

Report (12 players)

Si Woo Kim

Things To Know

- Resides in Dallas, Texas, where he practices out of Royal Oaks Country Club (joined in early 2024). Will occasionally play with Scottie Scheffler, a longtime Royal Oaks member. Rotates between Royal Oaks, The Nelson Golf & Sports Club, and TPC Las Colinas (with the latter two clubs both being in nearby Irving, Texas) for practice at home.
- Everything in Si Woo's game came from his father, Du Ryu Kim, who was his first swing coach. Si Woo's father maintained a single-digit handicap and encouraged Si Woo to go to the range with him as a kid.
- Has made an effort to reduce his caffeine intake over the last couple years. Previously drank three cups of coffee before 1 p.m., which he would then follow with three or four Red Bulls between 1-9 p.m. Si Woo now tries to limit himself to two coffees and two Red Bulls per day. Says that even with his previous caffeine consumption routine, did not have any issues sleeping.
- Rewarded himself with a new car -- a Porsche Taycan -- after his victory at the 2021 American Express, his third PGA TOUR win. Si Woo previously bought a car after his 2017 PLAYERS Championship victory, and he decided he would only purchase another car once he earned his third TOUR title.
- Was named as one of six captain's picks for the International Team by Mike Weir for the 2024 Presidents Cup in Montreal, Canada, marking his third appearance in the competition. Previously a captain's selection of Trevor Immelman at the 2022 Presidents Cup at Quail Hollow Club. Debuted for the International Team at the 2017 Presidents Cup at Liberty National; he was 22 years old upon his debut, and the youngest player on the International Team in 2017.
- Won 2017 PLAYERS Championship at the age of 21 years, 10 months, 16 days, usurping Adam Scott (23 years, 8 months, 12 days in 2004) as the youngest winner in PLAYERS history. Si Woo also followed K.J. Choi (2011) as the second PLAYERS champion from South Korea.
- Coupled with his first career PGA TOUR win at the 2016 Wyndham Championship, Si Woo's victory at the 2017 PLAYERS Championship made him the first Asian player in PGA TOUR history to win twice before the age of 22.
- The morning after his 2017 PLAYERS Championship victory, had a middle seat in coach class for his flight home. Si Woo had a flight booked for Sunday night -- which he missed as a result of his win -- and wanted to get home early Monday, so he rebooked on another airline and wound up with the middle seat. Si Woo even posed for a photo with his aisle mate for the flight, which gained traction on social media and garnered headlines from national golf news outlets.
- Known for his driver off the deck shot, and Si Woo has noted it's a shot he's comfortable with. En route to his historic victory at the 2017 PLAYERS Championship, Si Woo hit a driver off the deck out of the rough from 268 yards out on the par-4 14th in the third round; he miraculously got the ball to stop on the green. Four years later at the 2021 American Express, he hit driver off the deck on the par-5 11th hole and made birdie en route to a one-shot win over Patrick Cantlay.
- Qualified for PGA TOUR membership at 17 years, 5 months, 6 days of age with a T20 finish at 2012 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry (contested at PGA West on the Nicklaus and Stadium courses); he was the youngest player to graduate from PGA TOUR Q-School, though he could not become a full PGA TOUR member until his 18th birthday in June 2013.
- Won the gold medal for Korea in the team competition at the 2023 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China by 25 strokes alongside Sungjae Im and amateur partners Yu Bin Jang and Woo Young Cho. Finished fourth in the individual category. NOTE: WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL EXEMPTS SUNGJAE AND SI WOO FROM MANDATORY 21-MONTH MILITARY SERVICE, BUT PLEASE DO NOT VOLUNTARILY SPEAK ABOUT THIS ON TOUR CHANNELS.
- NOTE TO MEDIA OFFICIALS, BROADCAST ANNOUNCERS: Please do not voluntarily discuss

- NOTE TO MEDIA OFFICIALS, BROADCAST ANNOUNCERS: Please do not voluntarily discuss the military exemption. If asked by the media, the following messaging has been agreed with Si Woo's agent. Q: Was it a relief for you to earn exemption from Military Service with the gold medal in Asian Games? A: I was focused on the opportunity to represent my country and helping the team win the gold medal. I was really happy to contribute to the win in China as we have not won the team gold since 2010. This will allow me to focus on my golf career on the PGA TOUR and I hope I can continue to inspire young Korean golfers to succeed in the game. Q: But are you happy you don't have to do Military Service now? A: I think I'm now able to focus even more on my golf career. Should there be follow up questions from media, our Media Officials will need to step in to say the player has already answered on the matter, and request to move on to other golf questions.

Background

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

Family

- Si Woo and his wife, Ji Hyun, welcomed their first child -- son, Theo (TAY-oh) in February 2024.
- Si Woo married Ji Hyun Oh, a seven-time winner on the Korean LPGA Tour, on December 18, 2022 in Seoul. Si Woo won the 2023 Sony Open in Hawaii -- his fourth PGA TOUR title -- just under a month after the wedding, with Ji Hyun on site to celebrate the victory. Ji Hyun has since retired from professional golf, though it is a running joke between the two of them that she has more wins than Si Woo.
- Si Woo says of he and his wife's relationship: "We can understand each other by knowing what part of stress and pressure are, and what parts to respect each other well. I think it's comfortable because we understand each other when it comes to golf."
- Mother: Hyun Joo Park; Father: Du Ryu Kim.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

