Report (11 players)

Cameron Young

Things To Know

- Earned his first PGA TOUR title at the 2025 Wyndham Championship, posting a dominant six-stroke victory (the largest margin of victory at the event since 1961) to become the 1,000th unique winner in PGA TOUR history. Prior to his victory, Young earned seven runner-up finishes on TOUR, which were the most by a player without a TOUR victory since 1983. Young said of the win, "It feels like a long time coming. I felt like for the first year and a half that I was out here I had a chance to win every third week. It's not like a burden that I hadn't won. It was more just... when is it going to be my time here, because it just felt like a lot of those tournaments weren't. I started playing worse and the good finishes were less frequent, and I became happier about those good finishes. I kind of took for granted there a minute that I was just going to have a chance to win a lot, and it doesn't have to be the case all the time. I'm thankful I had the one I had today, and very thankful to have gotten it done."
- Followed Lanny Wadkins (1983), Scott Hoch (2001), and Webb Simpson (2011) as the fourth Wake Forest University alum to win the Wyndham Championship. Young was notably a Lanny Wadkins Scholarship recipient in his time at Wake Forest.
- After his 59 in the third round of the 2024 Travelers Championship, Young maintained his usual perspective on both his game and career, saying, "I think there are far more important things to me than what I do on the golf course, and at the same time, I also provide for my family with how I do on the golf course. There's a balance there that you have to be okay with, and there's days that are easier than others... and if you're not doing well, sometimes that can feel pretty bad. Thankful for what I do, and there are more important things to me. A great day, but as long as everybody's not crying at home, I'm okay out here."
- Featured on the cover of Golf Digest in May 2023. Coverage centered around Young's driving power, including a swing analyzation from one of golf's foremost biomechanists, who described Young's powerful backswing as the "perfect, athletic, coiling movement" and, despite being unaware of the fact Young was a talented junior hockey player, noted that "to reach this level, he had to train on slippery or unstable surfaces or play field or ice hockey... that swing makes me think about the fundamentals of a hockey swing adapted to golf.." The biomechanist also made a comparison between Young's backswing and a skater, noting "he's coiling in control, like a skater preparing to tighten the arms to turn faster and jump."
- On what was labeled his "resting grump face" during competition, Young said in the Golf Digest cover story, "People think I'm more upset than I am. I don't smile a ton on the golf course, but that's just my way of keeping myself in a mental headspace where I can do my job. I love golf, and I love playing competitively, but it is a job, and I take it seriously." Will Zalatoris, a teammate of Young's at Wake Forest, added, "He's the grumpiest nicest person I have ever met. He's got a heart of gold--one of my favorite people in the world."
- Says his ideal professional golf group would be fellow Wake Forest University alum Arnold Palmer, because he never had the chance to meet Mr. Palmer, Jack Nicklaus "in his heyday" and Lee Trevino, because he's spent some time with him and finds him hilarious.
- Represents the New York Golf Club alongside teammates Matt Fitzpatrick, Xander Schauffele and Rickie Fowler in TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR which debuted 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. New York Golf Club is owned by Steven A. Cohen and Cohen Private Ventures.

Background

- He was swinging golf clubs as soon as he could stand, but gave the game up at age 4 for roughly two years before returning to it. His father, David, said, "When he couldn't make the ball go far and high like my wife and I, he would get mad. I had to practice and (his mom) Barb wanted to play, so he would have to come out with us, but he would throw rocks or chase frogs."
- Also played hockey and baseball (according to his father, David, Cameron's throwing power was impressive) growing up, but both fell into the background after Cameron made the decision to take golf seriously as a teenager. Cameron dedicated himself to golf because, "I got to know the other top kids that age who played, and I found I took a lot of pleasure in beating them."
- Lived in Garrison, New York, until he was 13 or 14, then moved to Scarborough and onto the property at Sleepy Hollow Country Club.
- Of playing Sleepy Hollow Country Club in his formative golf years, Young says, "If you went and played the golf course, you would understand why I do a lot of what I do. The fairways are pretty wide. A lot of the up-and-downs and putts are tricky, and I'm typically pretty good chipping and lag putting. Growing up on greens like that... I think it just trains your mind to just see some higher lines."
- Was a dominant figure on the Metropolitan Golf Association circuit as an amateur, notably becoming the youngest winner of the Westchester Amateur Championship at age 14 (he won in 2011, and cited it as one of his favorite victories because it was the first one against players who weren't his age), the youngest winner of the Ike Championship (he won as an 18-year-old in 2015, then repeated as champion in 2016), and the first amateur to win the New York State Open in 2017.
- Won the 2017 New York State Open -- contested at the Bethpage State Park Black Course -- and became the first amateur winner in the event's history; he defeated Chris DeForest on the second playoff hole, but could not accept the top prize of $17,500. Cameron said of the money, "Hopefully that check will be a lot bigger someday."
- Played four seasons at Wake Forest (2015-19) as a Lanny Wadkins Scholarship recipient, winning medalist honors at five events (three as a senior in spring 2019, and two as a freshman in fall 2015). He was a 2019 All-America Second Team selection as a senior, and a three-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection (2017-19). In program records dating to 1981, his career scoring average of 71.61 ranked third in school history behind Will Zalatoris and Bill Haas.
- Earned his PGA TOUR card by finishing 19th on the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour Points List (top 25 earned TOUR cards for 2021-22 season), after beginning the season with no Korn Ferry Tour status. He Monday qualified into the 2020 Pinnacle Bank Championship in Omaha, Nebraska and finished T11, then finished T14, T6, and T2 the next three weeks to earn Special Temporary Membership. He received his PGA TOUR card at the 2021 Pinnacle Bank Championship, the 43rd and final regular season event of the Korn Ferry Tour's 2020-21 combined regular season. "Playing in those Monday qualifiers was my plan B for the summer," said Young, who had previously earned fully exempt status for the 2020 PGA TOUR Canada season which was eventually canceled.
- Initially wanted to skip the Korn Ferry Tour Monday qualifier which kickstarted his run to Special Temporary Membership (held July 27, 2020 at Bent Tree Golf Club in Council Bluffs, Iowa), saying, "I was fed up with playing really well and getting nothing for it." His wife, Kelsey, and father, David, convinced him to enter since there was a month until the next

Monday qualifier. He begrudgingly packed, headed to the qualifier and told Kelsey he'd see her in 36 hours. He slept through his alarm and arrived 25 minutes before his tee time, shot an 8-under 64 for medalist honors, and began a run of four consecutive top-25s which led to Special Temporary Membership and kept him on the road for six weeks.

- Received the Arnold Palmer Award for being voted (by the PGA TOUR's membership) 2021-22 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year off the strength of five runner-up finishes and a Presidents Cup appearance. Young, who like Arnold Palmer is a Wake Forest alum, followed college teammate Will Zalatoris as the second consecutive (and all time) Demon Deacon to win the Arnold Palmer Award. Young said upon receiving the award, "It's very special. I know the namesake, Arnold Palmer, was a giant in the game of golf... just to be related to that in some small way is very cool. It's voted by my peers, so it's a huge honor to be thought of in that way."
- Represented the United States as a captain's pick at the 2022 Presidents Cup, where he was one of 14 players (and one of six Americans) who made their Presidents Cup debut. At 25 years and 4 months of age, he was the youngest member of the United States team and third-youngest member of either team (only older than Tom Kim and Sungjae Im). Young was the youngest American to play in a Presidents Cup since 2017, when Daniel Berger, Justin Thomas, and Jordan Spieth all played as 24-year-olds.

Family

- Wife, Kelsey; the two were longtime family friends and wed in March 2021. The couple have two sons -- Henry (December 2021) and John (November 2022), and a daughter, Vivienne (June 2024).
- Young says his perfect golf group would include his father, David, and his sons -- Henry and John -- when they're teenagers.
- Father, David, is a PGA of America Professional who retired after a 21-year run as the head professional of Sleepy Hollow Country Club in Scarborough, New York in fall 2022. David's first job out of college was working in the bag room at Sleepy Hollow. He also caddied for Cameron in the first two rounds of the 2019 U.S. Open, his first major championship appearance. Cameron beat David for the first time when he shot a 68 at age 12. In 2016, David (54 at the time) and Cameron both advanced from a U.S. Open local qualifier.
- David graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in aerospace engineering and initially went there with plans of designing "the next generation of fighter jets... until I discovered exactly what that entailed." Played golf his senior year when he decided to pursue a career as a golf professional as opposed to an aerospace engineer. David said he was "a decent player, but not the kind of player that was going to make a living playing" and that he enjoyed helping other people with their games.
- Mother, Barbara, is an outstanding player in her own right and briefly pursued a professional golf career of her own. Barbara said of her short stint in professional golf, "I found out quickly I wasn't good enough or tough enough." Shortly after she gave up playing professionally, Barbara operated a women's mini-tour for 13 years.
- Barbara took great pride in being "the family caddie" since she was 14 years old, beginning with her sister, Marjorie, then her husband, David, and finally for Cameron. Barbara frequently caddied for Cameron in his amateur career, with her notably being on the bag for his win at the 2015 Ike Championship, several U.S. Amateur Championships, and the practice rounds of the 2019 U.S. Open. A 2013 news story cited her as Cameron's "caddie, nutritionist, and taxi driver, putting 100,000 miles on the family car last summer."
- Aunt, Marjorie Jones (mother's sister), is the Director of Instruction at The Shore Club in Cape May Court House, New Jersey. Marjorie played professionally in both the United States and Europe prior to becoming a teaching professional.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Developed the pronounced pause at the top of his backswing as he began to climb the junior golf ranks. According to his father, David, Cameron wanted to eliminate any re-routing or sideways movement of the club in transition, hence the pause. It was Cameron's way of ensuring the club started down in the direction he wanted. Cameron says he doesn't even notice the pause anymore. The pause became more and more pronounced through the years, and it is noticeably longer than it was during his college years at Wake Forest.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- One of four active PGA TOUR members who played collegiately at Wake Forest. The group includes former teammate Will Zalatoris, Bill Haas, and Webb Simpson.
- College teammates with Will Zalatoris for two and a half seasons at Wake Forest (2015-16, 2016-17, and fall 2017). The two were frequent roommates on the road for tournaments, especially Young's freshman season. KEY CONTEXT: the two never actually lived together, and while the two were great teammates who frequently played and practiced together, they did not spend much time together away from the course.
- Zalatoris once recalled a story about Young's prodigious talent at Wake Forest, where they were teammates for two and a half seasons: "We had a kid come in for a recruiting trip and at Old Town where we play, 1, 2, and 3 ends right by the first tee, and so he caught up with us on 4. And he made six 3s in a row... literally changing the shoes out of his trunk of his car, hopped out, eagled the first, chipped in on the second for birdie, made a mistake and made par on No. 5 and then I think he chipped in one more time and made a couple 20-footers. And that's just Cam. Didn't hit a single ball warming up, didn't hit a single putt, made six 3s and (said), 'Let's go grab dinner.'"
- Maintains a relationship with his head coach from Wake Forest, Jerry Haas. The two are also connected by the fact they both won back-to-back events on the Korn Ferry Tour, with Haas accomplishing the feat in 1994, followed by Young in 2021.
- Played with Sam Burns and Davis Riley on the 2014 Junior Ryder Cup team. Young and Riley were paired together for a match and notched a 1-up victory.
- Represented the United States at the 2014 Junior Golf World Cup contested just outside of Nagoya, Japan. Roughly a month after his 17th birthday, Young helped the United States earn a silver medal, tying for second and finishing behind a Norway team led by Viktor Hovland, who turned 17 roughly three months after the event.
- Qualified for match play at five U.S. Amateur Championships (2014-17, 2019) and faced a handful of notable opponents. Reached the quarterfinals in 2014 and lost to eventual champion Gunn Yang. The following year, Young defeated Yang in the Round of 64, then fell to Jon Rahm in the Round of 32. In 2016, Young defeated Scottie Scheffler in the Round of 64, but fell to eventual champion Curtis Luck in the Round of 16. In 2017, lost to future PGA TOUR winner Robert MacIntyre in the Round of 64.
- Played the 2019 The Genesis Invitational Collegiate Showcase at Riviera Country Club alongside fellow Wake Forest alum Bill Haas.
- Played with Alex Fitzpatrick, younger brother of Matt Fitzpatrick, for the 2018-19 season at Wake Forest. Cameron was a senior, while Alex was a freshman.

Other

- Won the 2013 Polo Golf Junior Classic, an AGJA event contested at PGA National Resort in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, which annually hosts the Cognizant Classic in The Palm

Beaches. The opposite half of the match play bracket included Scottie Scheffler and Sam Burns.

- Played The Old Course at St. Andrews in 2010 as part of a golf trip with his parents when he was 13 years old. They played "eight or nine courses in six days." Cameron remembers playing The Old Course, The New Course, Kingsbarns Golf Links, Carnoustie Golf Links, Gullane Golf Club, and Crail Golfing Society. Cameron distinctively remembers his father asking permission to play The Old Course from the back tees, so when they went out for their first tee shots, several R&A members were watching, though Cameron was unaware of them. His father, David, recalled how it rained for four days and Cameron wore David's rain jacket, which went down to his knees. David said of the memory, "I'm thinking, after this trip, this kid is never going to want to play golf again. It did just the opposite. It got him excited about it. He decided golf was going to be his main sport, and he started working hard at it."

