnold Palmer Award (PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year) in 2017 after winning two titles that season (Greenbrier Classic, TOUR Championship).
- Xander was at Torrey Pines in 2008 to witness Tiger Woods' triumphant U.S. Open victory in person. "I was at the 18th hole, actually," he told Golf.com. Xander was there to witness Woods' 72nd-hole putt, standing on a tree stump back in the fairway as that fateful birdie putt found the edge of the hole.

Michael Thorbjornsen

Things To Know

- Pronunciation: THOR-be-orn-son
- Finished No. 1 in the 2024 PGA TOUR University Ranking after four seasons at Stanford University (2021-24), following Texas Tech University's Ludvig Aberg (2023) as the second player in history to earn PGA TOUR membership via a No. 1 finish in PGA TOUR University. Thorbjornsen's No. 1 finish earned him TOUR membership for the remainder of the 2024 season and 2025 season.
- Has used a 10-finger grip nearly his entire career; he tried overlap, but it made him feel like he had "no control over the club," and when he tried interlock it hurt his knuckles.
- Earned the nickname of "Thunder Cub" while at IMG Academy; the coach there told Michael his last name translated to "Son of a Thunder Bear" and the nickname stuck. If you broke Thorbjornsen into individual parts and translated from Old Norse / Icelandic into modern Danish / Norwegian / Swedish, the meaning of Thor is thunder (from the name Thor, the hammer-wielding god in Norse mythology), the meaning of bjorn is bear, and sen translates to son.
- Moved to Jacksonville, Florida in the second half of 2024. He and close friend and former college teammate Karl Vilips live in the same residential complex and are upstairs-downstairs neighbors.
- Growing up in Wellesley, Massachusetts, would hone his fundamentals and mechanics in the swing during the winter (just hitting into a net to focus on form, not ball flight), and play as much golf as possible in the spring and summer.
- Made the cut at the 2019 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach Golf Links at 17 years, 8 months, 29 days of age, becoming the second-youngest player to make the cut at a U.S. Open since World War II. At the time, the only other player under the age of 18 to make the cut at a U.S. Open since World War II was Beau Hossler (17 years, 3 months) in 2012. Thorbjornsen earned an exemption for the 2019 U.S. Open via his victory at the 2018 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship at Baltusrol Golf Club, where he defeated Akshay Bhatia in the championship match. Thorbjornsen also qualified for the 2022 and 2023 U.S. Opens while still an amateur.
- Longtime Stanford men's golf head coach Conrad Ray, who coached PGA TOUR players Joseph Bramlett, Maverick McNealy, Patrick Rodgers, and Brandon Wu across more than 20 years at his alma mater, says of Thorbjornsen's driving prowess and athleticism, "He's an unbelievable athlete. He's not the longest player I've ever coached, but he's the highest combination of both length and accuracy. And that's special. You have to have some innate talent to do that at high speed. To me, that's his biggest strength. When he's on it, and he's driving it, there's not many guys that can drive it better than him that have ever played, and I don't say that lightly."

Background

- Born in Cleveland, Ohio and spent a little over four years there before the family moved to Massachusetts in 2006.
- Michael's mother, Sandra, once recalled how Michael hit 60 balls in a row at eight months old, saying, "We had a mat with a net in the house [and] a high ceiling. He took a golf club, put it underneath his right arm, and was just turning his torso and hitting the ball. He could barely walk." Michael recalls playing his first nine-hole round at age 2, and his fist tournament at age 5.

- At the U.S. Kids Golf Teen World Championship, annually contested at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club, won the Boys 10 Division in 2012, followed by the Boys 11 Division in 2013.
- Won the Boys 14-15 Division of the 2016 Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals at Augusta National Golf Club. There is a photo of Michael shaking Tom Watson's hand as he holds the trophy.
- Spent the first three years of high school at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida. Notable players considered IMG Academy alums include PGA TOUR winners Emiliano Grillo, Sean O'Hair, and C.T. Pan, along with DP World Tour winner Byeong Hun An.
- After three years at IMG Academy, returned to his hometown of Wellesley, Massachusetts and graduated from Wellesley High School in 2020; he played the fall 2019 season on the golf team and finished as the individual runner-up at the Division 1 State Championship (18-hole event), one stroke behind medalist Weston Jones. Thorbjornsen said of coming home for his senior year, "I just wanted to be back home with my friends... wanted to reconnect with them before we all went to college. My family as well. I just was homesick at that point."
- Chose to follow in the footsteps of his golf idol, Tiger Woods, and attend Stanford University. Said it was never really a doubt he would wind up at Stanford, as it was a dream of his to play there from an early age.
- In four seasons at Stanford, rose to as high as No. 2 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking, won three collegiate events -- including the 2023 Pac-12 Conference Championship -- and finished third in school history in career scoring average (70.40), only behind record holder Maverick McNealy (70.12) and Patrick Rodgers (70.31).
- Between his freshman and sophomore seasons at Stanford, enjoyed a strong summer of 2021 on the amateur circuit, winning both the 113th Massachusetts Amateur Championship and Western Amateur. Captured the Western Amateur title with a 4-and-3 victory over Gordon Sargent in the championship match.

Family

- Father, Thorbjorn Thorbjornsen (pronounced THOR-be-orn THOR-be-orn-son), is Norwegian.
- Thorbjorn discovered golf in his early teens through the early days of cable television in his hometown of Elverum, Norway. Although he had a desire to play, his hometown did not have a course nearby. When Thorbjorn was in his late 20s, a wildfire led to the clearing of a forest in Elverum, and the land was converted into a golf course. Thorbjorn had already moved away to Oslo by that time, but he would return to Elverum on the weekends and play the course. Thorbjorn became a scratch player, then gave up playing as Michael picked up the game in his youth, as Thorbjorn wanted to focus more on Michael's game and swing mechanics rather than his own play. Thorbjorn tried to return to golf later on, but he lost a lot of distance and did not enjoy the game as much, so he gave up playing altogether.
- Mother, Sandra, played golf at Ursuline College, which was an NAIA program (now NCAA Division II) in Pepper Pike, Ohio, less than 15 miles east of Cleveland. Michael guesses the first time he carded a lower score than his mother was around age 7; he still laughs whenever he remembers how frustrated she was the rest of the day.
- Has three younger sisters - twins Victoria and Michelle, followed by his youngest sister, Teresa.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Video games. Used to play a lot of Call of Duty with Stanford teammate Karl Vilips. Played a lot of PGA TOUR 2K with his Stanford teammates, and bought a Nintendo Switch for the team, which led to countless Mario Kart races.

- Music, specifically hip hop. Despite wearing a Lollapalooza bracelet en route to winning the 2021 Western Amateur, he did not attend the annual music festival in Chicago until after he won the tournament. He saw Young Thug perform live at Lollapalooza.
- Was a big fan of the movie The Greatest Game Ever Played, a biopic based on Francis Ouimet's victory at the 1913 U.S. Open, when he became the first amateur winner in its history. Having qualified for the 2022 U.S. Open at The Country Club, which also hosted Ouimet's historic win, Thorbjornsen and his caddie for the week, childhood friend Drew Cohen, hit the merchandise tent and bought matching t-shirts with a silhouette of Ouimet and his caddie, Eddie Lowery.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- There is a photo of Rory McIlroy and Thorbjornsen standing together with their respective trophies at the 2023 Dubai Desert Classic. Thorbjornsen was the low amateur, while McIlroy won the title.
- Helped Stanford win Colonial Collegiate Invitational in October 2021 at Colonial Country Club, host of the PGA TOUR's Charles Schwab Challenge. Thorbjornsen finished two strokes clear of third, but finished six strokes behind individual medalist Michael Brennan of Wake Forest. The Cardinal took a team photo in front of the Hogan statue after their team victory.
- Says the most fun he ever had playing a tournament in his amateur career was the 2019 Junior Presidents Cup at Royal Melbourne Golf Club in Australia. Remembers the junior team being introduced on stage at a gala for the United States Presidents Cup team, which was captained by his golf idol and fellow Stanford alum Tiger Woods. The junior team captain was Justin Leonard.
- Childhood friend Drew Cohen notably caddied for Michael in his summer of 2021 victory at the Western Amateur, as well as the 2022 Travelers Championship, and 2022 U.S. Open at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts. The two became fast friends in middle school after their mothers coordinated a tee time for them at TPC Boston. They later spent their freshman year of high school together at IMG Academy. When Michael returned to Massachusetts after three years at IMG, he and Cohen played on the Wellesley High School golf team as seniors, and graduated together in 2020.
- Close with Karl Vilips, a former teammate, suitemate, and classmate at Stanford. Both were members of the PGA TOUR University Class of 2024, with Vilips finishing No. 10 to Thorbjornsen's No. 1. Vilips also caddied for Thorbjornsen at the 2020 U.S. Amateur Championship. The two met for the first time around age 7 or 8, and they became close as pre-teens even though their paths rarely crossed at junior events. They later attended prep academies roughly an hour apart in Florida, with Vilips at Saddlebrook Preparatory School north of Tampa, and Thorbjornsen at IMG Academy south of Tampa in Bradenton. They often practiced together the weekend leading into tournaments, with Thorbjornsen saying the competition motivated both of them.
- Vilips and Thorbjornsen also lived together with fellow Stanford teammate Barclay Brown. They had a fourth suitemate who was not an athlete; he and Thorbjornsen became close friends.
- Rose Zhang. The two won their respective divisions at the 2018 PING Invitational, an AJGA event at Karsten Creek Golf Club in Stillwater, Oklahoma. (There is a photo of the two holding a trophy together.) Thorbjornsen and Zhang later competed together at Stanford for two seasons (2021-22 / 2022-2023), and teamed up for two foursomes matches at the 2022 Arnold Palmer Cup (they went 1-1).
- Gordon Sargent. The two represented the United States together at the 2022 Arnold Palmer Cup and 2022 World Amateur Team Championship (Eisenhower Trophy), and Thorbjornsen defeated Sargent in the championship match of the 2021 Western Amateur.