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

Charity

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

Inner Circle/Special Connections

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

Other

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

Things To Know

- Earned his first PGA TOUR card upon conclusion of the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour season -- which was a two-year, 46-event season as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Followed William McGirt as the second golfer in Wofford College history to earn PGA TOUR membership.
- Played four seasons at Wofford College (2013-17) in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Novak was credited with four collegiate victories and was a three-time All-Southern Conference selection, as well as the 2017 Southern Conference Player of the Year. In 2022, Novak was inducted into the Wofford Athletic Hall of Fame.
- Once made the SportsCenter Top 10 with a 100-plus-foot putt at 2016 Tuscaloosa NCAA Regional.
- Did not pursue golf until around around 13 years of age. Tried out for his school's golf team when he was 12, but was cut and did not make the team. During his middle school years, he took golf more seriously and made drastic improvements. Novak said he "caught the golf bug" in middle school and "dropped 20 shots in two years" once he began working on his game.
- Earliest golf memory is when former North Carolina State Wolfpack star Carl Pettersson gave him a golf ball at a college tournament when he was three years old. Novak still has it at home, and it has an N.C. State logo on it.
- Chose and enjoys living in St. Simons Island, Georgia because of the restaurants in the area, with a common favorite amongst himself and other players being Southern Soul BBQ. His core social group on the island consists of Harrison Shih, Ben Griffin, and Austin Morrison who have all played on different tours.

Background

- Got started in golf after his uncle got him a set of plastic clubs. Andrew used flower pots in the backyard for target practice. Novak did not begin using real clubs or actual golf balls until around 12 years old.
- Graduated from Academic Magnet High School in North Charleston, South Carolina.
- First job was a range assistant at 16 years old.

Family

- Wife, Maddie (wed in December 2020). Maddie is the daughter of Randy Myers, a renowned golf trainer and the longtime Director of Fitness at Sea Island.
- Andrew and Maddie have a dog (F1b Cavapoo) named Teddy; they run an active Instagram account (@thebestboy_teddy) for Teddy.
- Father, Ralph; Mother, Sarah.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- 2017 Wofford Intramural Basketball champion alongside teammates from the men's golf team.
- Says his football knowledge is second to none.
- Avid Carolina Panthers (NFL football) fan. Also a fan of the Carolina Hurricanes (NHL hockey) and Atlanta Braves (MLB baseball).

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Novak was inducted into the Wofford Athletic Hall of Fame in 2022. Another notable men's golfer in the Wofford Athletic Hall of Fame is P.J. Boatwright Jr., who played at Wofford College in the 1940s and was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 1979. Boatwright is most known for succeeding Joseph Dey as Executive Director of the United States Golf Association in 1969, when Dey left the organization to become the first commissioner of the PGA TOUR. Boatwright was later acknowledged as one of the world's foremost experts on the Rules of Golf, which he helped revise in 1984. Boatwright passed away in 1991 at the age of 63. Shortly after his passing, the USGA established the P.J. Boatwright Internship Program, which is "designed to give experience to individuals who are interested in pursuing a career in golf administration."
- Started a fantasy football / NFL football gambling podcast (The ScreenPlay Podcast) with Evan Grenus, a former men's golf teammate at Wofford College, in September 2023.

Things To Know

- On January 21, 2025, penned a letter to PGA TOUR membership encouraging players to help grow and diversify the TOUR audience by leaning into broadcast innovations, like mid-round interviews which offer unique insight into player personalities, and the player's mindset.
- The former cover star of PGA TOUR 2K21 is once again featured in the latest release of the popular video game, PGA TOUR 2K25, one of two playable pros to have appeared in all three games.
- Welcomed daughter, Molly Grace, with wife Jill on November 18, 2024.
- Represents Atlanta Drive GC alongside teammates Patrick Cantlay, Billy Horschel, and Lucas Glover in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR that launched in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league, which will complement the PGA TOUR season, was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and fuses advanced technology, innovation and live action for primetime television audiences. Atlanta Drive GC is part of Arthur M. Blank's AMB Sports and Entertainment (AMBSE) portfolio.
- Is the ninth PGA Championship winner whose father was a PGA of America professional -- his 2017 victory at Quail Hollow Club was the first since Keegan Bradley in 2011. With his second title in the event in 2022 at Southern Hills, he joined Raymond Floyd as the only other player who was the son of a PGA professional to win multiple PGA titles (Floyd accomplished the feat in 1969, 1982). Father Mike was the longtime pro at Harmony Landing in Justin's hometown of Goshen, Kentucky; Late Grandfather Paul was the head professional at Zanesville Country Club, 50 miles east of Columbus, Ohio, for 26 years. Paul competed in the same events as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Ben Hogan.
- Has developed a close friendship with Tiger Woods who he first met in 2015 on the range at THE PLAYERS Championship during his rookie season. The pair frequently practice together at home in South Florida but also hang out - with Thomas known for needling him - like how Thomas reminds him their age difference by recalling being seven years old in the gallery of the 2000 PGA Championship at Valhalla in his hometown as Woods won his fifth major. Justin and his father Mike played alongside Tiger and his son Charlie in the PNC Championship in 2020 (where the Thomas' won) 2021, 2022 and 2023, with Charlie referring to the Thomas' as family.
- Passionate Alabama football fan having been an accomplished golfer at the school from 2011-13.
- In November 2023, teamed up with Spanish racing driver Carlos Sainz Jr. to win the Netflix Cup, the first live sports event on Netflix. The match play event played at the Wynn Golf Club in Las Vegas paired PGA TOUR pros - and stars of Netflix's "Full Swing" - with Formula 1 racers featured on Netflix's 'Drive to Survive.' In addition to Thomas, Rickie Fowler, Tony Finau and Max Homa participated.
- Entered the golf course design business with Panther National, a luxury golf community in Palm Beach County, Florida. Thomas co-designed the property, the first new golf course in the area in nearly two decades, with Jack Nicklaus. The project broke ground on February 22, 2022 and officially opened on November 17, 2023. The opening featured a star-studded exhibition match with Rickie Fowler, Xander Schauffele, Morgan Hoffmann, Erik van Rooyen and Lexi Thompson.
- Returned to the Player Advisory Council (PAC) in 2025, having previously served in 2024. The 16-member PAC advises and consults with the PGA TOUR Policy Board (Board of Directors) and Commissioner Jay Monahan on issues affecting the TOUR.