Hideki Matsuyama

Things To Know

- Claimed his 11th PGA TOUR title at the 2025 Sentry. Recorded the lowest score in relation to par since the start of the 1983 season (35-under par) and set new tournament scoring record with 257 total.
- The 2022 Sony Open in Hawaii marked his eighth PGA TOUR title, tying K.J. Choi for most wins by an Asian-born player. Matsuyama usurped Choi with his victory at the 2024 Genesis Invitational, which marked his ninth PGA TOUR win.
- Following his bronze medal-winning performance at the 2024 Paris Olympics, made his sixth consecutive appearance for the International Team at the 2024 Presidents Cup in Montreal, Canada.
- In April 2021, became the first Japanese player to win a men's major championship when he won the Masters Tournament.
- Following his victory at the 2021 Masters, Matsuyama was the recipient of the Prime Minister's Award; he received the Certificate of Commendation from Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. Inscribed on the Certificate of Commendation include the following text: We hereby honor you and your achievement that has greatly contributed to the promotion of sports in Japan, conveys the importance of perseverance to our people, and provides dreams and hopes that are truly remarkable.
- Turned professional in 2013 and was the first rookie to lead the Japan Golf Tour money list, as he won four times on the circuit in 2013. Prior to his rookie season on the Japan Golf Tour, won on the circuit as an amateur in 2011.
- Was a student at Tohoku Fukushi University in Sendai, Japan when the city was devastated by an earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, but was in Australia training at the time. Returned to find his dorm room destroyed and struggled to find food. A few weeks later, made his debut at the Masters having won the Asian Amateur. He was the first Japanese amateur golfer to play in the Masters.

Background

- Born: February 25, 1992 in Matsuyama, Ehime, Japan
- Was introduced to golf at age 4 by his father, Mikio. His father took him to the driving range with him one day and Hideki told him "I want to hit a ball too." Mikio cut down a secondhand 9-iron and gave it to Hideki, but it was still too long for a 4-year-old boy, so Mikio had to teach Hideki how to stand steadily over the ball and help him with his posture.
- First broke 100 when he was in 2nd grade competing in the first tournament he ever played in, the "Shikoku Junior."
- When Hideki was in 4th grade, his father qualified to play in the Chushikoku Open and asked for permission to have Hideki be his caddie. Mikio wanted to show his son the "strong play" of good players up close, but even more important than showing him their swings, he wanted him to see firsthand how they handled the mental part of the game. Mikio saw this as "mental training" for Hideki. After being advised by Coach Akio Takahashi of Meitoku Gijuku Jr./Sr. high school in Kochi prefecture, Hideki transferred there in search of a better golf environment.
- College: Tohoku Fukushi University in Sendai, alma mater of fellow professionals Hiroshi Iwata and Yusaku Miyazato. Hideki planned on turning pro right after high school, but as a senior in high school (after losing in the third round of the Japan Amateur Championship) Coach Abe from Tohoku University came to his home in Ehime and told him he could become

a mediocre pro now if he wanted to, but if he really wanted to have an active career as a pro, he needed to practice more first. That's when he decided to attend college and play for Coach Abe.
- Hideki's family wasn't wealthy, and they would rarely be able to go to the range. But because Hideki was so captivated with golf, his father decided that he himself would try and become a better golfer in order to help teach Hideki how to play better. He would practice in local competitions and eventually joined a club and would go there often, always taking Hideki with him. Hideki would sit and practice his approach shots while he waited for his dad to finish. This gave Hideki the chance to polish his short game. Consequently, Hideki's favorite club growing up was his sand wedge. "When I was a junior I was always small and couldn't hit the ball very far, but I loved hitting onto the practice greens and approach greens with my sand wedge. I always had my sand wedge. Ironically, now its one of my worst clubs (laughs)." Mikio's practice eventually paid off and he was able to qualify for the Japan Amateur Championship at the age of 52.
- Growing up, if someone gave him a toy to play with, he would immediately get bored with it and just give it away to a friend. But for some reason, even as a kid that never obsessed over anything, he never got tired of golf. "My memory is a bit rusty, but I remember when I was just starting out I'd hit like 1,300 balls a day. I have no idea why I thought that was even fun. But I guess because I had no idea then may be why I am still doing the same thing now."

Family

- Married his college sweetheart Mei in January 2017 and welcome a baby girl Kanna in July of that year.
- When questioned about his personal life during the 2017 PGA Championship, he had this to say: "No one really asked me if I was married, so I didn't have to answer that question. But I felt that after the PGA would be a good time, because our baby is born and I thought that would be a good time to let everyone know."

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- He enjoys watching baseball, especially Japanese players. Admires baseball players: Yu Darvish, Shohei Ohtani, Kenta Maeda.
- Likes playing catch (baseball) and table tennis during his free time.
- Brings a rice cooker wherever he goes, so he always has rice balls and bananas in his bag. His now former caddy (Daisuke Shindo) introduced him to beef jerky, which he now really likes a lot as well. The one food he brings with him back from Japan is "Uruki" soy sauce. It's brewed in Ehime near his grandparents home (about an hour away from his parents house). Whenever he would go and visit his grandparents he always knew they were getting close when he could smell the aroma of the soy sauce being made nearby.
- When he goes home to Japan, he likes to fish. "I caught a 12-pound Hamachi (yellowtail) when I was 10 years old. Twelve pounds isn't that big, but it is for a 10-year-old. It's my fondest memory of fishing with my grandparents. I might have had bigger ones after that, but that is one I'll never forget."
- He started using an interlock grip during his junior year in high school. He also used interlock when he was younger but then switched to overlap. He eventually returned to interlock on his own because he felt overlapping was making him turn the ball over too much.
- Known to use Srixon balls marked with the number 78. He uses the number 78 because it was his player registration number when he won the 2021 Masters.

- He wears five-toe socks during his competition rounds, while training and during other athletic activities. In the past, with normal socks, there have been times when his toenails have cut into his skin causing him to bleed.
- Big foodie and loves Sake.
- Interested in photography.

Charity

- "Matsuyama Foundation" For Tohoku earthquake support. Launched prior to the 2013 President's Cup. 1 birdie = 10,000JPN (~$100); 1 eagle = 20,000JPN (~$200) Also donated his President's Cup participation fee ($150k) to earthquake relief

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- After former caddie Daisuke Shindo retired from full time caddying in 2018, Hideki's good friend and college teammate Shota Hayafuji began looping for him during the 2019 season. The two have known each other since junior high school in Japan and attended the same high school and college. Shota himself went viral after famously grabbing the pin flag on 18, removing his hat and bowing to Augusta National in a show of respect. My heart was full of gratitude and it was the natural thing for me to bow and show respect to the Masters," Hayafuji said through interpreter Bob Turner. "I was saying 'Thank you very much!' I bowed to the course mainly because I was thankful. I wasn't thinking about doing it and it just happened -- like an instinct," he said.

Other

- Represents Boston Common Golf alongside teammates Rory McIlroy, Keegan Bradley and Adam Scott in TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR which 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. Boston Common Golf is owned by John Henry, Tom Werner, Mike Gordon and Fenway Sports Group.
- Finished T4 at the 2020 Olympic Games (July-August 2021) in his home country of Japan. Did not compete in 2016 in Rio. Claimed the bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Wyndham Clark

Things To Know

- In April 2025, Wyndham partnered with the Colorado Golf Association to host a new AJGA event -- The Wyndham Clark presented by Colorado Golf Association. The inaugural playing of the event was June 3-6, 2025 at Walnut Creek Golf Preserve in Westminster, Colorado (less than 20 minutes northwest of Denver).
- Clark was inducted into the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame on December 1, 2024, alongside six others - including LPGA star Jennifer Kupcho. The year 2024 marked the 50th anniversary of the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame, and the inaugural 1974 inductee class was highlighted by World Golf Hall of Fame member Hale Irwin, who was 29 when he was enshrined.
- With his win at the 2023 U.S. Open, became the first Colorado native to win a men's major championship.
- After winning the 2023 Truist Championship - his first career victory on TOUR - he credited his improvement to a change in the mental aspect of his game, saying "Mentally, I'm a lot stronger... I'm more patient out there and more comfortable playing." He attributed that change in mentality to reading books and meditation. He highlighted "The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work and Team with Positive Energy" by Jon Gordon and "The Obstacle is the Way" by Ryan Holiday as two of the books that impacted him. The solo 54-hole leader, Clark fell into second place during the final round, before recovering for a four-shot victory. Following the win he said "I felt like in the past, it always seemed so tough for me on Sundays. Today I wouldn't let my mind go in that direction. I just kept reminding myself that I could play great golf and I could play good golf on Sundays."
- Mother, Lise (pronounced Lisa) Clark, died from breast cancer in August 2013 after first being diagnosed in 1997. Following his win at the 123rd U.S. Open in June 2023, Wyndham said he felt like his mother was watching over him. "You know, my mom was so positive and such a motivator in what she did... She called me winner when I was little, so she would just say, 'I love you, Winner.'"
- Uses a ball marker that says "Play Big" and has prayer hands along with the date of his mother's passing (August 2, 2013) inscribed on one side. On the other side is inscribed "John 16:33," referencing this biblical passage: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
- Does not have a coach. "I worked with some great coaches and they were very good at what they do, but I didn't know where the ball was going and I didn't own it. So when I decided to go on my own -- I do work a little bit with my caddie, but typically it's on my own -- I learned about my game and my swing, and that's what I did when I was younger. I knew how to hit shots and I got away from that when I was with a coach."

Background

- Resides in Scottsdale, Arizona. First moved to Las Vegas for 2.5 years after turning professional and played a lot with residents Scott Piercy and Ryan Moore who gave him valuable advice.
- Born and raised in Denver, Colorado.
- His mom, Lise (pronounced Lisa), took him to the driving range for the first time when Wyndham was just 3 years old. "I hit a bucket of balls and asked to hit another bucket," Wyndham recalled. Lise Clark remembered an elderly gentleman asking how long her son had been playing the game. She said, "30 minutes," to which the man replied, "Don't change his swing."

- At 6 years old, young Wyndham made his first hole-in-one. "I hit a driver from 125 and made it," Clark said. "I actually got on the front page of the Denver Post. I have that framed." His father told him that he'd buy him a PlayStation if he made eagle, and he paid up.
- Won the prestigious Byron Nelson International Junior Golf Award in 2012.
- Attended Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, where he won Class 4A individual state titles in 2009 and 2011. Clark was also a two-time runner-up finisher at the state championship tournament. In 2009, Clark led Valor Christian (established in 2007) to its first state team title in any sport. Clark also played basketball at Valor Christian.
- Following his mom's death, Wyndham fell into a deep depression at Oklahoma State and received a medical hardship after playing in two events during his freshman year; remained at Oklahoma State for three more seasons before transferring to Oregon (2016) for his senior year for a change in scenery. He has called then Oklahoma State Head Coach Mike McGraw "like a father figure to me, especially during that time." After his mother passed away, Clark said "Coach McGraw had the wisdom to just -- he could see that it was affecting me so much more and the golf was where it was coming out. I didn't show any emotion off the course, but when I was on the golf course I couldn't have been angrier. I was breaking clubs when I didn't even hit that bad of a shot. I was walking off golf courses. He said, 'Hey, I think it's just best if you step away from golf.' At first I really was mad. I'm competitive. I didn't want to not play, and I thought it was bad if you redshirted, that you weren't good enough. But it was also the best thing for me. I owe Mike a lot for that."
- Longtime men's golf head coach Casey Martin was a big reason why Clark chose to transfer to Oregon; he credits Martin with his return to high-level golf after struggling. "He instilled that I was one of the best players in the world, and he goes, 'You're good enough to play on [the PGA TOUR] but also in college and win.' Then I had my best year ever. He instilled the confidence in me that maybe I lost."
- Pac-12 Conference Player of the Year for the Oregon Ducks in 2016-17, with three individual victories and 10 top-10 finishes in 11 starts. He shot 69 or better in 18 of 28 rounds that season, including all three rounds of the 2017 Pac-12 Championship held at Boulder Country Club in Boulder, Colorado, which he won. He was also named a finalist for the Ben Hogan Award. Clark finished his collegiate career as a winner of Player of the Year awards in two different leagues: Big 12 Conference Player of the Year at Oklahoma State (2014) and Pac-12 Player of the Year at Oregon (2017).

Family

- After his mother's death, Clark contemplated quitting the game. "It just wasn't as much of a priority for me after she passed," he said. "It got to where it was really hard and just not enjoyable. But I know that she wouldn't want me to do that. ... She's really helped me get through a lot of tough things since she's passed. I want to honor her and honor what she wanted me to do and try to make her proud."
- Father is Randall; has one brother, Brendan, and one sister, Kaitlin
- His parents got married at The Riviera Country Club, host of The Genesis Invitational.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Loves fishing, fly fishing and ping pong. "My favorite passion is to fly fish. I grew up in Colorado, so I love to fish. So if I do have more than a week, and I can go back home or go do some trip, I'll do that. Kramer Hickok and I kind of started this little mini tradition that every year after the playoffs, we go do a fishing trip."

- Big sports fan. Specifically, his teams are the Denver Broncos (NFL), Colorado Avalanche (NHL) and St. Louis Cardinals (MLB).
- Wyndham's favorite food is sushi. "I love sushi. I think all sushi tastes amazing, and then it's just how good is the sushi. "
- Participated in a hometown sports tour with his U.S. Open trophy when he attended the Denver Nuggets vs. New York Knicks matchup on March 21, 2024 and the Colorado Avalanche vs. Columbus Bluejackets game on March 22, 2024. Photos can be found on his Instagram.