- Akshay Bhatia. The two represented the United States at the 2018 Junior Ryder Cup, and Thorbjornsen defeated Bhatia in the championship match of the 2018 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship at Baltusrol Golf Club.
- With his victory at the 113th Massachusetts Amateur Championship in July 2021, joined a list of past champions highlighted by six-time winner Francis Ouimet (1913, 1914, 1915, 1919, 1922, 1925) and 1986 champion Fran Quinn.
- In his final two seasons at Stanford, teammates included Dean Greyserman, the younger brother of PGA TOUR member Max Greyserman.
- Played a practice round with two-time NBA champion and former NBA Sixth Man of the Year J.R. Smith at the 2022 Western Amateur. There is a photo of them.

Other

- Earned a spot on the U.S. Walker Cup Team for the 2023 Walker Cup at St. Andrews, but he never competed at the event; he withdrew from the team roughly a month prior to the event due to a back injury.
- While resting a back injury in summer 2023, had surgery on his left ankle, with doctors removing a loose bone and repairing a tendon. It took nearly two months for Thorbjornsen to reach the point where he could begin rehab for his back injury. For six weeks after surgery on his ankle, Thorbjornsen was in a back brace and walking boot with crutches; he also couldn't leave his bed the first two of those six weeks. After an additional two weeks with crutches (but no back brace), spent another two weeks in an ankle wrap / cast. Thorbjornsen says of it all, "I don't even like thinking about it. I was a mess."
- Hit the first tee shot at the 2022 U.S. Open at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts; his hometown of Wellesley, Massachusetts is less than 10 miles from The Country Club. Fellow Massachusettsan (or Bay Stater, depending on where you're from) Fran Quinn teed off first on the back nine. The two, along with Brandon Matthews, qualified together via an 8-for-3 playoff at Final Qualifying in New York. There is a photo of them together.
- PGA TOUR winner Chris Gotterup and Thorbjornsen were both sponsor exemptions at the 2022 Travelers Championship, where Thorbjornsen finished solo fourth for the first top-five finish by an amateur on TOUR since Braden Thornberry in 2017 (FedEx St. Jude Classic/T4).
- PGA TOUR winner Ludvig Aberg and 2022 U.S. Amateur winner Sam Bennett were both sponsor exemptions at the 2023 Travelers Championship, which Thorbjornsen played (missed cut) as a sponsor exemption for a second consecutive year. Thorbjornsen says he and Aberg are, "Friendly rivals... we definitely push each other."

Byeong Hun An

Things To Know

- Pronunciation: BEE-yong HOON AN. Also goes by his English name, Ben.
- Made his second appearance for the International Team at the 2024 Presidents Cup in Montreal, Canada. Previously debuted at the 2019 Presidents Cup as a late replacement for Jason Day, posted a 1-2-2 record, with his victory coming alongside Adam Scott in the first day's fourball matches; they defeated Tony Finau and Bryson DeChambeau, 2 & 1.
- Qualified for four consecutive FedExCup Playoffs (2017-20), but lost PGA TOUR status following a 164th-place finish in the 2020-21 FedExCup standings. Regained PGA TOUR membership upon conclusion of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season and finished in the top 50 of the FedExCup standings in both 2023 and 2024.
- When he regained his PGA TOUR card upon conclusion of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season, An said his family life was instrumental in his resurgence: "Family life's been great. It takes your mind away from golf. After tournaments, you go back and you have kids around, you don't have time to think about golf. Obviously when you're at a golf course, you want to think about golf, you want to work hard. But when you're home, you're trying to play with your family. It's nice to have their support."
- With his father, Jae Hyung An, caddying for him, Ben won the 2009 U.S. Amateur at Southern Hills Country Club (host of multiple U.S. Opens and PGA Championships) in Tulsa, Oklahoma as a 17-year-old with a resounding 7-and-5 victory over Ben Martin, which made him the youngest champion in history. Danny Lee held the previous record, winning the 2008 U.S. Amateur at 18 to break Tiger Woods' record from 1994.
- Moved to the United States from Seoul, South Korea in December 2005 to attend the David Leadbetter Golf Academy in Bradenton, Florida. He did not speak English and lived with his grandmother when he first arrived in the U.S., while his parents went back and forth between Asia and the United States. Two years later, his father, Jae Hyung Ahn, halted his table tennis coaching career and joined him in America, while his mother, Zhimin Jiao, continued to work in China to help the family financially. The arrangement was difficult at times, with An's mother saying, "We sent him to train in the U.S. because there are more opportunities there. I used to ask (Byeong Hun) to stop training in the U.S. for a while and then to pick it up when he grew up, but he said, 'Playing golf is my life. If you stop it, you stop my life,' which touched me and I decided to let him continue."
- Parents, Jae Hyung Ahn (father, South Korea) and Zhimin Jiao (mother, China), were international medalists in table tennis, and both earned medals at the 1988 Olympics held in Seoul, South Korea. The two met at the Olympics and married in Sweden in 1989, three years before South Korea and China formally established diplomatic relations. An qualified and played in the Rio Olympics in 2016 (T11) and Paris Olympics in 2024 (T24).

Background

- His father, Jae Hyung Ahn, taught him to play golf when he was 5, and the first club he hit was a 1-iron.
- Attended high school in Bradenton, Florida, spending his first two years at the IMG Pendleton School (now IMG Academy) and his final two years at Bradenton Preparatory Academy. Later earned his first PGA TOUR-sanctioned win at the Korn Ferry Tour's 2022 LECOM Suncoast Classic, played roughly 15 miles from Bradenton, Florida at Lakewood National Golf Club.
- Frequently played The Concession Golf Club during his years in Bradenton, Florida.

- Played one collegiate season (2010-11) at University of California - Berkeley before he turned professional; he posted a 72.9 scoring average and four top-fives but went without a victory.
- Turned professional in 2011 following his lone collegiate season at Cal and earned Challenge Tour status via Q-School. In his third season on the Challenge Tour, finished No. 3 in the 2014 standings and earned DP World Tour membership for the 2015 season, which saw him win the 2015 BMW PGA Championship and be named the 2015 Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year.
- Earned Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR following a T2 at the rain-shortened 2016 Zurich Classic of New Orleans, where he lost a three-man playoff; he also earned a PGA TOUR card for the 2016-17 season via the Non-Member Money List.

Family

- Married Hee Jae Choi (Jamie) in December 2018. The couple welcomed their first child, a son (Sunwoo Stanley An), in February 2020. Baby daughter, Jiwoo An, was born in March 2023.
- Ben and Hee Jae went to elementary school together in South Korea and reconnected around 2016, when she was in charge of distributing invitations and information for a school reunion back in South Korea. Hee Jae lived in Chicago as the two began dating and she would travel to PGA TOUR events a few weeks a year, but as their relationship became more serious she began to travel with him almost every week. They would also spend a couple weeks in South Korea together during the winter months.
- His mother, Zhimin Jiao, represented China and was a silver medalist in women's doubles and bronze medalist in singles at the 1988 Olympics, in addition to helping China win the team gold medal at the 1987 World Championships, where she was also the mixed doubles silver medalist and women's doubles bronze medalist. At the 1985 World Championships, she won bronze medals in mixed doubles and women's doubles.
- After Ben's U.S. Amateur victory his mother told China Daily, "My son inherited his touch from us, as well as the determination you need to be a competitor. And I believe he will earn more than we did from his sports career."
- His father, Jae Hyung Ahn, represented South Korea and was a bronze medalist at the 1988 Olympics (held in Seoul, South Korea) in men's doubles, as well as the 1987 World Championships bronze medalist in men's doubles and mixed doubles.
- His father caddied for him as he played the Challenge Tour from 2012-14. He said his father provided a lot of mental support, though they had their occasional squabbles. When An graduated from the Challenge Tour to the DP World Tour prior to the 2015 season, he and his father agreed it was time for a professional caddie..