Family

- Grandfather, Paul, who was known as PT, passed away on February 6, 2021, the Saturday evening of the WM Phoenix Open. Paul attempted to play on the PGA TOUR in 1957 with little success; he qualified for the 1960 PGA Championship (Firestone Country Club) and 1961 PGA Championship (Olympia Fields). He also competed in the 1962 U.S. Open at Oakmont. After a 26-year career at Zanesville Country Club in Ohio, PT finished his career at Peek'n Peak Resort in New York prior to retirement.
- The 2021 PLAYERS Championship marked Thomas' first win since his grandfather's passing in February 2021. One of two tattoos is in honor of his grandfather - his signature on the inside of his right upper arm - which he inked shortly before his grandfather passed. In his post-win interview at the 2021 PLAYERS, Thomas held back tears and said "I wish he could have been here."
- Father, Mike, second-oldest of four sons, followed his father into the club pro ranks. Mike is the only coach Justin has ever had. He retired after a long career as head pro at Harmony Landing Country Club in Goshen, Kentucky outside of Louisville where Thomas honed his skills at an early age. The pro shop has memorabilia from all three generations, including balls from each one of Thomas' wins, dating back to his early junior days.
- Mother, Jani, travels to most tournaments.
- Wife, Jillian Wisniewski (Wiz-new-ski), also from Kentucky, graduated from the University of Kentucky in May 2015 with a degree in journalism with an emphasis in broadcast. The couple got engaged in October 2021 and wed in early November 2022 in Franklin, Tennessee. Jordan Spieth served as his best man with fellow professionals Rickie Fowler and Bud Cauley also members of the wedding party. Entertainment host Jason Kennedy was the officiant. Thomas and Jillian live in Jupiter, Florida with their dog, Franklin.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Grew up a Boston Red Sox fan thanks to his Uncle Bill (his mother, Jani's brother-in-law) who is from the area. Every birthday and Christmas he would give Justin Red Sox gear. His first Red Sox jersey was a David Ortiz jersey. All of his social handles, and email address, feature the number '34'. Threw out the first pitch at Fenway Park in 2018 ahead of his title defense at the Dell Technologies Championship, a former FedExCup Playoffs event.
- Avid shoe collector. Also enjoys collecting / gifting Rolex watches, his sponsor, to mark special occasions / dates. He had a Rolex watch engraved with the date he first got to #1 in the Official World Golf Ranking (May 13, 2018).
- Featured in a spread "The Young Gentleman of Golf" in the Cigar Aficionado June 2022 issue. Said his foray into cigars came from his late grandfather Paul who always had one on him, and then later at Alabama; Every time the school beat Tennessee, it was tradition to light up a cigar after the game. Thomas said "we were fortunate that it's happened every single year." His cigar of choice: Montecristo No. 2.
- Fan of the Florida Panthers, the NHL team based in the Greater Miami area.

Charity

- Launched the Justin Thomas Foundation in 2019 in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky with the mission to impact children in need, junior golf and military families, reflecting altruistic aspirations of the Thomas family. The Foundation has made significant charitable contributions to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentucky and The First Tee of Louisville.
- Since 2016, hosts the Justin Thomas Junior Championship, a 54-hole, stroke-play tournament on the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) schedule. The event is played at Harmony Landing Country Club, Thomas' home course where his father Mike served as head pro. Mike serves as tournament chairman of the event which raises money through a junior-am fundraising tournament for The Justin Thomas Foundation, and has endowed an ACE Grant college scholarship each year for a junior golfer from Kentucky, providing financial assistance for college. In 2023, Thomas announced a personal commitment of \$40K to provide a \$500 stipend to every player in the tournament field, making the tournament as accessible as possible. Thomas had an impressive junior career with the AJGA from 2006-10, where he won three times and was a two-time Rolex Junior All-American.
- After experiencing a skin cancer scare, has been very vocal about protecting your skin and wearing sunscreen. Debuted his own sunscreen line called "Wear SPF" in April 2022 with a portion of proceeds from every sale of WearSPF going directly to the Justin Thomas Foundation.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- After parting ways with longtime caddie, Jimmy Johnson, following the Ryder Cup in September 2021, Thomas lured Jim "Bones" Mackay back to caddying after a successful first foray into TV broadcasting with NBC/Golf Channel. The pair would remain a partnership until the 2024 Valspar Championship, with their split announced ahead of the 2024 Masters Tournament. Prior to their partnership, Bones had previously filled in for Thomas after Johnson had some health issues, first in 2018, and most notably winning the 2020 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational together. The 2022 PGA Championship marked their first win as an official player-caddie partnership and they were together for the 2022 Presidents Cup and 2023 Ryder Cup.
- Thomas knew Michael Jordan long before they were both members at The Bears Club or at Jordan's private club, The Grove XXIII in South Florida. He first met MJ as a teenager in Kentucky. Every year, MJ and a group of friends would play Harmony Landing (where Mike Thomas was head pro) before the Kentucky Derby. Thomas would caddie for the group as early as 13, and finally got a chance to play with MJ years later (playing from the same tees).
- Thomas is very close with former Alabama football coach Nick Saban. During the media day for the 2022 PLAYERS Championship, Saban surprised Justin on the 16th tee at TPC Sawgrass and the pair played three holes together just before the 2022 PLAYERS Championship.
- Made his PGA TOUR debut at the 2009 Wyndham Championship at the age of 16 where he shot a 65 in the first round and made the 36-hole cut, finishing T78. Thomas earned the spot in the field after winning an AJGA tournament at Sedgefield (one of three AJGA titles in his junior career). Thomas' dad, Mike, caddied for him. Thomas next TOUR start would come at the 2012 Greenbrier Classic where he finished T46 as an amateur.
- Thomas won the 2009 FootJoy Invitational, a premier AJGA event conducted at Sedgefield that awarded the winner an exemption into the PGA TOUR's Wyndham Championship from 2008-2012. He entered the final round three strokes behind 54-hole co-leader Jordan Spieth and posted seven birdies in the final round to win by two shots over Anthony Paolucci and future college teammate and close friend Tom Lovelady. That field also included future PGA TOUR players Richy Werenski (5th), Emiliano Grillo, Kramer Hickok, Tyler McCumber, Michael Kim, Seth Reeves, Austin Cook, Byeong Hun An and Keith Mitchell.