Charity

- Launched his foundation "Play Big Foundation" in January 2024 and will focus on giving back to families affected by cancer. "I really want to focus on the families, give to them and try to help them in any way I can. Then the overall breast cancer awareness for research." An additional small portion of the funds will benefit young, underprivileged kids, who are interested in playing the game of golf. "I'm really excited about this foundation. Every year I'm going to be giving a good portion of money I earn on the golf course to the foundation. In the future, I hope we're going to have a golf event that's going to be very fun. It could be in Vegas or Arizona or maybe back in Colorado -- or do two events. So hopefully we'll raise a ton of money and continue to grow this foundation so that we can go and really impact people's lives. ... I want (the kids) to be involved in the actual golf event, and I want to hopefully be able to do clinics and whatnot. Then I'll ultimately give a financial donation to these organizations. That's the smaller portion of it, but it's definitely part of it."
- After the outpouring of love and support at the 2024 BMW Championship in Colorado, Wyndham announced on Instagram that he would donate $50,000 to local Colorado charities and cancer nonprofits through his PLAY BIG Foundation. Wyndham wears pink on Sundays in remembrance of his mom, and asked the crowd to sport their pink as well to celebrate his late mother and all those that have been affected by cancer.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Was close with Jordan Spieth during junior golf days and visited the University of Texas together where Spieth tried to sell Clark on attending with him. Clark eventually decided on Oklahoma State.
- Attended Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado with San Francisco 49ers running back and 2023 NFL Offensive Player of the Year Christian McCaffrey. The two became close friends (through Christian's brother, Max, who graduated the same year as Wyndham) and remain in contact. The two were in a fantasy football league together named High School Heroes before Christian turned professional. Wyndham is still in the league and finished second following the 2023 NFL season.
- Played high school basketball against Derrick White, an NBA point guard and member of Team USA at the 2024 Paris Olympics. The two met up on the Team USA boat at the Opening Ceremonies in Paris. Derrick and Wyndham have known each other since they were nine or 10 years old. The two played basketball against each other - Wyndham on Cherry Creek and Derrick played for the Dolphins. They were both point guards and would guard each other.
- Attended the 2007 PGA Championship at Southern Hills, where he watched Tiger Woods compete for the first time.

Other

- Represents The Bay Golf Club alongside teammates Ludvig Aberg, Min Woo Lee, and Shane Lowry in 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 owned by a group led by Avenue Sports Fund with Marc Lasry (former co-owner of the Milwaukee Bucks), Stephen Curry and limited partners including Andre Iguodala, Klay Thompson, Alex Albon, Leonardo Fioravanti, Kanoa Igarashi and John Stones
- Represented the United States at the 2023 Ryder Cup and 2024 Olympic Men's Golf Competition in Paris.
- Featured in Season 3 of Netflix's Full Swing, an immersive documentary series which followed life on the PGA TOUR across the 2024 season.
- Asked once if it was an advantage or disadvantage growing up in Colorado as a golfer, Clark replied: "I think it's a disadvantage, personally. Because you don't ever really play at altitude at any of these events. The most you play at is maybe 1,000 feet. I think growing up in Colorado, not only are you playing different distances, but the ball actually spins less and is affected by the air less. So the ball goes straighter and doesn't go offline as much. When you go play in Florida or other places where the air is thick, your misses are exaggerated a lot more. I think that's definitely a disadvantage."
- Aced the long par-3 17th at Kiawah Island's Ocean Course during a practice round at the 2021 PGA Championship. It was the first time Clark had played the hole.

J.J. Spaun

Things To Know

- Received an autographed skateboard from Tony Hawk in the weeks following his victory at the 2025 U.S. Open. Also received congratulatory messages from comedian George Lopez and professional baseball player Mookie Betts, among many others, following the U.S. Open victory.
- Earned his second PGA TOUR title at the 2025 U.S. Open at Oakmont Country Club, sinking a 64-foot, 5-inch birdie putt on the 72nd hole of regulation to clinch a two-stroke victory. Became the first player since Webb Simpson (2012) to win the U.S. Open in his second start at the event (previously missed cut at 2021 U.S. Open, contested at Torrey Pines). Spaun bogeyed five of his first six holes in the final round, then (after a mid-round suspension of play due to inclement weather) rallied to victory with a 3-under 32 on the back nine.
- Three days after his victory at the 2025 U.S. Open, told media members at a Travelers Championship press conference his golf career embodied a Confucius quote. The quote Spaun referenced is: "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but rising every time we fall."
- Following a missed cut at the 2024 RBC Canadian Open in early June, stood No. 183 in the FedExCup. With the potential of losing PGA TOUR status looming, Spaun adopted a more thankful mentality with regards to his career, which he expanded on following his victory at the 2025 U.S. Open. "I just started saying... I'm just happy to have the career I've had. That kind of took a lot of pressure off my back as far as expectations on the golf course." Spaun later drew inspiration from the 2004 movie Wimbledon, which he watched on an international flight in December 2024. Spaun said of the movie, "It was this... not washed up but like older tennis player and he's thinking of quitting, he wants to retire at Wimbledon, and he wins Wimbledon. And it kind of resonated with me... you can't give up yet. I was watching it and was like, 'Maybe that can be me.'"
- Spaun was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes at the end of 2018 after unexplained weight loss and fatigue impacted him throughout the year. After nearly three years of exercising and adjusting his diet, Spaun still felt lethargic and kept losing weight (by that point he had lost nearly 50 pounds), which led him to a specialist. In February 2021, Spaun learned he was misdiagnosed, as he was actually type 1, late onset. Spaun said, "When I got re-diagnosed -- and diagnosed correctly -- it gave me new life. I started to feel better, started to keep weight on, get muscle mass back." Spaun is approved by the TOUR to wear a Libre blood-sugar monitor and check his levels while competing. If his blood sugar is low, he can faint. If it gets too high, his vision starts to blur.

Background

- Grew up playing Arroyo Seco Golf Course, a par-3 course in South Pasadena, California.
- Attended San Dimas High School in San Dimas, California, the same high school that Bill and Ted attended in the movie "Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure."
- Played four seasons at San Diego State University (2008-12), where he was credited with five collegiate wins, earned two All-America honors, and was named the 2012 Mountain West Conference Golfer of the Year.
- While at San Diego State University, the men's golf team annually worked at the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines, with team members cleaning shoes of the TOUR pros in the locker room to raise money for the program. Spaun recalled, "It was good memories to go from cleaning shoes to now playing in the tournament."

- Spaun detailed his journey to professional golf throughout the week of his runner-up finish at the 2025 PLAYERS Championship, saying, "I didn't have the pedigree of a junior golfer growing up. I wasn't raised or groomed to be a professional golfer. I walked on to a California state school (San Diego State University). I kind of blossomed as I took on this journey... I didn't know what my ceiling was. If you were to say before I turned pro, 'Hey, you're going to win a PGA TOUR event and you're going to play nine, 10 years out there, you're going to make some good money, and you're going to have fun doing it,' that would be a great accomplishment in my terms."
- Turned professional in 2012 and spent his first three professional seasons on PGA TOUR Canada (2013-15), eventually finishing atop the 2015 Order of Merit for a promotion to the Korn Ferry Tour. Spaun needed only one season on the Korn Ferry Tour to earn PGA TOUR membership, as he finished in the top five of the 2016 Korn Ferry Tour standings to earn his TOUR card.
- After a No. 174 finish in the 2020-21 FedExCup standings, regained PGA TOUR membership for the 2022 season via the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals (a system which, from 2013-22, awarded a second set of 25 PGA TOUR cards through a season-ending series of three or four events featuring the top 75 players from the Korn Ferry Tour Points List and Nos. 126-200 from the FedExCup standings). Spaun regained his TOUR card with a T2 finish at the Albertsons Boise Open (the first of three Finals events that year) in August 2021, and earned his first PGA TOUR title less than six months later at the 2022 Valero Texas Open.

Family

- He and wife, Melody have two daughters, Emerson Lili (November 2020) and Violet (June 2023).
- According to J.J., his mother's side of the family is predominantly half Filipino and half Mexican.
- Mother, Dollie. Father, John.
- When Dollie was pregnant with J.J., she asked her doctors if she could still play golf. They approved, so Dollie got her exercise playing rounds at Arroyo Seco, a par-3 course in South Pasadena, California. She played until she was eight months pregnant. Dollie says, "People would always tell me that my son was going to be a golfer when he grew up." Dollie also recounted, "(J.J.) used to watch TV as a little kid and he'd tell me, 'Mom, I don't want to watch cartoons. I want to watch Golf Channel.'"
- As a baby, J.J. would watch from his stroller as his father, John, hit range balls. When J.J. was old enough to walk, he'd go into the family's garage and hit whatever he could into a hitting net (balls, tees, even sockets from the toolbox) John had hung up. Following his victory at the 2025 U.S. Open (on Father's Day), J.J. said, "My dad introduced me to the game and always supported me every step of the way. What better gift to give him than being able to win the U.S. Open." John was on site and following J.J. the entire week at Oakmont.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Huge Los Angeles Dodgers (MLB baseball) fan. He played with Mookie Betts at the 2022 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.
- Grew up skateboarding and dreamt of becoming the next great skateboarder, with his icons being Tony Hawk, Andrew Reynolds, and Erik Ellington. Around the time he was five years old, a skating accident led to Spaun to rethink his dream. Spaun recalled, "I kind of went right under this car (reversing down a driveway) and literally was sitting under it. The lady thought she ran over a cat. Everyone is screaming, dad pulls me out, I have all this grease and oil all

over me. That freaked me out. I definitely had scar tissue on what I was trying to accomplish skateboarding." Spaun continued to skateboard and, in April 2020, he landed a backside flip and posted the video to his social media channels, explaining it was "at least 15 years since I've landed one of those." Although he will occasionally "cruise around the neighborhood" on his longboard, Spaun essentially gave up skateboarding in his early 30s, saying, "Falling now is like falling off a 10-story building."
- Plays the guitar and has an interest in music. Can play Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven" on the guitar. Previously used custom Led Zeppelin headcovers early in his professional career.
- Previously a season-pass holder for Disneyland. His trips to Magic Kingdom typically began with a ride on the Pirates of the Caribbean attraction.
- He had a practice putting and chipping green installed in his backyard.

Charity

- Finished second in the 2018 RSM Birdies Fore Love competition, allowing him to donate the $150,000 prize to charity. He selected Los Angeles United Way to support Disaster Relief and Creating Pathways out of Poverty Funds.
- At the 2020 Travelers Championship, won The Umbrella at 15 1/2 (15 and a half) Challenge. The annual closest to the pin contest awards a $10,000 charitable contribution to a charity of the winner's choosing. Spaun chose Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (now known as Breakthrough T1D), which, according to its website, aims to "lead the way to more effective solutions by connecting the brightest minds to advance treatments, influence policy, and improve access to care." Upon learning of Spaun's choice for the donation, Andy Bessette (at the time an Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer for Travelers) introduced himself and told Spaun his son had been diagnosed as Type 1 before college. This led Bessette and his wife, Cherrie, to match Spaun's donation to what is now known as Breakthrough T1D.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Friendly with fellow multi-time PGA TOUR winner Max Homa, as the two are both members at Whisper Rock Golf Club in Scottsdale, Arizona.
- Played the 2016 Genesis Invitational as the recipient of the Charlie Sifford Memorial Exemption.

Akshay Bhatia

Things To Know

- NOTE: please do NOT mention or reference Akshay's physical attributes, specifically weight or build. This is a sensitive topic for him and his family. From Akshay's agent: OK to reference him "pound for pound one of the best athletes/longest hitters on the PGA TOUR".
- Won his first PGA TOUR title at the 2023 Barracuda Championship (defeated Patrick Rodgers in a playoff) while playing the TOUR via Special Temporary Membership. Bhatia began the 2022-23 season with fully exempt membership on the Korn Ferry Tour, and later joined the PGA TOUR via Special Temporary Membership following a runner-up finish at the 2023 Puerto Rico Open.
- On whether he reached the PGA TOUR earlier or later than he would have liked after he turned professional at age 17, Bhatia says, "You want to succeed early, but sometimes that's not the best thing. I've learned so much. I've gotten to play with some of the best players in the world. I've had to deal with so many downs, but doing it at 17 versus 23, 24 out of college is a big difference, because I've learned in the three and a half, four years I've played professional golf what it takes to get it done. I feel like I'm ahead of the schedule."
- Made his first PGA TOUR-sanctioned start as a 17-year-old amateur in March 2019 at the Valspar Championship (sponsor exemption, missed cut). A month later, he Monday qualified into the Korn Ferry Tour's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship (finished T42).
- Akshay proposed to his girlfriend, Presleigh Schultz, in the Napa Valley Wine Country and announced on Instagram on Sept. 10, 2023.
- At the 2019 Walker Cup, Bhatia, 17 years old at the time, became the first golfer still in high school to represent the United States, as well as the youngest American player in Walker Cup history. Prior to Bhatia, the youngest American Walker Cupper was Jordan Spieth, who played less than two months after his 18th birthday in 2011. Bhatia went 2-1 and the United States won by five points. Teammates at the 2019 Walker Cup included PGA TOUR members Brandon Wu and Alex Smalley, and Cole Hammer.
- Turned professional at age 17 and signed an endorsement deal with Callaway following the Walker Cup in September 2019. Akshay finalized his decision to eschew college just prior to the NCAA recruiting contact period for high school juniors. On forgoing college and the criticism of his pathway to pro golf he said, "In a way, it was hard not to go to college. You want to win a national championship for the school, your team, yourself. People say it's some of the best four years of your life. But a lot of people say you take the criticism... you want to prove them wrong."
- Akshay admitted in a self-authored Golf Digest story published in 2022 he turned pro "thinking I was ready, but I was wrong." Akshay made his professional debut in September of 2019 at the Sanderson Farms Championship, but missed the cut in his first five PGA TOUR starts (all via sponsor exemptions), had spent a lot of money on travel expenses, and burnt himself out by January 2020. Amid the shutdown stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, Akshay began working with a new coach (Chase Duncan, who operates out of North Carolina State University's Lonnie Poole Golf Course in Raleigh) and a mental coach, both of whom helped Akshay realize much of professional golf is failure, and that it's important to accept and learn from failure, which ultimately helped Akshay mature.

Background

- Goes by "Shay" among his family and friends.