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Very active on X (formerly Twitter, @ByeongHunAn), often using self-deprecating humor to document his professional golf experience and respond to fans.
- Collects watches, with one of his most prized possessions being a Patek Nautilus watch which was a wedding gift from his in-laws; he has a watch collection featuring everything from Rolex and Audemars Piguet (a former sponsor) and says he can never have enough watches.
- Previously collected Batman LEGO sets but stopped after he got married.
- Bought a Lamborghini Urus in 2020.
- Favorite sports team is Tottenham Hotspur F.C., an English Premier League soccer club.
- Was delighted when the Korean film "Parasite" won the Oscar for Best Picture at the 2020 Academy Awards, saying of the victory, "I think it's a big step forward because no one has

done this before. And that's why we were so high in Korea and we're so surprised about this. It's like winning a major; it was the first Asian to win a major -- that kind of feeling."

Charity

- Used his charitable allocation for being a member of the International Team at the 2019 Presidents Cup to create an AJGA event in Orlando, Florida, the Ben An Junior Championship. The inaugural playing was September 2021, and the 2022 iteration was played under a new name, the Ben An Junior All-Star. An began his United States junior career on the AJGA circuit, averaging 10-12 events per year after moving to Bradenton, Florida in 2005.
- On his inspiration to give back to junior golfers: "The year I played in the Presidents Cup, some Korean juniors spent a few days in my house (in Orlando) to practice and play together and it felt good to help the kids. I care if they do well, and just to be able to help them, it meant a lot to me."

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- College teammates with Max Homa and Brandon Hagy in his only season at University of California - Berkeley (2010-11). Homa and Hagy were both sophomores at the time.

Other

- Infamously made an 11 on the par-3 17th at the 2021 PLAYERS Championship.
- Launched a YouTube channel, ANmazing Golf, during the pandemic and amassed 10.9k subscribers; he offered golf tips and insights into his life, and his last video was posted in September 2020.
- Switched to the broomhandle putter in the summer of 2023. Sought the advice of Adam Scott and Si Woo Kim, who both use the broomhandle putter as well.

Garrick Higgo

Things To Know

- Earned his second PGA TOUR title at the 2025 Corales Puntacana Championship. Higgo entered the 2025 season with only conditional status and actually intended to focus on playing the Korn Ferry Tour in an attempt to earn TOUR membership for 2026. Higgo said of his return to the winner's circle, "This is why I play the game. The journey... I'm going to go through a down again, everybody does. I'm going to have ups. I just truly enjoy the journey."
- Won the 2021 Palmetto Championship at Congaree in his second career start on the PGA TOUR after receiving a Commissioner's exemption to compete in the event. Received a congratulatory call from fellow South African Gary Player during his winner's press conference. Player has been one of Higgo's biggest mentors and has supported him through his father's passing and professional career through countless letters and phone calls.
- Went 3 years, 10 months, 7 days between his first and second PGA TOUR titles (2021 Palmetto Championship / 2025 Corales Puntacana Championship). Upon his return to the winner's circle, said, "I've definitely grown a lot. I feel like I understand the U.S. much better. I'm more comfortable here, and I think this time around it will be different. I think I'm going to keep going and keep playing well."
- Won twice in three starts on the DP World Tour in April-May of 2021, which elevated him to 51st in the Official World Golf Ranking. Playing the final round with a lead for the first time at the Grand Canaria Open, Higgo said he leaned on advice from Gary Player to secure the win: "He said there is no such thing as a lead and you should play like you are two behind. That was nice from him and he has said it so many times, but I have never really had a lead, so I haven't had to worry about that".
- Won the 2020 Open de Portugal, a co-sanctioned event between the DP World Tour and the Challenge Tour, and with it, gained status on the DP World Tour and made it to the season-ending DP World Tour Championship in the process.
- Turned professional in 2019 and won in his debut on the Big Easy Tour (named as such in honor of Ernie Els), a developmental tour in South Africa. In his next start, he won his first tournament on the Sunshine Tour.
- Attended the University of Nevada-Las Vegas for two semesters in 2017 and 2018. Unlike other high-profile international recruits who elect to attend college in the United States, college life wasn't really for him and returned home before deciding to turn pro. "I didn't play that well. I knew if I was at home, I knew where I could get my game. And I wasn't going to get there at UNLV. I loved it there. I just don't think it was the right fit for me."

Background

- Born in Johannesburg, South Africa, but attended high school in Stellenbosch, a town located east of Cape Town where he became the No. 1-ranked amateur in South Africa by age 17.
- Plays left-handed but is naturally right-handed. Started focusing on golf at age 13 after breaking his elbow playing rugby.
- In 2016, became the first South African to qualify and play in both the U.S. Amateur and U.S. Junior Amateur in the same year.
- Beat former University of Texas standout Cole Hammer in the Round of 16 at the 2017 U.S. Junior Amateur at Flint Hills National GC in Andover, Kansas, before falling to Matthew Wolff in the semifinals.

Family

- Garrick and his wife, Chandre (SHUN-drae) wed on September 9, 2023.
- Lost his father (Michael) when he was 9 years old when the entire family was in a car accident -- parents (mom - Susan), one older brother (Michael) and one younger sister (Calista). Received a letter from Gary Player after the accident, who also lost his mother around the same age. "He's been such a support since then and has sent me a lot of letters throughout the years, or called me at times to help. He's been incredibly nice to me... and I feel very lucky for that."
- His mother, Susan, was in attendance for his first PGA TOUR victory at the Palmetto Championship at Congaree. The two shared an emotional hug on the range once it became official.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Interests include rap music, sports and Chelsea FC (soccer/football).

Si Woo Kim

Things To Know

- Resides in Dallas, Texas, where he practices out of Royal Oaks Country Club (joined in early 2024). Will occasionally play with Scottie Scheffler, a longtime Royal Oaks member. Rotates between Royal Oaks, The Nelson Golf & Sports Club, and TPC Las Colinas (with the latter two clubs both being in nearby Irving, Texas) for practice at home.
- Everything in Si Woo's game came from his father, Du Ryu Kim, who was his first swing coach. Si Woo's father maintained a single-digit handicap and encouraged Si Woo to go to the range with him as a kid.
- Has made an effort to reduce his caffeine intake over the last couple years. Previously drank three cups of coffee before 1 p.m., which he would then follow with three or four Red Bulls between 1-9 p.m. Si Woo now tries to limit himself to two coffees and two Red Bulls per day. Says that even with his previous caffeine consumption routine, did not have any issues sleeping.
- Rewarded himself with a new car -- a Porsche Taycan -- after his victory at the 2021 American Express, his third PGA TOUR win. Si Woo previously bought a car after his 2017 PLAYERS Championship victory, and he decided he would only purchase another car once he earned his third TOUR title.
- Was named as one of six captain's picks for the International Team by Mike Weir for the 2024 Presidents Cup in Montreal, Canada, marking his third appearance in the competition. Previously a captain's selection of Trevor Immelman at the 2022 Presidents Cup at Quail Hollow Club. Debuted for the International Team at the 2017 Presidents Cup at Liberty National; he was 22 years old upon his debut, and the youngest player on the International Team in 2017.
- Won 2017 PLAYERS Championship at the age of 21 years, 10 months, 16 days, usurping Adam Scott (23 years, 8 months, 12 days in 2004) as the youngest winner in PLAYERS history. Si Woo also followed K.J. Choi (2011) as the second PLAYERS champion from South Korea.
- Coupled with his first career PGA TOUR win at the 2016 Wyndham Championship, Si Woo's victory at the 2017 PLAYERS Championship made him the first Asian player in PGA TOUR history to win twice before the age of 22.
- The morning after his 2017 PLAYERS Championship victory, had a middle seat in coach class for his flight home. Si Woo had a flight booked for Sunday night -- which he missed as a result of his win -- and wanted to get home early Monday, so he rebooked on another airline and wound up with the middle seat. Si Woo even posed for a photo with his aislemate for the flight, which gained traction on social media and garnered headlines from national golf news outlets.
- Known for his driver off the deck shot, and Si Woo has noted it's a shot he's comfortable with. En route to his historic victory at the 2017 PLAYERS Championship, Si Woo hit a driver off the deck out of the rough from 268 yards out on the par-4 14th in the third round; he miraculously got the ball to stop on the green. Four years later at the 2021 American Express, he hit driver off the deck on the par-5 11th hole and made birdie en route to a one-shot win over Patrick Cantlay.
- Qualified for PGA TOUR membership at 17 years, 5 months, 6 days of age with a T20 finish at 2012 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry (contested at PGA West on the Nicklaus and Stadium courses); he was the youngest player to graduate from PGA TOUR Q-School, though he could not become a full PGA TOUR member until his 18th birthday in June 2013.