Other

- Made professional debut in 2013 at St. Andrews at the age of 20 years, 4 months and 28 days via the Alfred Dunhill Links on the DP World Tour (September 26-29, 2013). The event has a three course rotation (Angus Scotland and Kingsbarns Golf Links), Thomas' first round was at St. Andrews where he carded a 66. Missed the cut after rounds of 73-71. The event, won by David Howell in a playoff over Peter Uihlein, included top-10 finishers Shane Lowry (T3), Tommy Fleetwood (5). Professional start came weeks after the 2013 Walker Cup where Thomas played alongside Max Homa as the U.S. defeated Team GB&I, which included Matt Fitzpatrick.
- At the 2013 Palmer Cup at Wilmington Country Club in Delaware, met Arnold Palmer who recalled playing with Thomas' grandfather, Paul Thomas, on the PGA TOUR in the late 1950s, early 60s. It was at the Palmer Cup that Thomas was taught by Mr. Palmer to always make his autograph legible.
- In July 2022, was named Best Male Golfer by the ESPY Awards for the first time, two months after capturing his second major victory at the PGA Championship at Southern Hills. Won the accolade over Scottie Scheffler, Cameron Smith and Jon Rahm. Tiger Woods has won the award a record seven times, most recently in 2013.
- Called representing the U.S. in the Olympic Games in Tokyo 2020 "the coolest thing I've ever been a part of."
- Has represented the United States in three Presidents Cups (2017, 2019, 2022) and three Ryder Cups (2018, 2021, 2023), most recently at the 2023 Ryder Cup at Marco Simone Golf & Country Club in Rome, Italy, where he was one of six Captain's Picks for the U.S. team.
- Honored May 6, 2024 in Louisville, Kentucky as a Kentucky Colonel by Governor Andy Beshear, and Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg. May 6th has been proclaimed "Justin Thomas Day" in Louisville, KY. A Hometown Hero banner was also unveiled, which is one in a series of public displays for Louisville's native sons and daughters like Muhammad Ali, Jack Harlow and more.

Things To Know

- Returned to the Player Advisory Council (PAC) in 2025 after serving on the 16-member council in 2024. McNealy and Keith Mitchell were elected as co-chairmen for the PAC in 2025, and the two will replace Peter Malnati and Webb Simpson on the PGA TOUR Policy Board on January 1, 2026. McNealy will serve a four-year term on the PGA TOUR Policy Board. The PAC advises and consults with the PGA TOUR Policy Board (Board of Directors) and Commissioner Monahan on issues affecting the TOUR.
- Born in Portola Valley, located on the San Francisco Peninsula. He grew up playing the Stanford Golf Course where he later played collegiate golf.
- Oldest of four brothers, who all played ice hockey for the San Jose Jr. Sharks (Maverick was a four-time captain) and all played competitive amateur golf. All four are named for American cars: Maverick, Dakota, Colt and Scout, because of their family's connection to Detroit. Maverick's grandfather, Raymond William McNealy Jr., was vice chairman of American Motors, which was headquartered in Detroit from the 1950s through 1970s.
- Writes down the details of every shot he hits on his pin sheet. Said he can go back to any pin sheet – which he saves and scans and has them all stored – and be able to remember every shot he's hit at every golf course.
- Since he turned professional, has a deal with his grandmother, Marm, (father, Scott's mom), that for every \$50,000 check he earns, he sends her flowers, and for top-10s she gets chocolates. He says its her "bragging rights around her retirement home." He calls her his biggest fan "I know that her watching my golf in a lot of ways keeps her going, gives her something to look forward to to the point where she won't let people talk to her when she's watching me play. It's pretty special." Marm notably attended the 2021 CJ CUP @ SUMMIT to watch him play for the very first time. She wore a hat that said 'team MAV'.
- Quotable: "The golf ball doesn't care who you are. You take full responsibility for every shot. If you hit a terrible one, you have to take ownership. Your caddy, coach, or even the cameraman who clicked a few seconds too early didn't hit that shot. You did. But if you hit a great one, you can take ownership of that too. Golf is the ultimate meritocracy and an exciting way for me to work hard and see what I can do -- because nothing in golf is ever given to you."
- Passed the necessary exams to receive his private pilot's license in 2023. Took an instrument-check ride in September 2023 which certified McNealy to fly solo through adverse weather conditions.
- Married wife, Maya, on December 6, 2023 in an intimate elopement overlooking Las Vegas with just their parents in attendance. Held a ceremony with friends and family a year later.