- Born in Los Angeles, California but considers Wake Forest, North Carolina (roughly 20 miles north of Raleigh) his home, as Akshay's parents, Sonny and Renu, moved the family there in 2012 and wanted to raise their children outside of chaotic Los Angeles. Sonny first thought of moving the family there after Akshay and his older sister, Rhea, played in the 2009 U.S. Kids Golf World Championships at Pinehurst. Sonny said, "It just felt right. I thought, wouldn't it be great to come back and live here?"
- Akshay's love of golf began after the family's move from Los Angeles to Wake Forest, North Carolina in 2012. Akshay recalled how he once woke his father up in the middle of the night with a question, "Dad, how do I become the best player in the world?" Sonny told Akshay that to be the best he had to be the first one on the course and the last one to leave. Sonny said in an interview years later, "And that's exactly what he does. He practices and works on his game non-stop. Absolutely non-stop."
- Grew up five minutes from The Country Club at Wakefield Plantation, formerly home to the Korn Ferry Tour's UNC Health Championship in Raleigh, North Carolina. Other professional golfers who practiced there while Bhatia was growing up included Chesson Hadley, Carl Pettersson, Cameron Percy and the late Grayson Murray.
- Participated in the inaugural Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals at Augusta National Golf Club in 2014. At 12 years old, Bhatia finished sixth place overall for the boys 12-13 age group after sinking his 15-foot putt attempt. Became the first Drive, Chip and Putt National Finalist to compete in the Masters with his Masters debut in 2024.
- Went the traditional educational route until middle school, after which he was home schooled (with online courses) and earned a high school diploma in 2019. He noted, "I get a better understanding when I do it on my own versus trying to listen in a classroom where it's dead silent." When he attended traditional elementary school, Akshay typically wore golf clothes to school so he could go straight to the course afterwards.
- As a junior golfer, regularly played in tournaments against older kids and wasn't a long hitter, which forced Akshay to get creative. He often got around forced carries by playing to other tee boxes and frequently hit driver off the deck.
- Climbed into the top five of the World Amateur Golf Ranking prior to turning professional and was the 2018 AJGA Rolex Player of the Year.
- Represented the United States in its victories at the 2017 Junior Presidents Cup and 2018 Junior Ryder Cup. Also finished runner-up at the 2018 U.S. Junior Amateur, falling 1 up to Michael Thorbjornsen in the final.
- Won silver medals at the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics in the boy's individual and mixed team with Lucy Li, now an LPGA player.
- Considers himself very analytical and was introduced to TrackMan when he was 14, 15 years old.
- Won the 2019 Jones Cup, an amateur tournament at Ocean Forest Golf Club in Sea Island, Georgia, in February. Defeated future PGA TOUR member Davis Thompson in an impromptu sudden-death playoff, as the 54-hole tournament's final round was cancelled due to heavy rain. Past champions of the annual event include Corey Conners (2014), Justin Thomas (2012).
- Played numerous Monday qualifiers for PGA TOUR and Korn Ferry Tour events prior to earning Korn Ferry Tour membership for the 2022 season.
- Earned enough non-member FedExCup points on the PGA TOUR during the 2020-21 season to play the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals. Playing the three-event series earned Bhatia an exemption to Final Stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, but he finished T63 and failed to improve his conditional status for the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season.
- Won first career start as a Korn Ferry Tour member (and fifth overall start) at the 2022 The Bahamas Golf Classic with a tap-in birdie on the 72nd hole; he hit the flagstick with a pitching wedge from 156 yards out, ultimately stopping the ball inches from the cup. At 19 years, 11

months, and 19 days old, he became the third youngest winner in Korn Ferry Tour history, only behind Jason Day (19 years, 7 months, 26 days at 2007 Legend Financial Group Classic) and Sungjae Im (19 years, 9 months, 17 days at 2018 The Bahamas Golf Classic). Three weeks before the win, Akshay dislocated his shoulder playing pickleball, and doctors advised him to delay the start of his season.

Family

- Akshay says his family "sacrificed a normal family life, but we believed it was worth it." His father, Sonny, stopped working to travel with Akshay throughout his junior golf career, while his mother, Renu, continued to work to support the family and Akshay's career. Family time was still sparse at home due to Renu's long working hours; she was at one point in time working two jobs. Akshay says, "One day, I'll repay my mom."
- Father, Sonny (Sunil), traces his roots to Delhi but grew up in London; he previously ran a real estate business. Sonny is blind in one eye, a result of a tumor which he had removed. Part of the reason behind the family's move to North Carolina in 2012 was the convenience of accessibility to top doctors and medical facilities in the area.
- Mother, Renu, organizes golf outings and trips. She grew up in Hong Kong.
- Older sister, Rhea, played college golf at Queens University in Charlotte, North Carolina. Akshay said he got his start in golf after watching her play. The two played together countless times as kids. They are four years apart in age.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Loves Korean barbeque, Indian food, and reviewing pizza.
- Not a huge sports fan and does not watch a lot of live sports, but attended some Lakers (NBA basketball) games when the family lived in Los Angeles and admired Kobe Bryant and the Mamba Mentality.
- Enjoys bowling.
- Especially interested in cars.
- Started YouTube channel in 2023, sharing personal and professional vlogs from life on the PGA TOUR and highlights at courses he plays in his free time.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Admired Rickie Fowler as a young golfer. He even attended the 2014 TOUR Championship at age 12 and bought an orange headcover as a nod to Fowler.

Other

- Quail Hollow is one of his favorite golf courses, and the Truist Championship) ranked very high on his personal list of PGA TOUR tournaments he looked forward to playing.
- On playing the PGA TOUR, Bhatia says, "I've dreamed about playing the PGA TOUR. I don't thrive off of anything but winning golf tournaments and being the best player in the world. I think the PGA TOUR has the best platform... everything they're doing to help the TOUR grow, the players grow, that's something I want to be a part of."
- His T9 at the 2020 Procore Championship (when he was 18 years, 7 months, 14 days old) made him the youngest player to record a top-10 in a stroke-play event on the PGA TOUR

since Justin Rose finished solo fourth at the 1998 The Open Championship, which concluded 11 days before Rose's 18th birthday.

- Bhatia has some interesting recent history at Torrey Pines, making the cut at the 2021 U.S. Open, which was his major championship debut. Bhatia, 19 years old at the time, played the third round with a marker (Jason Gore) and the final round with Patrick Rodgers. Gore is now the Chief Player Officer at the PGA TOUR, and Bhatia defeated Rodgers in a playoff at the 2023 Barracuda Championship to earn fully exempt membership on TOUR.

Alex Noren

Things To Know

- Missed the first five months of the 2025 season as he recovered from a tendon tear in his right hamstring on the sit bone, which he sustained while warming up for the season-opening Sentry in Hawaii. Made his return to professional golf at the 2025 Truist Championship in May, with Noren saying of the injury and recovery, "It's a bad injury, but you can still live quite a normal life because you have two other tendons that support it. But I couldn't swing a club. I couldn't jump or run. The bad part of it is that it takes a long time to heal, and it was 90 percent torn. I had that 10 percent left to make it heal back so I didn't have to have surgery. If it was actually torn, I would not play right now."
- During a seven-month stretch without a worldwide start from October 2024 through May 2025 -- the first three months were his natural offseason, while the latter four months were spent recovering from injury -- spent time coaching his daughter Iris' youth softball team. Noren said, "It was awesome, the best thing I've ever done. You're so stuck in your own golf world all of the time, it's good to step out of it. For some, they couldn't hit... and then by the end of the season they could hit, or they hit a home run. And it's amazing."
- Developed a reputation as one of the hardest workers in professional golf, which was cemented as a photo of his calloused hands, first shared by fellow Swede Kristoffer Broberg after a practice session in December 2017. Noren, who will sometimes wear two gloves during practice sessions to better protect his hands, later said of the photo, "It's a mix of hard training and dedication -- but also a lot of anxiety. They wouldn't look like this if I hit it like Rory McIlroy. I need to hit a lot of balls to be competitive, and maybe the club slides around a little bit [in my grip], maybe there's friction, I don't know." Noren recalled how, after the photo spread across social media, Tiger Woods, one of his golfing idols, approached him in the locker room and asked to see his hands. Noren said of the interaction, "I showed him and he goes, 'Yeah, not too bad,' and I was like, 'There we go, finally somebody who's not impressed by my hands or not disgusted by them.'"
- Is really into sports car racing. Big fan of Top Gear, an automotive entertainment show produced by BBC. Noren says if he wasn't a professional golfer, he would want to be an F1 driver.
- Born in Stockholm, Sweden, and Noren still maintains a residence there with wife, Jennifer, daughter Iris (March 2016) and son Roy (December 2018). Noren is known by his peers as a true family man, spending any spare time he has with them.
- Also has a home in Jupiter, Florida and practices out of The Bear's Club.
- Turned professional in 2005 and earned status on the Challenge Tour for the 2006 season. Finished in the top five of the Challenge Tour rankings as a rookie to earn a promotion to the DP World Tour for the 2006-07 season. Won nine times on the DP World Tour, most notably the 2017 BMW PGA Championship, prior to earning PGA TOUR membership for the first time for the 2017-18 season.
- Represented Sweden for a second time at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Previously competed at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Background

- Noren first tried golf at age 4 and started playing at Haninge Golf Club. Made his first hole-in-one at age 12. Played a lot of soccer and floorball growing up, but focused solely on golf by age 16.

- As a 14-year-old, he won the unofficial Swedish Youth Championship, Foreningsbanken Cup, at his age level. At 15, he attended the Swedish upper secondary sports school, to combine studying with golf training. He was also employed as a junior editor at Svensk Golf, the official magazine of the Swedish Golf Federation.
- Played four seasons at Oklahoma State University (2001-05), where he earned a 2005 All-America Third Team selection as a senior. Notably finished solo second at the 2005 Big 12 Conference Championship, finishing six strokes behind individual medalist Anthony Kim.
- Represented Europe at the 2004 and 2005 Arnold Palmer Cups. Helped Europe win the event in 2004 at Ballybunion Golf Club in Ireland, but fell to the United States at Whistling Straits in 2005. European teammates included Francesco Molinari (2004) and David Skinns (2005).
- Represented Sweden at the 2004 Eisenhower Trophy (World Amateur Team Championship) at Rio Mar Country Club in Puerto Rico. Noren helped Sweden finish third, only behind Spain and the winning United States team.
- Helped Europe win the 2018 Ryder Cup by seven points at Le Golf National in France, notably posting a singles victory over Bryson DeChambeau.

Family

- His wife, Jennifer, was born in Stockholm and studied at Stockholm University, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Management and Marketing. Created a podcast named OPodden, which aimed to inspire women, and interviewed some of the most successful Swedish women.
- Parents are Yvonne and Sven-Olov. Has one brother, Andreas.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Huge Curb Your Enthusiasm fan and would love to meet Larry David.
- Fan of tennis and Roger Federer.
- Dedicated to his fitness and is very regimented in his routine.

Charity

- Involved in the Swedish charity Children's Rights in Society (BRIS), a children's helpline in Sweden. Their benefitting golf tournament raises over 100,000 euros.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Played his entire collegiate career under legendary Oklahoma State University head coach Mike Holder. Across his 32 seasons (1973-2005) as Oklahoma State's head coach, Holder led the program to eight national championships.
- Teammates in his four seasons at Oklahoma State included six-time PGA TOUR winner Hunter Mahan. The two were teammates for the 2001-02 and 2002-03 seasons.

Other

- Noren endured a significant injury in his left wrist and was out of play for most of 2014. At that point, he was breaking into the top 50 in the world and then dropped to 700 after his injury. He gradually climbed his way back into the top 10. Noren credits much of his

comeback to his wife and their daughter. Noren himself admits that the birth of Iris shifted his perspective: "Fatherhood gave me something extra in life," he said.

Scottie Scheffler

Things To Know

- Following a seven-win 2024 season, has six wins in 2025, joining Tiger Woods (1999, 2000, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009) as the only other player since 1983 to record six-plus wins in multiple TOUR seasons. Scheffler's wins in 2025 included a victory at his hometown event (THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson), a successful title defense at the Memorial Tournament presented by Workday, major championship victories at the PGA Championship and The Open Championship (third and fourth major championship titles, respectively), and a FedExCup Playoffs victory at the BMW Championship. Followed Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods as the third player in the modern era to earn 15-plus PGA TOUR wins and three-plus major championships prior to turning 29 years old. Also followed Woods as the second player in history to win consecutive titles at the Memorial Tournament (2024 and 2025 for Scheffler; 1999, 2000, and 2001 for Woods).
- Following his victory at the 2025 Open Championship, Scheffler said of his priorities in life, "My faith and my family. Those come first for me. Golf is third in that order. I've said it for a long time, golf is not how I identify myself. I don't identify myself by winning tournaments, chasing trophies, being famous or whatever it is. I try to live as normal of a life as possible because I feel like a normal guy. I have the same friends I had growing up. I don't think I'm anything special just because some weeks I'm better at shooting a lower score than other guys are." Scheffler added, "It's something I actually talked to Shane (Lowry) about this week... just because you win a golf tournament or accomplish something, it doesn't make you happy. Maybe for a few moments, maybe for a few days, but at the end of the day, there's more to life than playing golf."
- In his pre-tournament press conference at the 2025 Open Championship, spoke openly about what does and does not fulfill him in life, saying, "To win the (CJ CUP) Byron Nelson at home, I literally worked my entire life to become good at golf to have an opportunity to win that tournament. You win it, you celebrate, get to hug my family... it's such an amazing moment. Then it's like, 'What are we going to eat for dinner?' Life goes on. This is not a fulfilling life. It's fulfilling from the sense of accomplishment, but it's not fulfilling from a sense of the deepest places of your heart. That's something I wrestle with on a daily basis. We work so hard for such little moments. I love playing golf. I love being able to compete. I love living out my dreams. I love being a father. I love being able to take care of my son. I love being able to provide for my family out here playing golf. Every day when I wake up early to go put in the work, my wife thanks me for going out and working so hard. When I get home, I try to thank her every day for taking care of our son. This is not the end all be all. This is not the most important thing in my life. I'd much rather be a great father than I would a great golfer."
- On where his trophies and awards are displayed at home, Scheffler says, "I have a room in my house called 'The Golf Room,' and that's where all my crap goes. Literally. It's just a room full of all my golf junk. I've got some trophies in there as well... I'd like to say that (The Golf Room) is nicely presented, but it's not."
- Following his victory at the 2025 PGA Championship, said of playing golf, "When I think about the game of golf, my favorite thing to do is... when I can be by myself and I can just practice, it's one of the most fun things for me. It's so peaceful, and I love the pursuit of trying to figure something out. That's what I love about this game. I feel like you're always battling yourself, and you're always trying to figure things out. And you're never going to perfect it. In golf, there's always something you can figure out, there's always something you can do better. It's a great challenge, and it's a lot of fun."