- Won the gold medal for Korea in the team competition at the 2023 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China by 25 strokes alongside Sungjae Im and amateur partners Yu Bin Jang and Woo Young Cho. Finished fourth in the individual category. NOTE: WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL EXEMPTS SUNGJAE AND SI WOO FROM MANDATORY 21-MONTH MILITARY SERVICE, BUT PLEASE DO NOT VOLUNTARILITY SPEAK ABOUT THIS ON TOUR CHANNELS.
- NOTE TO MEDIA OFFICIALS, BROADCAST ANNOUNCERS: Please do not voluntarily discuss the military exemption. If asked by the media, the following messaging has been agreed with Si Woo's agent. Q: Was it a relief for you to earn exemption from Military Service with the gold medal in Asian Games? A: I was focused on the opportunity to represent my country and helping the team win the gold medal. I was really happy to contribute to the win in China as we have not won the team gold since 2010. This will allow me to focus on my golf career on the PGA TOUR and I hope I can continue to inspire young Korean golfers to succeed in the game. Q: But are you happy you don't have to do Military Service now? A: I think I'm now able to focus even more on my golf career. Should there be follow up questions from media, our Media Officials will need to step in to say the player has already answered on the matter, and request to move on to other golf questions.

Background

- Made it a goal to make it to the PGA TOUR when he was eight years old, with two primary sources of inspiration being Tiger Woods and K.J. Choi.
- Won the Korean Junior Championship four years in a row, and made the South Korean National Team when he was 16 years old.
- Helped South Korea finish T3 at the 2012 World Amateur Team Championship (Eisenhower Trophy) just over three months after his 17th birthday. A United States team headlined by Justin Thomas won the team title.
- Joined the PGA TOUR as a member late in the 2013 season after his 18th birthday (June 28th, 2013). Made his first TOUR start as a member at the 2013 Greenbrier Classic and closed the season with six consecutive missed cuts, sending him back to Q-School. Earned Korn Ferry Tour membership for the 2014 season, and earned PGA TOUR membership via the 2015 Korn Ferry Tour season, which saw him earn a victory at the 2015 Stonebrae Classic at TPC Stonebrae -- which, at the time, made him the second-youngest winner in Korn Ferry Tour history (20 years, 0 0 months, 21 days), only behind Jason Day (19 years, 7 months, 26 days at 2007 Legend Financial Group Classic).
- Earned PGA TOUR membership upon conclusion of the 2015 Korn Ferry Tour season, as he became the second-youngest graduate in Korn Ferry Tour history, accomplishing the feat at 20 years, 3 months, 6 days of age. Only Jason Day (19 years, 11 months, 23 days in 2007) was younger upon graduating from the Korn Ferry Tour.

Family

- Si Woo and his wife, Ji Hyun, welcomed their first child -- son, Theo (TAY-oh) in February 2024.
- Si Woo married Ji Hyun Oh, a seven-time winner on the Korean LPGA Tour, on December 18, 2022 in Seoul. Si Woo won the 2023 Sony Open in Hawaii -- his fourth PGA TOUR title -- just under a month after the wedding, with Ji Hyun on site to celebrate the victory. Ji Hyun has since retired from professional golf, though it is a running joke between the two of them that she has more wins than Si Woo.

- Si Woo says of he and his wife's relationship: "We can understand each other by knowing what part of stress and pressure are, and what parts to respect each other well. I think it's comfortable because we understand each other when it comes to golf."
- Mother: Hyun Joo Park; Father: Du Ryu Kim.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Owns two small dogs named Star and Sky.
- Favorite sports team is Manchester United (soccer/football). Occasionally attends Dallas Mavericks home games (NBA basketball).
- Enjoys playing Call of Duty (gamer) and travels with his Playstation.
- Has a small collection of luxury watches.
- Loves chocolate, especially chocolate cookies or chocolate ice cream. He usually picks chocolate ice cream. Loves the Belgian chocolate shake at Haagen-Dazs.
- Eats Korean ramen/soup a lot. Loves tofu and kimchi ramen/soup as well as pork belly ramen/soup.

Charity

- Si Woo donated $90,000 to the Korean National Golf Team in December 2017; a youth program designed to get more Korean kids into the game of golf. It was this program that helped Si Woo flourish as a golfer, and he finds it important to continue to support its success. He doesn't like to boast about his charitable efforts and would rather not receive media attention about it.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Grew up playing junior golf with Sungjae Im. The two played the practice rounds of the 2018 PGA Championship and 2018 U.S. Open together, when Sungjae was still in his rookie season on the Korn Ferry Tour. In their early years together on the PGA TOUR (late 2010s, early 2020s), Si Woo often gave Sungjae advice about life on TOUR and how to practice his game. The two also represented Korea together at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and later led Korea to a team gold medal at the 2023 Asian Games.
- Close friends with Tom Kim, who stayed with Si Woo occasionally in Dallas during his early forays to the U.S. The two also partnered for a victory over Patrick Cantlay and Xander Schauffele at the 2022 Presidents Cup, and teamed up for the 2023 Zurich Classic of New Orleans.
- Very close with other CJ Group players such as Byeong Hun An, Whee Kim, and Sung Kang. Sung calls the group the "Korean Brothers". Si Woo and Byeong Hun An represented Korea together at the 2018 World Cup of Golf in Australia.

Other

- Made his PGA TOUR debut at the 2013 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, playing the event via a sponsor exemption. Other notable sponsor exemptions that week were Patrick Cantlay (finished T9) and Jordan Spieth (finished T22).

Nico Echavarria

Things To Know

- First name is Nicolas, but commonly referred to as Nico. Last name is etch-uh-vuh-REE-uh
- Won the 2024 ZOZO Championship in Japan for his second PGA TOUR title. The victory came 10 years after Echavarria represented Colombia at the 2014 World Amateur Team Championship in Japan.
- Won his first PGA TOUR event, the 2023 Puerto Rico Open, by two strokes. It was just his 11th PGA TOUR start and was the first rookie winner of the 2022-23 season. The victory got him into THE PLAYERS Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where he currently lives and had always longed to compete.
- Born and raised in Medellin, Colombia. Says, "Colombia is minimal in golf compared to soccer, but we are trying our best to represent our country in this world." With his victory at the 2023 Puerto Rico Open, followed Sebastian Munoz and Camilo Villegas as the third Colombian to win on the PGA TOUR.
- Earned his first PGA TOUR card via the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Finals, solidifying it with a T5 at the season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship.
- Played two full seasons on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica, earning his Korn Ferry Tour card after finishing second in 2018 after an outstanding season saw him card his first two professional victories in a three-week stretch. He ultimately finished second to Harry Higgs after finishing T45 at the Shell Championship, losing the No. 1 position by a mere $64.
- Represented Colombia at the 2024 Olympic Men's Golf Competition in Paris.

Background

- Echavarria says his father and grandfather are the reasons he "plays this beautiful sport," as they started taking him to the golf course when he was just two years old. He has said that he wishes that his grandfather could watch him play now.
- Finished T3 at the 2011 Junior World Championships (Boys 15-17 Division) at Torrey Pines; the individual medalist was Beau Hossler.
- Reached the semifinals of consecutive U.S. Junior Amateur Championships in 2011 and 2012.
- Attended IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida prior to playing collegiately at University of Arkansas.
- Played four seasons at University of Arkansas (2012-16), where he won once individually and graduated with a degree in international relations. Nico says he lived some of the best years of his life while playing at Arkansas.

Family

- Parents are Emilio and Ana Maria Echavarria.
- Has two older brothers, Miguel and Andres, both of which played collegiately. Miguel played at the University of Michigan. Andres played at the University of Florida and made over 100 starts in PGA TOUR-sanctioned events, primarily on PGA TOUR Latinoamerica and the Korn Ferry Tour after turning professional in 2011. The brothers are very competitive with each other.
- Mother has always joked that all three of her sons, Miguel, Andres and Nico, when first learning how to stand and walk, used golf clubs to steady themselves as the boys got on their feet.

- Andres and Nico became the first brothers to both win a PGA TOUR Latinoamerica tournament.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Interests include: good wine, "almost every sport", movies and TV shows.
- Outside of golf, Echavarria also enjoys playing in tennis and ping pong. He describes himself as very competitive and would like to play against other golfers in a tennis or ping pong tournament.
- One of the things on his bucket list is skydiving.