Background

- Represented the United States on two Walker Cup teams (former teammates include Cameron Champ and Collin Morikawa).
- Won the Ben Hogan, Fred Haskins and Jack Nicklaus awards as collegiate player of the year, the Mark McCormack Medal as the world's #1 amateur and the Byron Nelson award for golf, academics and community service.
- By the time he graduated, he shared Stanford's school wins record with Tiger Woods and Patrick Rodgers (11). In 2015 as a sophomore at Stanford, he won six titles and earned Player of the Year honors.
- Majored in management science and engineering at Stanford.
- Won the Mark H. McCormack Medal as the leading men's player in the 2016 World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR).
- Stanford head coach Conrad Ray, says that being a part of the Stanford golf program is like a slow-moving train. You get on for four years, then you get off; you have only that time to make your mark.
- Said, "Coach Ray took a huge chance on me. I was an unranked, unknown junior golfer, was "recruited" by only one other school, and was the last addition to the top-ranked recruiting class in the country. I was joining the team's stacked top five of Patrick Rodgers, Cameron Wilson, David Boote, Viraat Badhwar and Jim Liu, all of whom had impressive golf pedigrees."

Family

- Growing up, Maverick and his family spent most of their time together either on the golf course or at the dinner table.
- Father Scott McNealy is the former co-founder of Sun Microsystems, a company he sold in 2010 for \$7.4 billion. Maverick has always faced the perception that he's a silver spooner, but he and his three brothers were never raised as children of privilege. Maverick and his three brothers shared a bedroom - had 4 twin beds lined up. Scott has a rod he takes with him to every golf course to fish out balls from ponds. Maverick said his father never bought golf balls for any of them. The same rules applied for all of the boys: their parents would cover costs through college, and then three months of free room and board at home after graduation. But after that they were on their own.
- Maverick on being taught to respect the value of money: "My brothers and I never got an allowance, and we were told that once we graduated from college, we'd have one summer to find a job and then we'd be on our own....My dad would've made me pay rent to live at home after school--I'm not kidding!"
- On learning "discipline": "You'd think my dad is the intimidating one, but my mom was strict. "Good grades, good attitude, good effort" is her mantra. She always said I had to do my homework before I got to play sports. Bad grades meant taking away my golf and hockey gear."
- Maverick says of his father, "My dad was (and still is) my hero. And I always thought that if I could work half as hard as he did, and accomplish a fraction of the things he did, I could make the world a better place."
- At 5 years old, Maverick was with his father, Scott, while he played in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, and when he drained a long putt, the crowd went wild and it scared Maverick, so he ran and jumped in his father's arms.
- He first beat his dad at golf at the age of 12. Maverick shot 87, and Scott - who was just recovering from a broken leg - shot 89. Whenever one of his sons would beat him for the first time, Scott would lay down on the 18th green and have someone take a photo with their foot on Scott's stomach and their arms in the air.
- Maverick's grandfather, Raymond William McNealy Jr., was vice chairman of American Motors (hence, his four grandson's names), and an avid golfer who had 8 holes in one to his credit.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Considers himself an avid reader (audio books when he travels).
- Collects golf pencils and hotel room keys.
- Favorite basketball team: Dallas Mavericks
- Favorite music artist: Jason Aldean
- Vacations at Incline Village, Nevada, a place McNealy describes as "my favorite place in the world."

Charity

- Maverick has worked with Curriki, a non-profit created to make high-quality education free and available for everyone.

Other

- On his upbringing: "Since I was little, my parents have always told me "to whom much is given, much is expected." My background is not something I should run from, ignore, be embarrassed about, or fall back on. I have to work harder than everyone else to prove I earned my success -- that it wasn't given to me. I just wasn't sure if golf was the way for me to do this."
- On ice skating: "I think it's one of the best cross training you can do because it makes your hips stable and strong in every plane, every motion. There's a lot of rotational strength and stability. That's all fantastic for golf."
- On how often he hears Top Gun references: "I'd say more than a quarter of the people I meet for the first time reference "Top Gun."

Things To Know

- Earned the first major championship of his career at the 2023 Open Championship, posting a 13-under 271 total, good for a six-shot victory; moved to No. 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking after the win, marking the first time in his career he reached the top 10.
- Plays golf left-handed but is actually right-handed; his brother is the opposite; when he was young, his parents got him a right-handed baseball glove, thinking he would throw lefty, but when they threw the ball to him, he'd take the glove off and throw it back righty
- University of Georgia alum and a big Bulldogs supporter; PGA TOUR winners on his teams at UGA include Harris English, Russell Henley and Chris Kirk; helped lead the Bulldogs to the 2005 NCAA Championship at Caves Valley G.C. outside of Baltimore
- An avid outdoorsman, Harman marks his golf balls with "deer tracks"
- Lifelong teacher was Jack Lumpkin, who passed away at the age of 86 on February 11, 2022. Lumpkin, a renowned instructor from Sea Island, worked with Harman for 24 years. Harman skipped a football practice at the age of 11 to take his first lesson from Lumpkin. After his passing, Harman wrote on Instagram, "I owe so much to him. His brilliance as a coach was only matched by his class and grace as a person. I will miss you so much Jack. Rest in Peace, and save me a spot on the range up there." Harman also works with Sea Island instructor Justin Parsons.
- Played baseball at a competitive level until age 16 before turning his full attention to golf after his father suggested that, if he wanted to play college sports, golf was the only choice; says he was a shortstop and pitcher and turned to golf when he "saw too many balls going over the fence;" cites the 1997 WM Phoenix Open (specifically Tiger's hole-in-one on 16) as the moment when he realized he wanted to excel in golf and start playing more seriously; began to ride his bike to the driving range 1.5 miles from his house in order to practice more.
- Cites being on bad baseball and football teams as a kid helped him develop the tenacity he uses to be successful in golf.
- One of 16 members on the Player Advisory Council (PAC) for 2025, having previously served 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 Savannah, Georgia, but currently resides on Sea Island, Georgia
- 2003 U.S. Junior Amateur champion; 2005 Junior PLAYERS champion; AJGA Player of the Year in 2003 and 2004; three-time second-team All-America selection at UGA; member of 2005 and 2009 U.S. Walker Cup teams; member of 2007 U.S. Palmer Cup team
- Turned professional in 2009 and spent 2010-11 on the Charlotte-based eGolf Professional Tour before earning his PGA TOUR card at Q-School in December of 2011; earned his first professional victory at the eGolf Tour's Manor Classic (Farmville, Virginia).