- Earned his 14th PGA TOUR title at the 2025 CJ CUP Byron Nelson, where he previously made his PGA TOUR debut as a 17-year-old amateur in 2014. Scheffler tied the lowest 72-hole score in PGA TOUR history (31-under 253), equaling Justin Thomas (253 / 2017 Sony Open in Hawaii) and Ludvig Aberg (253 / 2023 RSM Classic). Said of winning the event, "This tournament means a lot to me. I grew up coming here to watch. It's very special to have won this tournament. It's really fun to be able to play here in my hometown, in front of the hometown fans. This was my first start on the PGA TOUR when I was in high school. The girl I was dating at the time (Meredith) is now my wife. We have one son. My sister (Callie) was caddying for me at the time; she was here today, she has two kids. We have a lot of great memories as kids coming to watch this tournament. I just dreamed to be able to play in it, and it's more of a dream to be able to win it."
- Played the 2014 CJ CUP Byron Nelson via a sponsor exemption as a 17-year-old amateur, finishing T22 with sister Callie on the bag. Carded an ace in the third round, holing his tee shot with a 5-iron from 221 yards at TPC Las Colinas. The high school grad was heading to the University of Texas later that summer to embark on his college career. Asked about not receiving the $50,000+ that would have come with his finish, Scheffler joked: "Jordan (Spieth) told me I would be mad when I get down to Austin next year and I don't have any money. I guess I'll be mad then. I'm not too upset right now."
- Following the 2024 PGA TOUR season, was named PGA TOUR Player of the Year for a third consecutive season (2022-24), following Tiger Woods as the second player in history to earn the accolade in three straight seasons. Scheffler was surprised with the award in December during a FedEx charity event at a local PGA TOUR Superstore, where he and wife Meredith hosted the Dallas-based charity, Behind Every Door. In honor of Scheffler's historic year, which saw him win the 2024 FedExCup title, FedEx donated $50,000 to the non-profit, as it is close to the Scheffler's heart. Behind Every Door is committed to creating pathway opportunities of hope for individuals to realize their God-given potential, fostering lasting change in their lives and communities.
- Reached No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career on March 27, 2022 after winning the World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play. At just 25 years old, he became the sixth-youngest player to reach No. 1 since the OWGR was established in 1986.
- On becoming World No. 1: "It's not something that I didn't want to achieve or didn't believe that I could do. I grew up wearing long pants to go practice because I wanted to be a professional golfer. That's what I dreamed of. I dreamed of being out here. I've always been, I would say, fiercely competitive, and so for me getting out here was a goal per se, and being out here, I like competing and I enjoy the challenge of playing out here every week. The rankings never really crossed my mind. It was always just about being out here and competing."
- Returned to the Player Advisory Council (PAC) in 2025, having previously served on the 16-member council in 2024. The PAC advises and consults with the PGA TOUR Policy Board (Board of Directors) and Commissioner Jay Monahan on issues affecting the TOUR.

Background

- Born in Ridgewood, New Jersey; moved Dallas when he was six.
- Was a Ewing Automotive North Texas PGA Junior Tour member from 2002-2010, competing in 136 tournaments and winning 90 (66.2 percent). Often played in the older divisions, which included players such as Jordan Spieth.
- Attended Highland Park High School in Dallas and won three individual state titles in golf - the only other person to have done that was Jordan Spieth. Notable alumni of Highland Park

include Super Bowl champion quarterback Matthew Stafford, World Series champion pitcher Clayton Kershaw, and Pro Football Hall of Fame members Bobby Layne and Doak Walker.
- Won the 2013 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship, defeating Davis Riley in the championship match, and was named the 2013 AJGA Rolex Junior Player of the Year.
- Played collegiately at the University of Texas from 2014 to 2018, where he helped the team win three Big 12 Conference Championships and was named Freshman of the Year in 2015; member of U.S. Walker Cup Team in 2017. At UT, was teammates with future PGA TOUR members Beau Hossler, Kramer Hickok and Doug Ghim.
- After turning professional in 2018, competed on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019 and earned two victories en route to being named the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year. Within the next two seasons, Scheffler was named 2020 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year and represented the United States at the 2021 Ryder Cup.
- Breakout season on the PGA TOUR was the 2021-22 season, when he won his first four PGA TOUR titles in a span of six starts, including his first major championship title (2022 Masters Tournament). Scheffler was named 2022 PGA TOUR Player of the Year at season's end and set the single-season earnings record with $14,046,910 (previous record was held by Jordan Spieth, who amassed $12,030,465 in 2014-15).
- Became the first back-to-back winner of THE PLAYERS Championship (2023, 2024) in the 50th playing of the tournament.

Family

- Married to high school sweetheart, Meredith Scudder. The pair first crossed paths at Highland Park High School in Dallas, where they began dating as seniors. They stayed close despite attending different colleges - he at University of Texas and she at Texas A&M. The couple wed in December 2020 in a winter wonderland-themed wedding. Meredith was unaware of Scottie's fledgling golf career until 2014, when he received a sponsor exemption into THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson: "We were hanging out with her dad and (THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson) commercial came on TV. And she was kind of looking around, she was like, 'Wait a minute. Isn't that next weekend? Isn't that what you're doing?' And I was like, 'Yeah, that's what I'm doing.' She's like, 'Wow, that's cool.'"
- Scottie and Meredith welcomed their first child -- a son, Bennett (Bennie) -- in May 2024.
- Father, Scott, played high school basketball at the same school Vince Lombardi attended -- St. Cecilia High School of Englewood, New Jersey. Mother, Diane, went to high school with and was friends with the late James Gandolfini at Park Ridge High School in Park Ridge, New Jersey. While Scottie was growing up, Scott was a stay-at-home father for four Scheffler children while Diane was (and still is) Chief Operating Officer at a law firm.
- Three sisters: Callie, Sara and Molly. Callie played golf at Texas A&M.
- Scottie says of his parents and sisters: "A lot of my personality probably comes from my dad. My dad is fiercely competitive like I am. My parents, they made a lot of sacrifices to put me in a position where I'm able to do this for a living, and they made a lot of sacrifices when I was a kid. My sisters as well. They've seen a lot of golf tournaments in their lifetime, probably a lot more than they've wanted to. I'm very grateful for the sacrifices they made and obviously had such a huge impact on my life."
- Grandmother, Mary DeLorenzo, lives in the greater Jacksonville area and was notably in attendance for wins at the 2022 Arnold Palmer Invitational and 2023 PLAYERS Championship.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Makes himself coffee every morning at home in Texas (double shot of espresso with a little honey and cinnamon), but does not drink coffee prior to tournament rounds, and only occasionally before practice rounds. Scheffler developed his at-home coffee routine in summer 2022, when he bought an espresso machine and taught himself how to use it.
- Basketball; excellent shooter but was small (5-2) in seventh grade so focused on golf. Loves to play pickup basketball.
- Wearing the Green Jacket, threw out the first pitch at a Texas Rangers-Houston Astros MLB game on April 27, 2022. In addition to meeting players and coaches, he and wife Meredith were both presented personalized Rangers jerseys. "I love Dallas. It's my home. It's probably where I will live the rest of my life. I don't root for any teams outside of Dallas. We grew up going to a lot of Mavs games in high school and I've become a bigger Rangers fan in the last couple of years. A lot of my buddies from college love the Astros, so it's fun to be a Ranger fan. We have a good rivalry. Hopefully, the Rangers start winning some championships."
- Pickleball. Scheffler teamed up with Jordan Spieth on October 13 of 2022 in Frisco, Texas for the Celebrity Battle of the Paddle against Dallas Mavericks legend Dirk Nowitzki and American tennis star John Isner. Despite a massive disadvantage in reach - Nowitzki and Isner are listed at 7-feet and 6 feet 10 inches tall, respectively, with wingspans to match - Spieth and Scheffler held their own and flashed some skills before ultimately losing 11-6.
- During the 2023 TOUR Championship, announced his co-ownership of the Texas Ranchers, one of the eight founding Major League Pickleball (MLP) teams in the U.S. Pickleball is one of Scheffler's favorite activities outside of golf. Other notable Texas athletes investing in this new venture include Dallas Cowboys star Micah Parsons, Houston Texans quarterback C.J. Stroud, and former Texas A&M standout Myles Garrett.

Charity

- Close to a non-profit -- Triumph Over Kid Cancer -- founded by his late friend James Ragan who was from Corpus Christi, Texas. The two met while playing on the Texas Legends Tour. Ragan had been diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer, in June 2006, when he was 13. He went on to become a public advocate and fundraising force for pediatric cancer. When Scheffler won the U.S. Junior Amateur in 2013, he choked up during a Golf Channel interview when asked about Ragan. Scheffler said he thought about his friend several times during the final match. Ragan passed away at the age of 20 in 2014.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- At University of Texas, played under longtime head coach John Fields, who took over the program in August 1997. One of the biggest lessons Fields taught Scheffler was staying in the present, with Scheffler explaining, "When I first got to college, I was trying to date this girl whose name was Meredith [now his wife], and I would come out to the course and if she shot me a text or gave me a call, I would pick it up. And I would get a little distracted when it came to practicing. Coach [Fields] sat me down and said, 'Hey, listen, when you're at the golf course, you need to be focused on what you're doing at the golf course. When you're in class, you need to be paying attention in class. When you get to do your social stuff, you need to be present where you are.' It's a daily battle to try and focus on the task at hand... when you're thinking about what you're doing, I think that's when you're living."
- Began working with famed instructor Randy Smith at Royal Oaks Country Club after moving to Dallas around the time he was eight years old. Smith guided Scheffler through the pain and adjustments of going from 5-foot-2 in seventh grade to 6-foot-3 by the time he headed to University of Texas. Smith says of his earliest days with Scheffler: "He hit low and high. Here's

this tiny little kid who could hit every shot. He could shape it, move it, and he was doing it by feel." Smith says Scheffler has a "blue-collar work ethic with an artist's imagination and high intelligence."

- Randy Smith is a PGA of America Hall of Famer. In a career spanning more than four decades, he developed a reputation as the go-to instructor for young players in North Texas, including 12-time PGA TOUR winner Justin Leonard, four-time TOUR winner Ryan Palmer, three-time TOUR winner John Rollins, TOUR winners Harrison Frazar and Cody Gribble, and 2007 U.S. Amateur Championship winner Colt Knost.
- Scottie says one of the most important things Randy Smith taught him was patience, explaining, "When you're younger and things aren't going the way they're supposed to, Randy always did a really good job of reminding me that it was a long journey to become good at golf. You're going to have ups and downs. I wasn't always the best player. I felt like I could be the best player. Randy was always by my side helping me stay patient, and teaching me little things along the way."
- Agent, Blake Smith, is the son of Randy Smith.
- Good friends with Sam Burns, who he faced in the 2023 Charles Schwab Challenge playoff (Burns won). The pair have known each other since they were teenagers, playing AJGA golf events together. Along with spouses Meredith (Scheffler) and Caroline (Burns), the group has vacationed together, including a trip to Greece after the 2022 Open Championship, and are members of the TOUR's Bible study, as faith is a shared foundation of their friendship.
- Scheffler hired veteran Ted Scott to caddie for him starting with the 2021 RSM Classic and won in their fourth official start together at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open -- which was Scheffler's first PGA TOUR title. The two met through a Bible study composed of players and caddies.

Other

- 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.
- During THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2021, penalized himself one stroke for surpassing the three-minute time period (Rule 18.2) allowed in search of an errant second shot on the 15th hole of the opening round. After the round was over, Scheffler talked with fellow competitor Daniel Berger and PGA TOUR Rules Officials to determine what to do. "We couldn't figure it out", Scheffler said. "They didn't have ShotLink data or anything, so just went with it was over 3 minutes. Just too long."
- Won The Genesis Invitational Collegiate Showcase in 2018 as a senior at the University of Texas at Riviera Country Club. Previous winners included Will Zalatoris (2015) and Sahith Theegala (2017).
- Won The East Lake Cup in 2018. The East Lake Cup is a collegiate competition featuring top-performing teams from the NCAA Men's and Women's Golf Championships.
- Played three times in The Junior PLAYERS Championship conducted by the AJGA and played annually at TPC Sawgrass, home of THE PLAYERS: (2011/5th, 2012/T33, 2013/6th).