Charity

- Partnered with the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) to host the Nico Open in Colombia in May 2023, as part of the AJGA International Pathway Series. The new series will continue the AJGA's effort to provide college golf scholarship exposure, by brining events closer to the junior circuit's international membership. The inaugural Nico Open marked the first AJGA event conducted in South America and was played at Club Campestre Medellin in Medellin, Colombia.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Remembers watching Camilo Villegas win on TOUR for the first time (and as the first Colombian to win). Nico was 14 years old at that time and says that win inspired him to be a professional golfer. The night before Nico's first PGA TOUR win at the 2023 Puerto Rico Open, Camilo left him a voicemail reminding him that his moment will come. Camilo then waited for him on the 18th hole to cheer him on.

Other

- An early golf memory is watching Tiger Woods play at The Open Championship in 2010.
- Michael Phelps is his favorite athlete outside of golf. Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy are his favorite golfers.
- Ambassador for Atlantic Beach Country Club in Atlantic Beach, Florida.

Min Woo

Min Woo Lee

Things To Know

- Represents The Bay Golf Club alongside teammates Ludvig Aberg, Wyndham Clark and Shane Lowry in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR that launched in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league, was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and fuses advanced technology, innovation and live action for ESPN's primetime television audience. The Bay Golf Club is led by Avenue Sports Fund with Marc Lasry and Stephen Curry with limited partners including Andre Iguodala, Klay Thompson, Alex Albon, Leonardo Fioravanti, Kanoa Igarashi and John Stones.
- Represented Australia in the 2024 Olympic Men's Golf Competition in Paris. He was joined by fellow Australian Jason Day. Reflecting on competing in the Olympics, Lee said, "It's special. Obviously representing your country, there's a little bit of pressure... I think the crowds are really special. Every stand-out hole, there were a lot of people... It was special."
- His sister, Minjee Lee, also competed in the 2024 Olympics, which marked her third appearance in the Olympic Women's Golf Competition (2016 Rio, 2020 Tokyo, 2024 Paris). She had the chance to watch a few holes of Min Woo during his final round.
- Selected as a captain's pick for the International Team for the 2024 Presidents Cup at Royal Montreal Golf Club, which marked Lee's Presidents Cup debut; he was one of three Aussies on the team (Adam Scott, Jason Day).
- First DP World Tour victory came at the 2020 Vic Open, finishing two shots clear of New Zealander Ryan Fox. The victory continued a remarkable run of family success at 13th Beach Golf Links in Victoria, Australia, as his older sister, Minjee Lee, is a two-time winner of the Women's Vic Open. Minjee won the event as an amateur in 2014 (which made her the No. 1 women's amateur in the world), when it was a WPGA Tour of Australasia event, and again in 2018, when it was co-sanctioned by the Ladies European Tour.

Background

- Plays out of Royal Fremantle Golf Club in Western Australia. The club was established in 1905 and notably hosted the 1960 Australian PGA Championship. PGA TOUR winner Greg Chalmers rose through the club's junior program, winning both the Junior and Men's Club Championships in 1989 at age 15. Oliver Goss, the low amateur at the 2014 Masters Tournament and runner-up to Matt Fitzpatrick at the 2013 U.S. Amateur, also honed his game at the club and won three consecutive Junior Club Championships from 2009-11.
- Also played soccer, taekwondo, and swam growing up, but dedicated himself to golf at age 15. In a Golf Digest feature in October 2024, Lee said, "I didn't necessarily love golf when I was younger. I quit for a year when I was 11 because I thought it was a boring, old-man's sport. I really liked soccer, [Australian Rules] football, taekwondo and lifting weights. I enjoyed them much more than golf."
- Min Woo and his older sister, Minjee Lee, dominated the junior and amateur circuits in Western Australia. Min Woo won the Western Australia Junior Championships three times (2013, 2014, 2016) to his sister Minjee's two times (2010, 2011). Both siblings won the Amateur Championships of Western Australia twice, with Min Woo winning in 2015 and 2017, and Minjee winning consecutive titles in 2010 - becoming the youngest winner in history at age 14 - and 2011. Minjee one-upped her brother with back-to-back victories at the 2013 and 2014 Australian Women's Amateur Championship. Min Woo's best finish in the Australian Amateur was a runner-up in 2017.

- Won the 2016 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship, defeating Noah Goodwin 2&1 in the final. Min Woo became the first Australian to win the title and, combined with his older sister, Minjee Lee, became the first brother-sister tandem to win USGA Junior Championships. Minjee won the 2012 U.S. Girls' Junior Championship.
- Represented Australia at the 2018 Eisenhower Trophy. Denmark won the title, while the United States team of Collin Morikawa, Justin Suh, and Cole Hammer finished second.
- Earned conditional status on the Korn Ferry Tour for the 2019 season with a T67 finish at Final Stage of the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, which he played as an amateur. Min Woo finished fourth in his second DP World Tour start of the season and missed the cut in his Korn Ferry Tour debut, leaving him buried in the priority ranking and thus leading him to focus on playing the DP World Tour.
- Turned professional in January 2019 at age 21 and made his professional debut at the DP World Tour's Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship. Later made his PGA TOUR debut at the 2021 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Family

- Older sister, Minjee Lee, is two years and two months older than Min Woo. Minjee, who turned professional in 2014 at age 18, is a three-time Olympian representing Australia.
- Minjee and Min Woo speak to each other quite often, but they rarely talk about their golf. Conversations tend to be more about their personal lives rather than their professional careers.
- Minjee caddied for Min Woo in the 2022 Masters Tournament Par 3 Contest.
- Min Woo and Minjee are of Korean descent, as their parents, Soonam and Clara Lee, emigrated from Korea to Australia in the 1990s. Min Woo's upbringing is more in line with Western Australia than his Korean heritage.
- Mother, Clara Lee, was an excellent golfer herself and coached both Min Woo and Minjee as kids.
- Father, Soonam, was also an excellent golfer who played off a +1 handicap. Soonam has also spent time as a swimming instructor.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Loves animals.
- Has never owned a car.
- Although he has not had much of a chance to play the newer versions due to a busy golf schedule, loves playing Call of Duty video games.
- Watched Netflix's "Full Swing" series, saying, "Was incredible actually, just shows how hard it is, showed the highs and lows. And also some personalities, loved the [Matt Fitzpatrick] episode. One day, I hope I can win a major and have my family there."
- Utilizes mementos from his previous major championship appearances, as he carries an Augusta National Golf Club ball marker and a divot repair tool from The Open Championship.
- Favorite sports team is the Fremantle Dockers, an Australian rules football club in the Australian Football League.
- Posted his Spotify Wrapped, which features the musical artists he listened to the most in 2024, which were (in order): Post Malone, Kanye West, Drake, 21 Savage and Travis Scott. Post Malone's song, "Candy Paint," was Min Woo's most played song in 2024.

Charity

- Supports Golf Australia and their initiatives to help more juniors gain access to golf in Australia.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Three months prior to his win at the 2016 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship, met his golfing idol, Tiger Woods, during a clinic at the Junior Invitational at Sage Valley. Tiger was a surprise guest at the clinic and Min Woo received a few notes on how to hit a stinger. Following his win at the U.S. Junior, Min Woo said of the notes, "What he said at the clinic just clicked. I've used (the stinger) a while, but this week I've probably hit it the best. It was a big advantage. It came in handy."
- Asked who would make up his dream foursome, he said his sister (Minjee), Tiger Woods and Jack Nicklaus.
- Views fellow Australian Adam Scott as a mentor: "He's a good role model for golf, and for Australian golf, and I look up to him still, and it's cool to have his as a friend."
- During the 2024 PGA TOUR season, spent time in Las Vegas, Nevada, playing out of The Summit Club and staying with "good mate" Kurt Kitayama. Collin Morikawa also plays out of The Summit Club in Las Vegas.

Other

- Nickname is Woozy.
- At the 2024 WM Phoenix Open, over 200 fans - all dressed in Lululemon (Lee's new apparel sponsor) shirts, pants and shoes - followed Lee during his second round. All 200 of the fans wore a red chef hat, which had "Let him cook" across the front, and they also chanted "let him cook" after every one of Lee's made putts. On the origin of how he's been connected with the "let him cook" phrase, Lee said, "A lot of golfers only do their thing and don't do the social media side as well as they can. I really enjoy that side of things. I've done it since I was young. ["Let him cook"] started in a few of my posts, randomly. I don't know if someone commented it, or I said it. It's nice to have something to relate to me, or something that I started."
- In January 2024, he announced a partnership with clothing brand Lululemon, saying, "I'm excited to bring my sense of fun and freshness to the game and lead the way for a new generation of golfers." Lee summarized his excitement for the partnership by adding, "Look good, feel good, play good... you're in front of the cameras and a lot of people. You don't want to be wearing clothes that you don't feel good in. Everyone has that outfit they wear on a night out - you start to feel yourself a little bit. When I'm out on the course and I do wear fits that I love, I have that bounce in my step. I have that swagger."
- Holds a GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS title for the 'Fastest hole of golf by a team of four' achieved a Real Club Valderrama in 2021. The hole was a 501-yard par four, and they holed out the putt in 24.75 seconds to set the new record.
- Cover athlete for Golf Digest in October 2024 with the feature article titled, "Min Woo Lee's best tips for maximum pound-for-pound power." The article was written by Luke Kerr-Dineen.