Family

- Wife, Kelly (married 12/13/14); Cooper Marie (June 2016), Walter Hobbs (July 2018); Jack Red Harman (July 2022).
- Kelly was a radiation therapist; Harman proposed to her during a spring turkey hunt when he slipped the engagement ring into the pockets of her new hunting pants.
- Dad, Eric, is a dentist and said he would not be a golf fan if it wasn't for his son.
- Mother, Nancy, is a chemist.
- Brian takes after his parents and is incredibly smart, marking the highest GPA amongst UGA athletes while in school; earned academic achievement awards three years in a row while in college for having the highest GPA.
- In October 2024, his son, Walter, nearly drowned in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida after getting caught in a rip current while boogie boarding during a family vacation. Family friend Cathy Dowdy went in to try and save him, but got swept up in the current as well, before local resident Crane Cantrell jumped in to save him. Dowdy was in a coma then in critical condition as of late December, 2024. Harman was not with his family at the beach when the incident occurred.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Avid hunter and fisherman and enjoys his home on St. Simon's Island, where Patton Kizzire is a frequent hunting companion; "When I'm hunting, that's where I get most of my mental work for golf done. I'm always thinking about what I can do better. Both take a lot of patience and both frustrate you to your wit's end. Both can be extremely rewarding, but you fail way more than you succeed in hunting, and that's the same way it is in golf."
- Maintains he has a deep respect for wildlife and enjoys hunting for many reasons, but mainly to know where his food is coming from. At the age of 8, shot a squirrel in his backyard and was immediately told by his father that he's not to shoot for fun, but rather to provide (in turn he had to clean up the squirrel for dinner); says he enjoys the more organic way of living which hunting provides ... "We hunt the animals, yes, but we also plant a bunch of food for them, increase the natural habitat"; his general outdoors/hunting schedule is to fish in the spring and summer, hunt deer and elk during bow season and rifle season, then duck hunting after that, and turkey hunting in the spring.
- The Harman family, including Brian, are all skilled scuba divers
- The only trophy he showcases at his barn on his property is his Most Valuable Defensive Player trophy from middle school football.

Charity

- Has participated in Birdies for the Brave.

Other

- At the 2015 NORTHERN TRUST, became the third player in PGA TOUR history to make two holes-in-one in one round: 183-yard par-3 third; 218-yard par-3 14th, at Plainfield Country Club.

Tommy Fleetwood

Things To Know

- Represents the Los Angeles Golf Club alongside teammates Sahith Theegala, Collin Morikawa and Justin Rose in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR that launched in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and fuses advanced technology, innovation and live action for ESPN's primetime television audience. 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.
- Wife and manager, Clare. The couple married in The Bahamas on the Tuesday following the 2017 Hero World Challenge. They have one child together, a boy named Franklin ("Frankie"), and Tommy is stepfather to two older boys (Oscar and Mo).
- At the 2024 Summer Olympics at Le Golf National, Fleetwood won a silver medal after finishing the tournament 18 under par, one shot behind gold medalist Scottie Scheffler
- Known for his flowing mane, grows out his hair because his father, Pete, is bald and he wants to grow hair while he can.
- Tommy's a football (soccer) fan and supports Everton (based in Liverpool) in the Premier League.
- Drama was his best subject in school. Likes attending musicals and has a great appreciation for the performers. Counts "The Lion King" as a favorite.
- Loves books, especially detective stories, historical books and biographies.

Background

- Born in Southport, a popular golfing area and coastal town in the North West of England in January 1991. He learnt to play on his local municipal course before showing promise as a junior at Formby Hall under the tutelage of Norman Marshall.
- When he was younger he used to sneak on to the course at Royal Birkdale with his father, Pete. Years later, Tommy made the cut at the 2017 Open Championship at Royal Birkdale.
- He enjoyed a stellar amateur career finishing runner up in the 2008 Amateur Championship and representing Great Britain and Ireland in the 2009 Walker Cup before turning professional the following year.
- In 2011, as a 20 year old, he became the youngest player to win the European Challenge Tour.
- He claimed his first DP World Tour title in 2013 at the Johnnie Walker Championship at Gleneagles. His second title came at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship in 2017 finishing a shot clear of Dustin Johnson and Pablo Larrazabal. That win was the catalyst for a great 2017 season, which saw him win the DP World Tour's season-long Race to Dubai.
- Tommy enjoyed a record-breaking debut at the 2018 Ryder Cup in Paris, winning four points out of four alongside close friend Francesco Molinari. The partnership was affectionately dubbed 'Moliwood'.

Family

- Frankie became a viral phenomenon at the 2022 Masters when the four year old appeared as Tommy's caddy in the Par 3 contest, sprinting from hole-to-hole to a rapturous applause.

Charity

- Announced in May 2019 the founding of the Tommy Fleetwood Golf Academy at Formby Hall (near Southport). He grew up playing at Formby Hall with fellow juniors in Sefton (borough that Southport is in) on Monday nights and wants the kids today to have as much fun as he did.