Sepp Straka

Things To Know

- Earned his fourth PGA TOUR title (and second win of the 2025 season) at the 2025 Truist Championship, contested at The Philadelphia Cricket Club. Straka's win in Philadelphia -- which he referred to as the biggest win in his career -- came roughly four months after his third career TOUR title at the 2025 American Express. Straka's victory also vaulted him into the top 10 of the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career.
- Proud to have made the TOUR Championship in each of the last three seasons, in part because of the tournament's partnership with Coca Cola. Will bring Diet Coke to tournaments if he knows they will only provide Pepsi. After Sepp lost in a playoff to Will Zalatoris at the 2022 FedEx St. Jude Championship, his wife, Paige, joked on Instagram, "I'm not saying he would have won if this were a Coke week, but I'm also not NOT saying it."
- Earned his first PGA TOUR title at the 2022 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, becoming the first Austrian and the 14th player from the University of Georgia to win on TOUR. Wife, Paige, flew in Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. to surprise him, after spending Saturday night at her father's surprise 60th birthday party.
- Was born in Austria and lived in Vienna until he was 14, when his family moved to Valdosta, Georgia. Upon earning PGA TOUR membership via the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour season, became the first TOUR member from Austria.
- Played five seasons (2011-16 -- redshirted the 2013-14 season) at the University of Georgia, and remains a huge Georgia Bulldogs fan. Sepp, who was a team co-captain as a fifth-year senior, says of his time at Georgia, "I definitely had some talent... but very rough around the edges. I just felt like I kept getting better. Had a quick bout with the chipping yips my junior year and redshirted, but other than that, I felt like I just kept getting better."
- Was so discouraged by his rough start to the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour season that by July, he had already registered for Q-School again. He won the following week at the AdventHealth Championship, and eventually secured his PGA TOUR card through Korn Ferry Tour Finals with a T3 finish at the season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship.
- Often plays Yahtzee! with the players he is staying with on the road, including Chris Kirk, Brendon Todd and Denny McCarthy.

Background

- Sepp is a nickname for Josef.

Family

- Sepp and his wife, Paige, welcomed their first child (son, Leo) just before Christmas in December 2023. Sepp left the hospital wearing a Diet Coke hat. The 2024 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, which Sepp won in 2022, was Leo's first trip to a tournament. Second son, Thomas, was born prematurely in August 2025. Straka withdrew from the 2025 BMW Championship due to a "private family matter" and was the only European Ryder Cup team member not to compete at the BMW PGA Championship, which allowed him to dedicate time at home to his family.
- Married Paige Dean (an Auburn graduate) the weekend before the start of the new season. The couple got engaged in December 2020 and were married on September 11, 2021 at Shoal Creek in Alabama. Georgia friends in attendance included UGA head men's golf coach Chris Haack, Keith Mitchell and Chris Kirk. Paige was certain she'd marry an Auburn man, but

met Sepp at a bar in Auburn in November 2017 only to learn he was a UGA fan and the rest was history!
- His mother, Mary, first traveled to Austria to be with her boyfriend, who was designing a golf course in Salzburg. After they broke up, Mary remained in the country and began working in a golf shop, where she one day sold a glove to Peter, Sepp's father.
- Credits brother, Sam, with getting him into golf, despite both parents being big fans of the sport. Both boys grew up playing soccer (Sam was a forward and Sepp a goalie), but one day, after they attended a week-long junior golf camp, Sam told Sepp they were quitting the soccer team and picking up golf. The twins went on to play at the University of Georgia together, though Sam was the more heavily recruited player of the two. Sam currently sells real estate in Valdosta.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Grew up watching elite Austrian alpine ski racing, with two-time 1998 Olympics gold medalist Hermann Maier being his favorite. His mother's favorite was 1976 Olympics gold medalist Franz Klammer, who was also a talented golfer. Straka is also quick to say, "I was not a very talented skier. I grew up in Vienna, so not a whole lot of skiing there."

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Teammates at University of Georgia included his twin brother, Sam (who was actually more heavily recruited than Sepp), PGA TOUR winner Keith Mitchell, Joey Garber and Greyson Sigg.
- Shane Lowry is one of his favorite players to play with on TOUR. Sepp says of Lowry, "He's a fiery competitor but a really good friend as well."

Other

- Represented Austria at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo and finished T10. PGA TOUR member Matthias Schwab was also a member of Team Austria (T27). Sepp finished T35 in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Justin Rose

Things To Know

- Earned his 12th PGA TOUR title at the 2025 FedEx St. Jude Championship (defeated J.J. Spaun on the third playoff hole), the first event in the 2025 FedExCup Playoffs. At 45 years and 11 days of age, became the oldest TOUR winner since Phil Mickelson (50 years, 11 months, 7 days) at the 2021 PGA Championship. Rose's win at TPC Southwind in Memphis, Tennessee also moved him to No. 9 in the Official World Golf Ranking, marking his first appearance in the top 10 since February 2020. Rose said of the victory, which was his first TOUR title since the 2023 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, "I haven't been back to East Lake (for the TOUR Championship) since 2019, and that's been bugging me. It's really a gratifying day for me just to know that the hard work I have been putting is not in vain. There's a pretty short list of guys that are competitive in that 45 to 50 age range. I still feel like there is that golden summer of my career available to me. That's what I've been pushing for."
- With 12 PGA TOUR titles, has the most TOUR victories of any Englishman since 1940. The next-closest Englishman to Rose is Nick Faldo, who has nine TOUR titles.
- On his longevity and the pride he takes in contending at PGA TOUR events in his 40s, Rose said at the 2025 Memorial Tournament, where he previously earned his first TOUR win in 2010, "I'm getting to the stage of my career where... having pride of performance and trying to buck the trend of what is a natural kind of aging process." Also cited 12-time PGA TOUR winner Steve Stricker, who earned nine TOUR wins in his 40s, as a source of inspiration for him, with Rose saying, "He did it living in the Midwest, locking things up for winter, having a great family, didn't sacrifice the world in order to do it. He's a really good role model from that point of view. If you could have a career like his in his 40s, I think that's what I would say is doable but aspirational."
- On what still keeps him energized now that he's in his 40s, Rose said in a press conference two days after his runner-up finish at the 2025 Masters Tournament, "The belief I still can have these special moments in the game. Little things like holing the putt on the Friday at the (2023) Ryder Cup with all the team around me, that's a moment I'll remember. Even the (2024) Open Championship was special walking down No. 18, being right in it, holing the putt at Augusta on No. 18 on Sunday (of the 2025 Masters) and seeing the crowd stand up. Those are special moments. The reason I'm playing is to feel those moments that really matter in your career and in your life."
- Following a runner-up finish at the 2025 Masters Tournament (lost a playoff to Rory McIlroy, who completed the career grand slam with the victory) -- which came roughly nine months after his T2 finish at the 2024 Open Championship -- Rose said of moving on from the disappointment of defeat, "There's no point in being too despondent about it. You can't skip through a career without a little bit of heartache. It's not going to happen. If you're willing to lift the big championships, you've got to put yourself on the line. You have to risk feeling this way to get the reverse."
- 2018 FedExCup Champion. In the regular season, earned two victories and finished T2 at The Open Championship. In the FedExCup Playoffs, recorded back-to-back runner-up finishes at the Dell Technologies Championship and BMW Championship, with the latter moving him to No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career. Clinched the FedExCup with a T4 finish at the season-ending TOUR Championship. Rose said of winning the FedExCup, "That's PGA TOUR royalty. If you win the FedExCup, that's what it means. I was fortunate enough to win the 2007 (DP World) Tour Order of Merit, but there was nothing quite like the intensity of this with the Playoffs-style format back then. Whenever you win over the course of a season, it just gives it something extra. It's very unique."

- A proud Olympian, he became golf's first Olympic champion since 1904 when he won the gold medal at the 2016 Olympic Games, contested in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Additionally, Rose recorded the first hole-in-one in modern Olympic golf history, as he aced the par-3 fourth in the opening round.

Background

- Born in Johannesburg, South Africa and moved to Hampshire, England (specifically to the village of Hook) when he was 5 years old, which is when he started playing golf. First swung a club, however, at 11 months old when his father, Ken, handed him a plastic club. The two were incredibly close until Ken passed away in 2002 (at age 57) after a multi-year battle with cancer.
- Of his biggest inspiration as a golfer, Rose said in April 2025, "My dad early in my career was a big, big inspiration for me. He taught me the game, and I think very subtly guided me down a little path where I began to realize what I was capable of, or what it might look like to be a pro. I think I always felt like I had a talent to play the game, but that talent was always -- it's a double-edged sword. It's great to have a talent for something, but I always felt like it was a burden to have it as well. I never wanted to see it as a burden. I guess my inspiration has always been to maximize the potential that I've had in my game, and the potential my dad saw in me, not waste it, squander it... put in the requisite work, put in the work that's required to make talent worth it. I guess that's been my inspiration... getting the most out of yourself."
- Represented Great Britain & Ireland at the 1997 Walker Cup -- contested at Quaker Ridge Golf Club in Scarsdale, New York -- at 17 years and 10 days of age, which made him the youngest Walker Cup player in history. Rose's record as the youngest player in the event's history stood until 2005, when Oliver Fisher competed for Great Britain & Ireland at 16 years and 11 months of age. Rose recalled it was his first time playing in the United States, and he was warned about how hot it would be in New York, so early in the week he spent evenings practicing his putting in the bathroom with four / five layers of clothing on and the shower running as hot as he could get it. "That was my mental prep," Rose said.
- Amateur highlights included a victory at the 1997 St. Andrews Links Trophy, an annual event contested at St. Andrews Links since 1989.
- Concluded his amateur career with a T4 finish at the 1998 Open Championship at Royal Birkdale -- which marked the highest finish by an amateur at a major championship since Jack Nicklaus finished T4 at the 1961 U.S. Open. Rose, who was 17 years old at the time and earned a spot in the field through Final Qualifying, carded the lowest score of the second round (4-under 66), beating the field by two strokes. The highlight of the week, though, was a walk-off chip-in birdie on the 72nd hole, and Rose turned professional immediately thereafter, saying in his post-round interview, "That shot was my last as an amateur. What a way to finish." Rose made his professional debut the following week at the KLM Open (also known as the Dutch Open) on the DP World Tour.
- In a documentary podcast produced by The Open Championship and released in December 2021, Rose said of his famous chip-in birdie at Royal Birkdale, "That one shot I hit there, that's the one shot I have had to try to live up to. For a long time, that shot became a little bit of a burden to me, because I did have a tough start to my professional career. I'm so grateful now, knowing that I've had what I feel is a successful career that I'm proud of... and I'm able to look back at it with fond memories and go, 'Wow, that was the start of something great.'"
- Began his professional career with a lengthy streak of missed cuts, which he eventually ended in June 1999 at the Austrian Open, a Challenge Tour event at the time. Rose later said of the missed cut streak, "The great thing about playing terribly after (Royal) Birkdale was that I knew who my friends were, the ones who stayed in touch and sent messages of support. The bad thing was that I started to doubt all my dreams. Winning had come very easily to me, and

for a while my confidence was dented." Rose also reflected on the missed cut streak after his victory at the 2013 U.S. Open, saying, "It was a pretty traumatic start to my pro career. I've never really talked about it because you don't want to admit to that being the case, but I think when you've got past something you can talk openly about it." [NOTE: this streak has been cited by the DP World Tour -- and by Rose himself -- as 21 consecutive missed cuts, but a review of Rose's OWGR and DP World Tour profiles only indicate 19 consecutive missed cuts, or 20 if you exclude the Challenge Tour event.]

- Earned PGA TOUR membership for the first time upon conclusion of the 2003 season (earned more money than 125th player on the 2003 money list as a non-member) and won his first PGA TOUR title at the 2010 Memorial Tournament. Rose recalls of his first TOUR win, "It definitely took me quite a bit of time to break through on TOUR. The image I have is my little son Leo kind of messing around in a bunker behind No. 18."
- Reached the No. 1 position in the Official World Golf Ranking in September 2018, following his runner-up finish at the 2018 BMW Championship. Between September 2018 and April 2019, spent a total of 13 weeks at No. 1, trading the top ranking with Brooks Koepka and Dustin Johnson in that span. Followed Nick Faldo (1990), Lee Westwood (2010), and Luke Donald (2011) as the fourth Englishman to reach No. 1 in the OWGR.
- Earned his first major championship title at the 2013 U.S. Open, contested at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. Became the first Englishman since Tony Jacklin (1970) to win the U.S. Open. The victory had added significance for Rose given that it came on Father's Day, as he lost his father, Ken, in September 2002 after a multi-year battle with cancer. Rose said after the win, "The look up to the heavens was absolutely for my dad. Father's Day was not lost on me today. You don't have opportunities to really dedicate a win to someone you love. And today was about him. My dad was my inspiration the whole day."

Family

- Wife: Kate | Son: Leo (2009) | Daughter: Charlotte, goes by Lottie (2012)
- Wife, Kate, is a former competitive gymnast who attended University of Sussex and graduated with degrees in French and Italian in 1998. Justin and Kate met through IMG in 2000 -- the company represented Justin, while Kate worked for the company and often traveled to golf tournaments. The couple wed in December 2006.
- One of Rose's fondest memories of his late father, Ken, is a photo from the 2002 PGA Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club. It was Justin's first major championship appearance in the United States, and it came less than a month before Ken passed away in September 2002, after a multi-year battle with cancer. Justin said of the photo at the 2016 Ryder Cup, contested at Hazletine, "It's a picture of my dad under some of those trees on the back nine, and it has a title 'Happy Days.' I do think about my dad a lot, especially when it comes to moments like this, because these are the moments he would have loved to have been a part of."
- Following his win at the 2013 U.S. Open, Justin said of his father, Ken, who passed away when Justin was only 21 years old, "I always think about it as the time together we had was quality not quantity. I have very fond memories of the way I grew up. My dad and I were lucky enough to spend a lot of quality time together learning to play the game, after school on the driving range, so I can look back at our life together with a lot of fondness."
- Mother, Annie.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Tennis (often attends Wimbledon, which he calls "one of my favorite days of the year"), Chelsea football fan, cars, architecture, movies
- Loves to play Padel -- a racket sport featuring elements of tennis, pickleball, and squash. The game is played on a court slightly smaller than doubles tennis, rackets are solid (similar to a pickleball paddle), and balls can be played off the court walls as in squash. Rose says he is about a 12 handicap Padel player, and says he can have a laugh with it, though he tends to avoid playing in the leadup to a significant golf tournament.
- Likes to unwind with activities involving the water, such as fishing, snorkeling and diving.
- Incredibly passionate about health, wellness and recovery and reconfigured an RV to assist his efforts while traveling on-site at tournaments.