Sahith Theegala

Things To Know

- SAH-hith thee-GAH-luh
- Featured in the latest season of Netflix's Full Swing, an immersive documentary that follows life on the PGA TOUR. Season Three features returning favorites and new faces offering a look on and off the course across a relentless 2024 season.
- Earned his first career PGA TOUR title at the 2023 Procore Championship, becoming the second Indian golfer to win on the PGA TOUR (Arjun Atwal/2010 Wyndham Championship).
- His unique swing is completely built on feel and athleticism, and his signature head move on the downswing isn't on purpose. Theegala has scoliosis, a sideways curvature of the spine, which has always forced him to make a different motion than his peers (sees a chiropractor regularly, who specializes in scoliosis treatment).
- Both parents moved to the U.S. from India. Every two years, his parents took Sahith and his brother, Sahan, to India to visit Sahith's paternal grandparents. Sahith recently made the trip to India following the 2024 Baycurrent Classic.

Background

- Is of Indian descent but was born in the U.S. (Orange, California), grew up in Chino Hills, California, and attended college at Pepperdine (Malibu, California).
- Grew up playing El Prado Golf Courses in Chino, California, a 36-hole facility open to the public. One perk of playing tournaments was that it allowed him to play on better golf courses.
- Won the 2004 Junior World Championships (6 and Under Division) at Presidio Hills Golf Course in San Diego, California at age six, without ever practicing. Later won the 2006 Junior World Championships (7-8 Division) at Singing Hills Golf Resort, as well as the 2008 Junior World Championships (9-10 Division) at Welk Resort San Diego. Notably won the 2004 Junior Worlds playing cross-handed.
- For Murli Theegala, Sahith's father, ensuring Sahith reached his potential was easy, because Sahith always wanted it for himself and always loved playing from an early age. "He fell in love with it immediately. I don't know what excited him, but he was so excited," Murli recalled. "He'd keep practicing until the night and it gets dark, and I remember a few times him crying, 'I don't want to go home,' but I said, 'It's dark, buddy, we've gotta go home.'"
- Runner-up finisher to future PGA TOUR winner Joaquin Niemann at the 2015 Junior World Championships at Torrey Pines.
- Graduated from Diamond Bar (California) High School in Diamond Bar in 2015. Notable alums from the school include four-time MLB All-Star Jim Edmonds (Class of 1988) and retired women's soccer player Alex Morgan (Class of 2007), who won an Olympic gold medal in 2012, as well as the 2015 and 2019 FIFA Women's World Cups as a member of the United States Women's National Team.
- As a senior, was the top player on the No. 1-ranked Pepperdine team in 2020 when the NCAA canceled the spring season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He had the option of returning to Pepperdine as a "super senior," but he elected to turn pro. He had already used a redshirt year, and playing one more season at Pepperdine would have made him a sixth-year player. A year later, in June 2021, Pepperdine won the NCAA Championship.
- Won the 2020 Haskins Award, the Jack Nicklaus Award and the Ben Hogan Award representative of college golf's top player. Became only the fifth player since the creation of

all three awards to sweep collegiate golf's Player of the Year honors. Represented the U.S. at the 2018 Arnold Palmer Cup in Evian-les-Bains, France.
- Cited his wrist injury sustained in 2019 as a big reason for his success as a senior. Redshirted that season and didn't play golf. "It gave me a different perspective on life itself. For so long, I've been chasing golf, and all of a sudden . . . I hurt my wrist pretty bad and couldn't play a tournament for 10 months. So I was away from the thing that I've been doing my whole life, and it was really cool to see that no matter what, I had a good support system of family and friends behind me backing me."
- Reached as high as No. 3 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking prior to turning pro.
- Remembers putting on his 72nd hole at the 2020 Procore Championship -- which he played as a sponsor exemption -- as a turning point. He knew a top-10 would get him a start in the next event, and he left his birdie putt short. "I think the stakes got to me a little bit in that moment, and I didn't hit the putt." Had he made the putt, he would have tied for ninth. Instead, he tied for 14th and didn't receive the automatic exemption into the next tournament. "I was nervous on that putt, and I just let the moment get to me. It was also a great learning experience."
- Prior to the start of the 2020-21 season, held no status on PGA TOUR-sanctioned circuit. He earned his PGA TOUR card after making four of seven cuts on the PGA TOUR in 2020-21, which qualified him for the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals. Finished 4th and T6 at the last two Korn Ferry Finals events to earn his first PGA TOUR card. [Note: beginning with the 2023 season, the Korn Ferry Tour Finals ceased to award a second set of PGA TOUR cards, with TOUR membership being awarded solely through the season-long Korn Ferry Tour Points List.]
- Recapped his rookie season (2021-22): "It was a dream season. Like I said, the fact that I'm even on the PGA TOUR is pretty absurd ... how cool the PGA TOUR lifestyle is, and how many people you can affect positively and all that stuff. What me and my family have worked so hard for and just the fact that I had a full season, and my only expectation was really to keep my card, and obviously I've blown that out of the water."

Family

- Mother: Karuna (KA-roon-a). Father: Muralidhar, goes by Murli (Mer-lee) for short. Brother: Sahan (su-Hahn).
- Cherishes the financial sacrifices his parents made to allow him to play golf. "I wouldn't say we were in a terrible financial situation, but we were definitely lower-middle class; not a lot of expendable income, and all the expendable income that we had was being spent on my golf. That's something I never take for granted."
- Mom told the New York Times, "Hopefully things work out, and by the grace of God, he'll do wonderful. But I believe that he was born to do something great."

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Used to drive a Volkswagen Passat, but bought a 2020 BMW M5 Competition car (arctic frozen grey) in the fall of 2022. Considers this his "big splurge dream purchase."
- Enjoys playing chess and learned to play as a child but gave up the game for about a decade. Began playing again in January 2019 as a senior at Pepperdine, when he broke his wrist and couldn't play golf for six months, so his teammate Derek Hitchner encouraged him to start competing against him in chess. Theegala recalled, "I thought I'd beat him easily. But he destroyed me, so he kind of got me back into chess."
- Plays video games but only on his PC. "I don't play consoles."

- Fan of Los Angeles sports: Dodgers (MLB), Lakers (NBA), Rams (NFL).
- Considers Kobe Bryant his sports idol. Thought about wearing Bryant's Lakers jersey for a couple of holes during the (college tournament) Southwestern Invitational in Westlake Village, California, but decided not to since he was leading the event. "I was like, I probably shouldn't try and swing with an extra (layer of clothing) on." He put the jersey on after hitting his second shot to the green on the final hole at North Ranch Country Club, and putted out wearing the jersey, paying his respects to Bryant. Bryant's death occurred two days before the tournament, the helicopter crash taking place about a half mile from where Theegala was living, in Calabasas.
- Enjoys the outdoors and has visted many national parks across the country.
- Considers himself a foodie. "I truly enjoy traveling and I'm a big food junkie, so I like trying new foods and just trying to see one or two new places every week." Is always looking for a good Thai food spot while on the road.

Charity

- Picked up his first PGA TOUR victory at the 2023 Procore Championship, the same tournament where he'd made the most birdies the year prior (2022 Procore Championship) that garnered the $50,000 grant from RSM Birdies Fore Love, which he gifted to Butterflies and Birdies. Raising awareness of stillbirths and SIDs (sudden infant death syndrome) and supporting those families who have suffered such loss is central to the mission of Butterflies and Birdies. The organization is founded by one of his Houston-area friends, Matt Eschenburg, who is an instructor at the Summit Golf School at Augusta Pines Golf Club in Spring, Texas.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Is close with his college coach at Pepperdine, Michael Beard; another close friend is former Waves teammate Clay Feagler.
- Carl Smith (caddie) recruited Theegala at Pepperdine while he was the assistant coach. Theegala recalls that Michael Beard and Smith were two of the biggest reasons he wanted to go to Pepperdine, "Smith actually ended up leaving to caddie right before I got there, so it kind of worked full circle that he actually caddied for me in the Korn Ferry Finals, those two final events and got me to the TOUR, so it was pretty cool how that worked out."