Things To Know

- 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.
- Following the 2024 PGA TOUR Season, was named PGA TOUR Player of the Year for a third consecutive season (2022-24), joining only Tiger Woods 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 as he and wife Meredith hosted the Dallas-based charity, Behind Every Door. In honor of Scheffler's historic year where he won his first FedExCup title, FedEx donated \$50,000 to the non-profit that 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.
- Became the first back-to-back winner of THE PLAYERS Championship in the 50th playing of the elite tournament at TPC Sawgrass.
- 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 earned a spot on the U.S. Team at the 2021 Ryder Cup. His breakout season came in 2021-22, when he won his first four PGA TOUR titles in a span of six starts, including his first major championship title (2022 Masters Tournament). He was named 2022 PGA TOUR Player of the Year and set the PGA TOUR single-season earnings record with \$14,046,910 (previous record was by Jordan Spieth who netted \$12,030,465 in 2014-15).
- 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 world golf ranking began 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. It's just I grew up at Royal Oaks (GC in Dallas). 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. Just competing out here is really fun for me and just being able to win tournaments is pretty awesome. The rankings never really crossed my mind. It was always just about being out here and competing."
- Joined Jack Nicklaus (1974 PLAYERS, 1975 Masters) and Tiger Woods (2001 PLAYERS, 2001 Masters), as the only players to hold the PLAYERS (2023, 2024) and Masters (2022, 2024) titles at the same time.
- 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; famous alumni of Highland Park include Super Bowl champion quarterback Matthew Stafford, World Series champion pitcher Clayton Kershaw, Pro Football Hall of Fame members Bobby Layne and Doak Walker and actress Jayne Mansfield.
- As a junior, won the 2013 U.S. Junior Amateur (defeated Davis Riley in the championship match) and was the 2013 AJGA Player of the Year.
- In 2014 at the age of 17, participated in THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson (T22) and the FedEx St. Jude Classic (MC) as a sponsor exemption.
- Began working with famed instructor Randy Smith at Royal Oaks Golf Club around age 8 after moving to Dallas. Smith guided Scheffler through the pain and adjustments of going from 5-foot-2 in 2nd grade to 6-foot-3 when he went to Texas. Smith on Scheffler: "People wanted me to look at this little 6-year-old kid. It took me about 15 minutes, and I knew right then. It was so obvious. 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."
- 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.

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 got engaged in 2020 and were 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 in May 2024, son, Bennett (Bennie).
- Father, Scott, played high school basketball at the same school as 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.
- Comments about parents (Diane and Scott) after his API win: "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 in attendance for wins at the 2022 Arnold Palmer Invitational and 2023 PLAYERS Championship.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Basketball; excellent shooter but was small (5-2) in seventh grade so focused on golf. Grew nearly 12 inches in one year and entered the University of Texas at 6-3.
- 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

- Agent Blake Smith is the son of Scottie's instructor, Randy Smith.
- More on coach Randy Smith: Based at Royal Oaks Country Club in Dallas, Scottie's instructor Randy Smith is an 18-time PGA of America National Award winner and PGA of America Hall of Famer. He has developed a reputation over 40 years as the go-to instructor for young players in North Texas, including Justin Leonard, Harrison Frazar, Kris Cox, Matt Weibring, John Rollins, Martin Flores, Colt Knost, Cody Gribble, Paul Haley and Ryan Palmer. Smith has worked with Scottie since he was around 8 years old when the Scheffler family became members at Royal Oaks.
- 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. Met Scott through a Bible study composed of players and caddies. Said this about Scott after his 2022 Masters win: "I can't speak highly enough of Ted as a person and as a caddie. I respect him so much just as a person. He's such a fun guy to be around. He's a man of faith and I love him. I can't say enough about him. You know, the qualities you look for in a person, Ted embodies pretty much all of them. He's humble. He's hard-working. He's honest. He's a good time to be around. I even, he's just -- he's an amazing guy. To be able to have him on the bag is so special."

Other

- Won The Genesis Invitational Collegiate Showcase in 2018 as a senior at the University of Texas at Riviera Country Club. Other winners have included Will Zalatoris (2015) and Sahith Theegala (2016).
- 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."
- Played three times in The Junior PLAYERS Championship conducted by the AJGA: (2011/5th - 2012/T33 - 2013/6th).
- 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.
- 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."
- Teamed up on 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.
- Played the 2014 CJ CUP Byron Nelson on 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."
- Good friends with Sam Burns who he faced in the 2023 Charles Schwab Challenge playoff. 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 they are all members of the TOUR's Bible study, as faith is a shared foundation of their friendship.

Russell Henley

Things To Know

- College teammates at University of Georgia included PGA TOUR winners Harris English, Keith Mitchell and Brian Harman.
- Fan of Georgia football. After winning the 2022 World Wide Technology Championship, said the following while Georgia was playing Tennessee: "I was playing while the game was going on, so I didn't get to see it. I heard on No. 13 or so that we were winning 21-3, so I was very happy to hear that. I'm still kind of living off of last year's National Championship, though. Yeah, it's a fun time of the year to be a Georgia fan."
- Watched the 2022 College Football Playoff National Championship (Georgia vs. Alabama) with fellow Georgia players on Monday of the 2022 Sony Open in Hawaii. All 10 Georgia players in the field would go on to make the cut with Henley coming close to victory (lost to Hideki Matsuyama in a one-hole playoff).