Charity

- Named the 2021 Payne Stewart Award recipient, recognizing his character, charity and sportsmanship. In his acceptance speech, Rose heaped praise on his wife, Kate, for her leading the direction of the Kate & Justin Rose Foundation, saying, "As time has gone by, it's become evident to anyone who's come into contact with our foundation that Kate's name being first is only right."
- In March 2025, in recognition of the significant charitable work carried out by the Kate & Justin Rose Foundation, Justin received the Arnie Award, presented annually by Golf Digest. Justin received the award in Mr. Palmer's office at Bay Hill Club in the leadup to the 2025 Arnold Palmer Invitational. Justin also noted the intentionality behind having Kate's name listed first in the foundation's title, saying, "It's been nice to share this with her. She's always had that vision in her life of giving back. So give more credit to her."
- Established the Kate & Justin Rose Foundation in 2009. In the United States, the foundation's efforts centered the nutritional and educational needs of impoverished children in Central Florida (their adopted home for a period of time). The foundation partnered with Blessings in a Backpack to fight childhood hunger, and BookTrust to provide books for children from low-income families. In 2020, the foundation established the Orlando Chapter of Blessings in a Backpack (known as Rose Blessings Orlando). The foundation also hosted an annual Bay Hill Day at the Arnold Palmer Invitational, creating a VIP experience for 20 children from Orange Center Elementary. The Kate & Justin Rose Foundation has since established initiatives in England and contributed to initiatives in The Bahamas (most notably a $100,000 donation to Lend a Hand Bahamas in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian in 2019).
- In June 2020, following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Justin and Kate Rose created a new women's golf series -- The Rose Ladies Series -- which provided playing opportunities throughout England. Justin and Kate pledged their own money (35,000 pounds the first year) to fund the series of one-day tournaments (the final was a two-day event). There were eight tournaments in 2020, followed by 11 in 2021, and then five in 2022, 2023, and 2024 -- at which time the LET and LETAS schedules returned to full operation. The Rose Ladies Series played events at notable courses such as Wentworth, Sunningdale, Royal St. George's, and Royal Birkdale. Notable participants in the events included LPGA Tour winners Charlie Hull and Georgia Hall.
- In 2019, became the sponsor of the Telegraph Junior Golf Championship, which is regarded as an unofficial "major" of junior golf and was first played in 1985. Rose won the tournament -- now known as the Justin Rose Telegraph Junior Golf Championship -- in 1997. Another notable winner of the event is Matt Fitzpatrick (2012). Rose said of the sponsorship, "This is a nod to where I've come from and my journey... this is my first way of trying to give back to golf in the UK and is really, really important to me."

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- In his acceptance speech at the 2021 Payne Stewart Award Ceremony, Rose told a story of how Payne Stewart tossed him a golf ball at the 1993 Open Championship at Royal St. George's Golf Club. Rose said, "That young child, wide-eyed and full of inspiration, went straight back home to his room to start putting with that special ball... visualizing the ball sinking into the hole to win The Open Championship. That small gesture from Payne lit a flame of belief in me. And as I look back, I now realize Payne was one of the first to show me the importance and power of a small gesture."
- Friends with Niall Horan (and his 10s of millions of social media followers) of One Direction fame. In 2016, the two teamed up and formed a charity golf and music gala -- Horan & Rose -- through which they raised funds for Cancer Research UK, in addition to raising funds for the Kate & Justin Rose Foundation and Irish Autism Action. Their 2021 event raised more than 1 million pounds for Cancer Research UK for Children & Young People, as well as The Black Heart Foundation.
- Has teamed up with Justin Timberlake at both the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am (on the PGA TOUR) and Alfred Dunhill Links Championship at St. Andrews (on the DP World Tour).
- Four-time PGA TOUR winner Tony Jacklin. Rose's victory at the 2013 U.S. Open made him the first Englishman to win the U.S. Open since Jacklin in 1970. A decade after Rose's U.S. Open victory, he was named the Nicklaus-Jacklin Award winner at the 2023 Ryder Cup. The annual award "honors the player who best represents the spirit of the Ryder Cup." [Rose posed for a photo with the trophy and Jacklin.]

Other

- Represents the Los Angeles Golf Club alongside teammates Sahith Theegala, Tommy Fleetwood and Collin Morikawa in 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. 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.
- Featured in Season 3 (spanning the 2024 season) of Netflix's Full Swing, an immersive documentary series that follows life on the PGA TOUR.
- Appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2017 for his services to golf. In the leadup to the 2025 Open Championship, Rose and his wife, Kate, were part of the Royal Precession at Royal Ascot, and sat in the Royal Box at Wimbledon.

Harris English

Things To Know

- Earned his fifth PGA TOUR title at the 2025 Farmers Insurance Open, ending a winless drought of three years, six months, and 29 days, as his previous victory came at the 2021 Travelers Championship. After winning his first two PGA TOUR titles within a five-month stretch in 2013, English went seven years, one month, and 24 days between his second and third PGA TOUR titles (2013 World Wide Technology Championship and 2021 Sentry). English alluded to the gaps between some of his victories following his win at the 2025 Farmers Insurance Open, saying, "You never know when your next time's going to be, so you've got to really cherish the moment. It's so hard to win out here on the PGA TOUR... there's young guys coming out here every single year that are trying to take your job and it's awesome to see it. It pushes me to get better. I feel like I've got a lot more years out here to compete and just keep getting better at this crazy game."
- English's win at the 2025 Farmers Insurance Open was also his first PGA TOUR win as a father. Harris' wife, Helen, and their baby daughter, Emilia (about a year and a half old at the time), were on hand to take photos with the trophy on the 18th green. Harris said, "I have no idea if I'm going to win again or when I'm going to when again, but we'll have those pictures for a lifetime."
- Began using TrackMan on the driving range in 2025, which helped him "dial in" his iron game. Said of utilizing TrackMan, "I can set up some games on there where I can visualize shots and hit different shots, and it makes it a lot more fun for me. I never really liked hitting balls on the range that much. It gets really boring. (TrackMan) helps keep me engaged... I've just been way more efficient with my practice and changing up how I practice a little more."
- Visited Jacksonville Jaguars training camp on July 28, 2025 -- a little over a week before competing in the 2025 FedEx St. Jude Championship -- and said of the experience, "I love seeing the intricacies of what they're working on... because I do the same thing in my practice." English connected with Jaguars head coach Liam Coen through former NFL offensive lineman Jacques McClendon, who attended Baylor School with English and went on to become Coen's agent. English said of Coen, "I know he's busy right now, but when he gets done, I want him to get up (to Sea Island) to play." English follows both the Jaguars and Atlanta Falcons when it comes to NFL football.
- A week after helping the United States win the 2021 Ryder Cup, made an appearance on ESPN's College Gameday as the guest picker between then-No. 2 Georgia and No. 8 Arkansas in Athens, Georgia. Of course, he picked his Georgia Bulldogs to win (and Georgia went on to win 37-0). English joined a select list of golfers who have appeared on College GameDay, including Jack Nicklaus, Rickie Fowler, Billy Horschel, and Justin Thomas.
- Grew up in Thomasville, Georgia (a little over 40 miles west of Valdosta in southwest Georgia), though he mostly played and practiced at Sunset Country Club in nearby Moultrie, Georgia. English's longtime hometown of Thomasville notably hosted a PGA TOUR event, the Thomasville Open, at Glen Arven Country Club from 1936-41. Winners of the event included 52-time PGA TOUR winner Byron Nelson (1938) and Lloyd Mangrum (1940), who earned the first of his 36 TOUR titles at the event. Ben Hogan finished T2 in 1941. Glen Arven Country Club began hosting the Harris English Invitational, an event on the Southeastern Junior Golf Tour -- a junior circuit English competed on as a youngster -- in September 2019. As of 2025, the event remains on the SJGT schedule.

Background

- English said of growing up playing Sunset Country Club in Moultrie, Georgia (about 20 minutes from his hometown of Thomasville), "It's a short, tree-lined course with really small humpback greens. Every green sloped from back to front. It was a really great, old-style golf course to grow up on, because it really taught you how to play golf. During the summers, my mom would drop me off about 8 a.m. and pick me up about 6 or 7 in the afternoon. We would play 9 or 18 in the morning and then go eat lunch... swim in the pool for about an hour. Then in the afternoon we would go out and play some more. That was our daily routine."
- At 12 years old, took a four-hour road trip across his home state of Georgia to attend the 2001 Walker Cup at Ocean Forest Golf Club in Sea Island, Georgia. English cited the atmosphere as an inspiration for him to make the United States team one day. English went on to represent the U.S. at the 2011 Walker Cup, contested at Royal Aberdeen Golf Club in Scotland. Teammates included Patrick Cantlay, Russell Henley (who was also a college teammate at University of Georgia), Patrick Rodgers, and Jordan Spieth.
- Remembers one of his first big junior victories coming at the Future Masters in Dothan, Alabama when he was 12 years old.
- Attended Baylor School (2003-07) in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he led the boys golf team to four state titles (2003-06 -- all contested in the fall). Also won the 2005 individual state title. Teammates at Baylor School included future PGA TOUR winners Keith Mitchell (2005, 2006 state championship-winning teams) and Stephan Jaeger (2006 state championship-winning team).
- Won the 2007 Georgia Amateur Championship a week before his 18th birthday, which made him one of the youngest champions since 14-year-old Bobby Jones won the inaugural playing of the event in 1916. Other notable champions of the event include Tommy Aaron (1957, 1960), Brian Harman (2005), and Russell Henley (2008, 2009). English said of the victory, "It's an honor, but I'm no Bobby Jones by any means. I've got so much more to do, a long ways to go. This is probably the most well-known tournament I've ever won. It definitely will give me a boost of confidence." A year later, finished runner-up to college teammate and future PGA TOUR winner Russell Henley, who won back-to-back Georgia Amateur Championships in 2008 and 2009.
- Played four seasons at University of Georgia (2007-11), where he earned four individual victories and garnered four All-America honors (First Team in 2010, Second Team in 2011; Third Team in 2008 and 2009). Also earned four All-Southeastern Conference honors (First Team in 2009, 2010; Second Team in 2008, 2011).
- Earned two of his four collegiate victories as a true freshman in fall 2007 en route to being named the 2007-08 Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year. Marked the fifth time in a six-year stretch a Georgia golfer earned the award, and all five Bulldogs went on to become PGA TOUR winners -- Kevin Kisner (2003), Brendon Todd (2004), Brian Harman (2006), Hudson Swafford (2007), English (2008).
- Earned the third of his four collegiate victories at the 2009 Olympia Fields Illini Invitational at Olympia Field Country Club -- which hosted multiple BMW Championships as part of the FedExCup Playoffs (2020, 2023), two PGA Championships (1925, 1961), two U.S. Opens (1928, 2003), and the 2015 U.S. Amateur -- in the fall of his senior season.
- Decorated amateur career included a victory at the 2011 Southern Amateur, contested at Innisbrook Resort -- host of the PGA TOUR's Valspar Championship. The top 25 also featured PGA TOUR winners Richy Werenski (T2), Michael Kim (T8), Ryan Fox (T8), Emiliano Grillo (T14), C.T. Pan (T18), and Justin Thomas (T22). Past champions of the event include Bobby Jones (1917, 1920, 1922), Lanny Wadkins (1968, 1970), Ben Crenshaw (1971, 1973), Justin Leonard (1992, 1993), and Webb Simpson (2005, 2007).
- On July 24, 2011, eight days after his victory at the Southern Amateur, English won the Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational, following Daniel Summerhays (same event in 2007) and Russell Henley (2011 Stadion Classic at UGA) as the third amateur winner in Korn

Ferry Tour history. The annual Korn Ferry Tour event has since been renamed the Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship and continues to be contested at the Ohio State University Golf Club in Columbus, Ohio. English, who celebrated his 22nd birthday on the eve of his victory, was awarded a sponsor exemption by virtue of being a 2011 All-America selection in his final season at University of Georgia. English delayed turning professional until after the 2011 Walker Cup in September, at which time he accepted Korn Ferry Tour membership.
- Moved to St. Simons Island, Georgia in August 2011, roughly a month before he turned professional.
- Earned PGA TOUR membership for the first time via a T13 finish at Final Stage of 2011 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry, which earned him status for the 2012 season.

Family

- Harris and his wife, Helen, welcomed their first child, a daughter named Emilia Elizabeth English, in July 2023. Harris says of fatherhood, "My at-home life doesn't revolve about golf anymore. It shows you that golf is not everything."
- Harris and Helen wed in 2017 at Ocean Forest Golf Club in Sea Island, Georgia. The couple met at the University of Georgia, which Helen attended from 2010-14.
- Dog, Maisy (Cavalier King Charles), loves to play "catch" with Harris. He'll chip golf balls in the backyard and Maisy will run to catch them and bring them back.
- Father, Ben English, played basketball as a freshman at University of Georgia in the 1970s, though he is not listed as a letterman. Ben earned a degree in agriculture from UGA, and went on to serve as a vice president at Ralston Purina, followed by a stint at J.C. Bradford Company, and Next Level Golf -- a college recruiting service. In December 2024, Ben was hired as head coach of the men's golf team at Georgia College & State University -- an NCAA Division II program in Milledgeville, Georgia.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Nicknamed "The Giraffe"
- Not many people know he is a "Jeopardy" fanatic.
- Likes to hunt and said one of his biggest thrills outside of golf was shooting an 11-point buck.
- Bucket list includes skydiving, flying in a F16 and driving a NASCAR vehicle.