Other

- Represents the Los Angeles Golf Club alongside teammates Collin Morikawa, Tommy Fleetwood and Justin Rose in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi. Los Angeles Golf Club was founded by Alexis Ohanian, Seven Seven Six, Serena Williams, and Venus Williams. Limited partners include The Antetokounmpo brothers, Alex Morgan, Servando Carrasco, Michelle Wie West, Tisha Alyn, Carolyn Tisch Blodgett and Shonda Rhimes.
- Made his PGA TOUR debut at the 2017 Genesis Invitational (T49) by winning the The Genesis Invitational Collegiate Showcase. Other winners of the collegiate event include Will Zalatoris (2015) and Scottie Scheffler (2018).

Ren Yonezawa

Matt Wallace

Things To Know

- Won his first PGA TOUR title at the 2023 Corales Puntacana Championship; he had missed the cut in six of his last eight starts prior to the win. Wallace won four times on the DP World Tour -- with three victories in 2018 alone -- prior to his first PGA TOUR victory.
- First season with PGA TOUR membership was the 2019-20 season. Previously earned Special Temporary Membership in the second half of the 2018-19 season off the strength of his T3 finish at the PGA Championship. Wallace finished the 2018-19 season with enough non-member FedExCup points to earn TOUR membership for the 2019-20 season.

Background

- Born in Hillingdon, England. Maintains a residence in London but annually spends January through August in Florida, where he plays and practices out of Medalist Golf Club (less than 15 miles north of Jupiter, Florida).
- Matt learned to play golf with his father, Steve. While his dad would head to the golf club for a drink following his round, Matt would remain outside practicing because he loved the sport so much.
- Comes from a very athletic family, with his parents being physical education teachers. Was good at all sports including high-level cricket, football and rugby. Began taking golf seriously at age 18.
- Played one season at Jacksonville State University (2010-11) in Jacksonville, Alabama, the same school fellow English golfer Danny Willett played collegiately for three seasons (2005-08). Wallace earned two collegiate titles, including medalist honors at the 2011 Ohio Valley Conference Championship, which propelled him to 2011 OVC Freshman of the Year honors.
- Wallace says of his decision to spend a year in the American college system, "Going to America helped my game massively. I went there when I was 20, after two years of not really knowing what I wanted to do. I wasn't a very good player, dabbling in county golf. I was working too, and using the cash to go out partying. My dad told me I needed to find my feet and what I wanted to do. It was hard graft. Workouts at 6 a.m. Classes until 2 p.m. Then golf until 7 p.m. Then repeat every day for three months. But when I came home, I was promoted into England Golf's elite squad. That was special, so I decided not to go back to the States."
- Roughly a year after turning professional in 2012, nearly walked away from golf. Wallace prepared a resume and applied for a job at a sports management agency.
- Began playing the Alps Tour (which feeds into the HotelPlanner Tour, previously known as the Challenge Tour) in 2015 to experience the travel. Won a staggering six times on the Alps Tour in 2016, which earned him membership on the HotelPlanner Tour for 2017.
- Won the 2017 Open de Portugal -- a dual-ranked event for the HotelPlanner Tour (previously known as the Challenge Tour) and DP World Tour -- which earned him fully exempt status on the DP World Tour.

Family

- Father: Steve. Mom: Nikki. Older sister: Ra-sheen.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- He's gotten very into wine and is building his own collection.
- Fan of Formula 1 racing and has been to the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix a few times.
- A Manchester United football fan.

Charity

- Donated half of his 2020 PLAYERS Championship check to First Coast Blessings in a Backpack, equaling to over 4,000 meals for students.
- Donates to a dog rescue charity and the Alzheimer's Society in the UK. He is a Sports United Against Dementia Champion for the Alzheimer's Society.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Close with all of the European guys, especially Tyrrell Hatton and Danny Willett.

Beau Hossler

Things To Know

- The 2025 PGA TOUR season marks Hossler's eighth consecutive season with PGA TOUR membership. Turned professional out of University of Texas in 2016 and earned Special Temporary Membership on the Korn Ferry Tour midway through the 2017 season with a runner-up finish (five strokes behind Aaron Wise) at the Wichita Open -- which he open qualified into. Hossler went on to finish in the top 25 of the 2017 Korn Ferry Tour standings and earn TOUR membership for the 2017-18 season.
- At the U.S. Open in 2022, Hossler was asked what he is most proud of in his career to date: "I'm probably the most proud of my work ethic. The results have been peaks and valleys. I've played some good golf, I've played some really bad golf, but through it all I've really worked hard. I've never lost belief in what I can do. I've been really fortunate to have people around me that know what I'm capable of, and have always helped me and been there for me when I've played well and played poorly. I've always worked hard. When I've played well I've worked hard, and when I've played crappy I've worked hard... just real commitment to getting better. That's never wandered for me."
- Born in Mission Viejo, California, which is less than 30 miles southeast of Anaheim in Southern California. Grew up playing golf at Mission Viejo Country Club, a Robert Trent Jones Sr. design which opened in 1967. The course is where 16-time PGA TOUR winner Mark O'Meara fell in love with the game as a kid. Locals call the course, "Mission Impossible."
- Prepped at Santa Margarita Catholic High School in California. Notable alums of the high school include 2002 Heisman Trophy winner and three-time NFL Pro Bowl selection Carson Palmer (Class of 1998), as well as multi-time NBA All-Star Klay Thompson (Class of 2008). Palmer returned to his alma mater to become its football head coach in December 2024, while Thompson became the first basketball player to have his jersey retired by his alma mater in 2017.
- Played three and a half seasons at University of Texas (2013-16; he enrolled in January 2013, the second half of the 2012-13 season), where he most notably won the 2016 Fred Haskins Award (one of the three national player of the year awards in college golf), in addition to being a two-time All-America First Team selection (2015, 2016) and two-time Big 12 Conference Player of the Year (2015, 2016).
- In 2016, became the fifth University of Texas player to win the Fred Haskins Award, one of three national player of the year awards in college golf. Previous winners of the award were Ben Crenshaw (1971, 1972, 1973), Bob Estes (1987), Justin Leonard (1994), and Brad Elder (1997). Hossler's 2015-16 season featured five collegiate victories, and he finished the season with a 69.73 scoring average.

Background

- Played little league baseball (pitcher and catcher) - which led to his dream of one day playing for the Los Angeles Dodgers - before taking up golf.
- Won the 2011 Junior World Golf Championships (Boys 15-17 Division) at Torrey Pines, finishing two strokes ahead of runner-up finisher Bryson DeChambeau. Other notable players in the field included future PGA TOUR winners Nico Echavarria (T3), Si Woo Kim (6th), Adam Svensson (T10), the late Grayson Murray (T10), Xander Schauffele (T14), and Jake Knapp (T21). A year later, finished runner-up to Rico Hoey at the 2012 Junior World Golf Championships (Boys 15-17 Division).

- Qualified for back-to-back U.S. Opens in 2011 (Congressional Country Club) and 2012 (The Olympic Club) while still in high school. At the 2012 U.S. Open, a 17-year-old Hossler became the youngest player to make the cut at a U.S. Open in the post-World War II era. Hossler eventually finished T29, with Jordan Spieth finishing two strokes ahead of him to take low amateur honors.
- As a first-year member of the PGA TOUR in 2018, said of his 2012 U.S. Open experience: "There are plenty of people who still recognize my name from that. I'm very fortunate to have had that experience, and it's helped me with exposure for sure. But the biggest challenge has been to make sure that doesn't become the defining moment of my golf career."
- Finished second at the 2012 California Interscholastic Federation Boys Golf Championship; he finished one stroke behind individual state champion Austin Smotherman, a Class of 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour graduate.
- Defeated three future PGA TOUR winners in match play en route to victory at the 2014 Western Amateur. Defeated TOUR winner C.T. Pan in the Round of 16, Doug Ghim in the quarterfinals, TOUR winner Nick Hardy in the semifinals, and multi-time TOUR winner Xander Schauffele in the championship match.
- Joined an illustrious list of past winners of the Western Amateur in 2014. Past champions of the event include Jack Nicklaus (1961), Andy North (1971), Ben Crenshaw (1973), Curtis Strange (1974), Hal Sutton (1979, 1980), Phil Mickelson (1991), Justin Leonard (1992, 1993), and Tiger Woods (1994).
- Won back-to-back Southern California Golf Association Amateur Championships in 2013 and 2014. Earned the 2013 title with a three-stroke victory over runner-up Xander Schauffele. A year later, Hossler and Schauffele met in the championship match of the California Amateur Championship, with Schauffele taking the state amateur title at La Costa Resort & Spa in Carlsbad.
- Decorated amateur career also included a victory at the 2016 Jones Cup Invitational, an elite amateur event contested annually at Ocean Forest Golf Club in Sea Island, Georgia. Other champions of the event include Justin Thomas (2012), Corey Conners (2014), Akshay Bhatia (2019), Davis Thompson (2021), and Ludvig Aberg (2021).
- Played through a torn labrum in his left shoulder at the 2016 NCAA Championship (contested at Eugene Country Club in Oregon), with the injury occurring on the 15th hole of his semifinal match against Andrew Levitt of University of Southern California. Hossler closed out his match with a chip-in birdie at the par-3 16th (for a 2-up lead), and a par save from a greenside bunker (using a putter from the bunker) on the par-4 17th, helping Texas defeat USC and advance to the championship final. The injury sidelined Hossler for his final match, which Texas had to forfeit due to a substitution rule which has since been changed. Oregon defeated Texas, 3-2, and won the national title. The Longhorns' lineup featured Scottie Scheffler -- who won his match against Aaron Wise in the championship round -- Doug Ghim, and Taylor Funk, son of eight-time PGA TOUR winner Fred Funk.
- Shortly after the 2016 NCAA Championship, had surgery to repair the torn labrum (left shoulder) he sustained in the semifinals, which sidelined him for four months. Hossler forewent his final season of eligibility at Texas and turned professional a month later (July 2016), but the recovery timeline left him unable to compete in Q-School (which at the time was the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament and only offered varying levels of Korn Ferry Tour status) and delayed the start of his professional career.