Charity

- Since winning his first PGA TOUR title at the 2013 FedEx St. Jude Classic (now the FedEx St. Jude Championship and the first event of the FedExCup Playoffs), English has been deeply connected to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. English has said through the years, "I want to be more than just the champion of the golf tournament," and, "Going to the hospital after I first won here, getting to know some of the patients... it's an incredible organization and I'll always support it. It shows there's more to golf than the birdies and bogeys. There's a hospital 12 miles from here, and there are kids in there who are struggling and trying to fight every day to live. It makes you want to do everything you can do." On a number of occasions, English donated money for birdies and eagles he made at the FedEx St. Jude Championship. At the 2019 playing of the event, English used a lightweight carry bag featuring rainbows and ribbons artwork of a former St. Jude patient, Bridget Korn.
- In March 2019, announced a partnership with the Southeastern Junior Golf Tour to sponsor an annual event -- the Harris English Invitational -- on the circuit he grew up playing. The

inaugural event was played in September 2019 at Glen Arven Country Club in English's longtime hometown of Thomasville, Georgia. As of 2025, the event remains on the SJGT schedule.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Cited Davis Love III and Fred Couples as two of his favorite PGA TOUR players he followed while growing up. Said specifically of Couples, "I liked the way Couples carried himself on the golf course. It didn't matter if he hit a good or bad shot; he always seemed the same no matter what."
- As a senior at University of Georgia, was named a team co-captain alongside fellow senior and future PGA TOUR winner Russell Henley. In a 2011 interview leading into the Walker Cup -- where English and Henley were teammates for the United States -- English said, "Russell made me the player I am today. We are great friends and like playing together, but we're also competitive with each other. It's a friendly rivalry."
- Teammates in his four seasons at Georgia (2007-11) included Brian Harman (two seasons -- 2007-09), Russell Henley (all four seasons), Keith Mitchell (2010-11 season), and Hudson Swafford (all four seasons, though Swafford redshirted in 2009-10).
- Represented the United States at the 2011 Walker Cup, contested at Royal Aberdeen Golf Club in Scotland. Teammates included Patrick Cantlay, Russell Henley (who was also a college teammate at University of Georgia), Patrick Rodgers, and Jordan Spieth.
- Inducted into the Baylor School Sports Hall of Fame in 2017. Other inductees include PGA TOUR winners Stephan Jaeger (Class of 2008, inducted 2018), Luke List (Class of 2003, inducted 2017), and Keith Mitchell (Class of 2010, inducted 2023). English was teammates with Jaeger and Mitchell in his time at Baylor School, while List graduated mere months prior to English's freshman year.
- Cited Steve Stricker as a mentor in his early years on the PGA TOUR. Later played on the 2021 United States Ryder Cup team captained by Stricker.

Other

- In February 2022, English underwent right hip surgery to repair a torn labrum. Went just under five months between starts on TOUR, as he returned to action at the 2022 Memorial Tournament. English said of the injury, "It was just one of those injuries that was just nagging for a long time. I never could really get over it. It was time to get it done."

Corey Conners

Things To Know

- Selected for the International Team for the 2024 Presidents Cup at The Royal Montreal Golf Club, rounding out the trio of Canadians (Taylor Pendrith, Mackenzie Hughes) chosen by Captain Mike Weir. Conners previously made his Presidents Cup International Team debut in 2022.
- Represented Team Canada for the second time as an Olympian alongside Nick Taylor at the 2024 Olympic Men's Golf Competition in Paris. Previously made his Olympic debut at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (played in 2021) alongside longtime friend Mackenzie Hughes.
- Won the 2019 Valero Texas Open by two strokes over Charley Hoffman, earning his first PGA TOUR title and the final place in the 2019 Masters Tournament. Due to his conditional status, Conners had to play in the Monday qualifier, where he earned the final spot via a six-man playoff. Conners became the first Monday qualifier to win on the PGA TOUR since Arjun Atwal at the 2010 Wyndham Championship. Four years later, Conners won his second PGA TOUR title at the 2023 Valero Texas Open.
- Conners' father, Mike, first brought him to the golf course when he was 2 years old. Mike remembers Corey holding a celery stalk with a putting grip at age 4. A few years later, Corey was setting up a "golf course" around the house - into a roof gutter, around the swing set, to a flower pot, etc.
- It wasn't until Corey met Canadian golf legend Moe Norman that he decided to focus solely on golf. At the age of 12, while putting at his home course, Listowel Golf Club (west of Toronoto), Corey caught the attention of Norman, who was in town for an event. After some time with Corey, Norman gifted him a driver, which he later had customized and named "Moe." When Corey told Norman he had to leave the course to go to his swimming lessons, Norman told him, "There's no money in swimming. Golf's where the money is." A few weeks later, Corey won a national championship in the 13-and-under age group using the driver. His thank you letter to Norman went unanswered, as Norman died a few months later at age 75. "I didn't know much about him but I've learned a lot since," said Conners of Norman. "He was unlike anybody else. He was so unique and so successful. It's pretty cool that he's a fellow Canadian, that he's from near where I'm from, and that he played at the Masters."
- As quoted to Adam Stanley/Toronto Star, Conners has a golf swing that is the envy of many. Collin Morikawa: "It's so solid. He stripes the ball, and he controls it really well. His game is just impressive and it's always fun to watch." Adam Long: "I think the most impressive part about it is the tempo. It's the same every single time." Joel Dahmen: "It's so silky and fluid. There's no wasted motion." Taylor Pendrith: "I just try to do the Corey Conners' tempo, because it's perfect."

Background

- Shared individual medalist honors at the 2010 Toyota Junior Golf World Cup in Japan. The Canadian team also featured future PGA TOUR winner Adam Svensson, Albin Choi, and Richard Jung.
- Reached the semifinals of the 2013 U.S. Amateur Championship at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts. Notably defeated Bryson DeChambeau (Round of 32) and Patrick Rodgers (Round of 16) before he fell to eventual champion Matt Fitzpatrick in the semifinals.
- Runner-up finisher at the 2014 U.S. Amateur Championship at Atlanta Athletic Club. Path to the championship match included victories over Scottie Scheffler (Round of 64), Jon Rahm

(Round of 16), and Denny McCarthy (Semifinals). Fell to Gunn Yang, 2 and 1, in the 36-hole final.

- Played four seasons at Kent State University (2010-14), where he won five times individually, with the crown jewel being medalist honors at the 2012 Mid-American Conference Championship. Named the 2012 MAC Player of the Year, and was the 2014 MAC Co-Player of the Year with teammate Taylor Pendrith. Concluded his collegiate career with a 72.94 scoring average. Conners was inducted into the Kent State Athletics Hall of Fame (also known as the Varsity K Hall of Fame) in 2021.
- Alongside teammates and fellow Canadians Mackenzie Hughes and Taylor Pendrith, Conners led Kent State to the 2012 NCAA Championship at Riviera Country Club, where they defeated Florida State University (led by Daniel Berger and Brooks Koepka) in a playoff to earn the eighth and final spot in match play. Conners finished T4 individually -- the highest individual finish at an NCAA Championship in program history -- and earned Kent State's only win in match play as it fell to an Alabama team led by Justin Thomas. Other notables in the 2012 NCAA Championship field were Patrick Cantlay (T4), Thomas (T7), Max Homa (T9), Keith Mitchell (T9), and Patrick Rodgers (T9).
- Earned a degree in Actuarial Mathematics from Kent State University. He's exceptionally smart and excelled in the classroom, garnering two All-America Scholar honors. Corey on how he has used his degree on the course: "It helps with risk assessment and making good decisions. That mindset of that field translates to my golf game, and I think I'm good at that. I have an analytical mind, but I don't overdo it with the stats."
- At Kent State, he says he realized/worked on some weaknesses in his game that hadn't been exposed while playing junior golf (i.e. his short game "wasn't very tidy" and he also had to add length off the tee). Becoming a professional golfer was always a "pipe dream," and it wasn't until his second year at Kent State that he actually thought it was a possibility, which led Conners to ramp up his practice and efforts toward achieving the goal.
- The Canadian trio of Conners, Mackenzie Hughes, and Taylor Pendrith were inducted into the Kent State Athletics Hall of Fame (also known as the Varsity K Hall of Fame) in 2021. Other notable members of the Varsity K Hall of Fame include 2003 Open Championship winner Ben Curtis (inducted in 2006), former NFL wide receiver Julian Edelman (inducted 2015), four-time All-Pro First Team tight end Antonio Gates (inducted as a basketball player in 2010), and legendary football coaches Lou Holtz (inducted 1990) and Nick Saban (inducted 2015).

Family

- Parents are Mike (who was a territory manager for an industrial gas company) and Janet (who was a teacher). Corey has a twin sister, Nicole, and another sister, Sarah.
- Corey and his wife, Malory, have two children - a daughter, Reis (pronounced Reese), and a son, Tate.
- Corey's grandparents' house was across the street from his future wife, Malory. Corey and Malory eventually wed on October 20, 2018 in Kitchener, Ontario (45 minutes from their hometown of Listowel, a small town of 8,000) with 100 guests in attendance.
- Malory was a school teacher in Listowel before moving to Florida. Malory announced the engagement in the most golf way possible, as she posted a photo of a wedding ring on a golf ball on February 15, 2018.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Enjoys boating and fishing with friends when back home in Jupiter, Florida.

- Crossed an item off of his bucket list when he attended the Kentucky Derby in 2019 with his wife, Malory.
- Loves wine (friends call him a wine connoisseur); he took a wine appreciation course during his time at Kent State University.
- Golf was not Corey's only passion while growing up; he also played ice hockey at a competitive level (favorite NHL team is Toronto Maple Leafs), badminton and took swimming lessons. He was a member of his high school hockey team that won a Provincial Hockey Championship.
- From friend Mackenzie Hughes: "Corey sleeps more than anyone I have met. He can go to bed at 8 p.m., wake up, go practice, come home for a two-hour nap and then right back to bed at 8 p.m. Very jealous of his sleep schedule."

Charity

- The Conners started the Corey and Malory Conners Foundation. They want to focus on helping underprivileged children through sports and education. Their efforts have already supported other PGA TOUR members' foundations such as Ben Curtis and Camilo Villegas.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Best friend is fellow PGA TOUR winner Taylor Pendrith. Corey and Taylor were teammates on the Golf Canada Team, as well as at Kent State University. They were the best man in each other's weddings (Corey was married in October 2018, Taylor in October 2021), and their wives were in each other's weddings as well (Malory Conners and Meg Pendrith). They all live in the same neighborhood in Florida, and Taylor previously spent time living with the Conners as he pursued PGA TOUR membership in the late 2010s / early 2020s.
- Corey is very close with his fellow players who rose to prominence while competing for the Canadian National Team, including Mackenzie Hughes, Adam Svensson, and Nick Taylor -- all of whom are PGA TOUR winners. The 'Dragons' all have great chemistry together and are constantly interacting with and encouraging each other on social media.
- Corey and his wife, Malory, are close friends with fellow TOUR pro Adam Long, and his wife, Emily. Corey does most of the cooking when the four are in town; Long says Conners is almost as good a chef as he is a golfer. Mackenzie Hughes says Corey is a great cook "partly because he loves to eat. He can eat more than anyone I've ever seen."
- Helen Ross wrote a great piece on the friendship between Conners and Mackenzie Hughes. The two grew up 75 miles from each other, idolizing Mike Weir (and Tiger Woods, of course). They were members of the Canadian National Team, teammates at Kent State University, and represented Canada in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (played in 2021). The story is full of great quotes from the two of them, as well as photos from their friendship, and a painting of the two of them as children that Conners' grandmother had commissioned. Conners said, "We have a lot in common, both humble beginnings, working hard at kind of a local golf course, developing our games, playing in junior tournaments and being on the national team together. We're very similar in our work ethic, in our preparation, our thinking about the game. We've just shared so many experiences together, have so much in common with our progress through the game."
- Represented Canada alongside Mackenzie Hughes, Taylor Pendrith, and Adam Svensson at the 2012 and 2014 World Amateur Team Championships. In 2014, the team of Conners, Pendrith, and Svensson finished second to the United States, who won the Eisenhower Trophy with a team of Bryson DeChambeau, Beau Hossler, and Denny McCarthy.

- Played under legendary head coach Herb Page for all four seasons at Kent State University (2010-14). A native of Markham, Ontario, Page became the first coach inducted into the "Builder" category of the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame, with his induction taking place during RBC Hall of Fame Day at the 2019 RBC Canadian Open. Page served as head coach for the Kent State men's golf program for 42 seasons (fall of 1977 through summer 2019) and was instrumental in the launch of the women's golf program, which played its first season in 1998-99 (Page served one season as head coach in 2012-13). Page's teams were frequently stocked with Canadians, including Conners (2010-14) and fellow future PGA TOUR winners Mackenzie Hughes (2008-12) and Taylor Pendrith (2010-14). Another notable player in Page's tenure at Kent State was Ben Curtis (1996-2000), who won the 2003 Open Championship en route to 2003 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year honors. Under Page, the men's program won 23 Mid-American Conference Championships and made 17 NCAA Championship appearances.
- Prior to his coaching career, Page was a three-sport athlete at Kent State, earning eight varsity letters (four in golf, two in football, two in ice hockey) from 1970 through 1974. In football, Page was a placekicker for two famed Kent State teams -- the 1972 squad which won the program's first (and still the only) MAC Championship, and the 1973 team which won nine games (a school record until 2012). Page's teammates on the 1972 team included defensive back and future coaching icon Nick Saban, as well as Pro Football Hall of Fame linebacker Jack Lambert. Page was inducted into the Kent State Athletics Hall of Fame (also known as the Varsity K Hall of Fame) as a student-athlete in 1985, and again as a coach in 2019. Saban joined Page in the Varsity K Hall of Fame in 2015.

Other

- After turning pro in 2015, Corey took advantage of the PGA TOUR's qualifying system as much as possible, playing full schedules on both the PGA TOUR Canada and PGA TOUR Latinoamerica before making it to the Korn Ferry Tour in 2016. He played professional events in 18 different countries before qualifying for the PGA TOUR in 2017.