Family

- Parents are Amy Balsz and Beau Hossler Sr.; he has one sister, Danielle.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Favorite baseball team is the Los Angeles Dodgers (MLB). Said he was more nervous watching the Dodgers in Game 7 of the 2017 World Series (lost to the Red Sox) than playing in the final group of the Shriners Children's Open the same week in his third start as a TOUR member.
- Donut connoisseur. His go-to donuts are old fashioned glazed and maple bar.
- Said the key to effective cardio is Game of Thrones and/or Master Sudoku puzzle.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- As a junior golfer, worked with famed instructor Jim Flick, who was inducted into the World Golf Teachers Hall of Fame in 2002, followed by the PGA Golf Professional Hall of Fame in 2011. Beau's father, Beau Hossler Sr., Googled "Best golf instructors in Southern California" and discovered Flick. Hossler and Flick worked together for six years (ages 11-17 for Beau), until Flick passed away in 2012 (at age 82) after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Hossler said Flick was "like a grandfather to me." Flick famously attended Wake Forest University on a basketball scholarship and spent six months of his sophomore year as Arnold Palmer's roommate. Flick most notably coached five-time PGA TOUR winner and former world No. 1 Tom Lehman, in addition to working with Jack Nicklaus during his time on PGA TOUR Champions. Flick once said about Hossler: "He's kind of like Tim Tebow. He doesn't look so good practicing, but once the tournament starts, he's a gamer."
- Represented the United States at the 2012 Junior Ryder Cup at Olympia Fields Country Club. Teammates on the U.S. team included PGA TOUR winners Cameron Champ and Scottie Scheffler.
- Teammates in his three and a half seasons at Texas (2013-16) included multi-time PGA TOUR winner Scottie Scheffler (2014-16 -- two seasons), TOUR winner Cody Gribble (second half of 2012-13 season), Doug Ghim (2014-16 -- two seasons), and Kramer Hickok (2013-15 -- two and a half seasons).
- Played under longtime Texas men's golf head coach John Fields, who said of Hossler in 2016, "Beau is blessed with incredible physical ability, but he's also extremely intelligent. I think he gets his fire from his dad and his relaxed state that you guys saw from his mom. It's so exciting to be able to coach someone like Beau. He also puts the work in -- there is no possible way that he could have achieved this type of success without an incredible work ethic. I see that every day, whether it's in school or golf. He has brought that level of intensity to our team and has benefited his teammates."
- Alongside Bryson DeChambeau and Denny McCarthy, helped the United States win the 2014 Eisenhower Trophy in Japan. The Americans earned a two-stroke victory over a Canadian team featuring PGA TOUR winners Corey Conners, Taylor Pendrith, and Adam Svensson.
- Represented the United States at the 2015 Walker Cup, becoming the first Walker Cup player from University of Texas since Jordan Spieth in 2011. Hossler's teammates on the U.S. squad included Bryson DeChambeau, Denny McCarthy, and Maverick McNealy. Hossler and McNealy also helped the United States win the 2015 Arnold Palmer Cup.
- Good friend of Kacy Clemens, son of baseball great Roger Clemens; they attended Texas together.

Other

- First appearance in a PGA TOUR event outside the major championships came at the 2012 AT&T National, contested at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. Hossler was

a sponsor exemption, and other notable sponsor exemptions that week were Patrick Cantlay and Jordan Spieth. The event was won by Tiger Woods.

- Finished in the top 10 (T7) of the 2011 Junior PLAYERS Championship. Previously competed at the 2010 Junior PLAYERS as well.

Alex Smalley

Things To Know

- Member at Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, North Carolina, host of the Wyndham Championship. Finished T29 at the 2021 Wyndham Championship competing on a sponsor exemption, securing a spot in Korn Ferry Tour Finals, and earned his PGA TOUR card for the 2021-22 season through KFT Finals.
- Member of the United States team at the 2019 Walker Cup, helping lead the U.S. to victory with a 3-1 record. Teamed with fellow PGA TOUR member Brandon Wu to win both Foursomes matches. Other teammates at the 2019 Walker Cup included PGA TOUR member Akshay Bhatia.
- Graduated from Duke in 2019 with a degree in Environmental Science. Named the 2019 Atlantic Coast Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year. Graduated as Duke's career scoring leader with a four-year stroke average of 71.32.

Background

- Was a four-year letterman at Duke. In 2019, represented the U.S. at the Walker Cup, becoming the second Blue Devil in history to play in the tournament (Dick Siderowf: 1969, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979).
- Made history at Duke, holding school records at the time of his graduation for lowest career scoring average, lowest single-season scoring average, most top-five finishes and most sub-70 rounds.
- Won the Sunnehanna Amateur (Johnstown, Pennsylvania) in back-to-back years (2018 and 2019), becoming the first player to do so since Rickie Fowler (2007 and 2008). His 2019 win was a five-shot win over PGA TOUR University alum Garett Reband. He won in 2018, beating another University of Oklahoma product Quade Cummins.
- Was the 2019 ACC Scholar Athlete of the Year. Carried a 3.6 GPA during his four years, graduating in Environmental Science that same year.
- Was medalist at the 2016 U.S. Amateur at Oakland Hills, defeating Dawson Armstrong and Gavin Hall. His 7-under 133 in stroke play tied him at the time for the second-lowest 36-hole medal-play score in U.S. Amateur history (132 by Hank Kim in 1994, Gregor Main in 2011, Bobby Wyatt in 2012 and Wilson Furr (2020). In match play, lost to Dylan Meyer in the round of 32.
- Was born in Rochester, New York, where his father was attending the University of Rochester. Grew up in Wake Forest, North Carolina, attending Wake Forest High School.

Family

- Parents are his father, Terry, and mother, Maria. Both have caddied for their son. Has one sister, Katie. Maternal grandparents, Mike and Ruby Lyons, are big supporters who often travel to watch him play.
- Terry is a research assistant professor at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He earned his bachelor's from West Liberty State, his master's from Wake Forest and his Ph.D from the University of Rochester.
- Terry worked as a scientist in the private pharmaceutical industry until turning to education. He is an organic/medicinal chemist. His background includes synthetic organic chemistry and medicinal chemistry.
- Maria received her Ph.D from Duke in 1995.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Likes classic rock and roll and loves to go to Disney World.

Charity

- With the winnings of The Challenge at the 2022 Travelers Championship, chose Duke Children's Hospital-Birdies for Babies as the recipient of the $10,000 donation.
- Became the second official ambassador for First Tee (first: Austin Smotherman).

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Among former Duke players playing on PGA TOUR-affiliated Tours, including Ryan Blaum, Adam Long, Wes Roach and Kevin Streelman.

Other

- At the LOCALiQ Series event at Callaway Gardens Resort in Georgia in the summer of 2020, shot a second-round (54-hole event) 60, setting an 18-hole record on that circuit. Made seven consecutive birdies at one point (Nos. 15-3), including a 7-footer at his closing hole, No. 9, to secure the 60.
- Grew up playing Heritage Golf Course in Wake Forest, North Carolina. Shot a 60 there during the junior club championship, but he called the 60 he shot in the 2020 LOCALiQ Series' tournament a better round of golf because it was a course with which he was unfamiliar and he made nothing but birdies as opposed to two eagles when he was a junior.