Background

- Born and raised in Macon, Georgia; Attended the University of Georgia, where he won the 2010 Haskins Award as most outstanding collegiate golfer. Graduated in 2011 with a degree in Consumer Economics.
- Was named Georgia's Student-Athlete of the Year for the 2009-10 season and helped the Georgia Bulldogs win the Southeastern Conference title in his junior and senior years.
- Won his first start as a PGA TOUR member at the 2013 Sony Open in Hawaii.

Family

- Russell and Teil Henley have three children: Son, Robert (2018); Daughters, Ruth (2019) and Jane (2022).
- Wife, Teil Duncan, is an accomplished artist whose impressionistic paintings and prints are sold all over the world. She paints out of a studio in their backyard in Columbus, Georgia.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Self-taught, Henley has played guitar since he was eight years old. His best friend and brother-in-law, they actually married sisters, always seemed to be in a band, and Henley loved music, too, particularly newer country music and anything from the '90s. Through PGA TOUR opportunities, has played onstage with O.A.R. (2015 Genesis Invitational) and Darius Rucker.

Charity

- Each September, Russell hosts the Five Star Kevin Brown Russell Henley Celebrity Classic in his hometown to benefit the Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, a faith-based, life recovery program for men, women, and children, in addition to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- Macon Volunteer Clinic, founded by Russell's father, provides free primary medical care and dental care to uninsured, working adults in the Macon-Bibb County area and whose income is equal to or less than 200% of the federal poverty level.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Played on 2011 Walker Cup team with Jordan Spieth, Patrick Cantlay, Patrick Rodgers and Harris English, among others.

Things To Know

- Represents the Atlanta Drive GC alongside teammates Justin Thomas, Billy Horschel, and Lucas Glover in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR that launched in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and fuses advanced technology, innovation and live action for primetime television audiences. Atlanta Drive GC is part of Arthur M. Blank's AMB Sports and Entertainment (AMBSE) portfolio.
- Cantlay is a Player Director on the PGA TOUR Policy Board (Board of Directors). His appointment was determined by the four Player Directors in 2023.
- Winners of the 2022 Zurich Classic, Cantlay and Xander Schauffele first became friends traveling over to Australia for the 2019 Presidents Cup where they drank coffee to stay awake and played hours and hours of gin on the 23-hour flight (with the duo admitting Cantlay is the better gin player). The teamed together at the 2019 Presidents Cup where they went 2-2-0 in team matches and again at the 2020 Ryder Cup in September 2021, winning both Foursome matches when paired together. After going 2-0 through the first two rounds of the 2022 Presidents Cup at Quail Hollow, the duo was finally beaten when Tom Kim (playing with partner Si Woo Kim) drained a 10-footer for birdie on the 18th to win 1-up.
- Cantlay on his friendship with Schauffele: "One of the best things personally for me about Presidents Cup other than golf was just being able to be forced to spend time with Xander, and he's become one of my best friends through that experience. If we were at a regular tournament, there's no way I would have spent the time or gone out of my way to invest in a relationship with one of the other guys that I was playing against. But now that he's on my team and it might help me in golf to get along with this guy, I realized that I really liked him as a person and we've become great friends."
- Cantlay on his friendship with Schauffele (part 2): "He's incredibly smart, and I think he's incredibly conscientious. He is someone that probably brings out the best in me. He's more positive, and he has a way of being more light as opposed to me being serious. Yet he's very quiet and reserved, so we kind of have that bond, and yet he balances me out a little bit."
- After his win at the 2022 BMW Championship, Cantlay, who has 10 runner-ups to his eight career TOUR wins said "The thing I always remind myself of when I finish second or I'm close is Jack Nicklaus had more seconds in majors than he had wins. That stat will shock you considering he has the most majors ever. No one would ever say he couldn't close or no one would say that he wilted under pressure, and yet he had more second places than anybody else. With that being said, I think putting yourself in position is maybe the thing that you can control in golf. You can't always control what other people around you do or where you get the right bounce or the wrong bounce. But putting yourself in contention time after time after time, the bounces are going to go your way and you'll get your fair share of wins."
- Nicklaus, who holds the records for most major victories at 18, also holds the records for most runner-up finishes in majors with 19.
- From the time he won the Jack Nicklaus Award as the best collegiate player in America in 2011, Cantlay and Nicklaus have had a kinship. Nicklaus went as far to say Cantlay, and all of the other previous winners of the award, are "in many ways my children." Cantlay on Nicklaus' signature handshake awaiting players at 18 green: "It's always special coming off the 18th green and shaking his hand. We have a great connection and we are, I would say, good friends at this point, and so that makes it just a little more special. He's taken me under his wing and to do it at his place with the advice and encouragement that he's given me over the years is very special for me."
- Conversations with Jack Nicklaus greatly assisted Patrick's confidence and strategy at the 2021 the Memorial Tournament presented by Workday. Cantlay bumped into Nicklaus inside the

Muirfield grill room over lunch, offering this unsolicited advice: relax and look around and see all the people having fun, smile and have a good time with it. That's why you're here. Let's figure out how to finish this golf tournament and enjoy it." Cantlay, who's facial expression can best be described as focused, took Nicklaus' advice to heart. "I felt at ease," Cantlay said. "Having his words in my head coming down the stretch like that meant a lot."

- Jack Nicklaus has said Cantlay's play and demeanor remind of him of how he played in his 20s and 30s.

Background

- Born in Long Beach, California; grew up in Los Alamitos, California, where his parent still reside. Patrick currently lives in Jupiter, Florida.
- Got started with the game after his Grandfather - Big Pat (Pat Neylan) - put a chipping and putting green in his backyard, even though Patrick was told to go inside with the other kids and let the adults play.
- He learned to play golf at Virginia Country Club in Southern California with his lifelong coach, Jamie Mulligan (CEO of Virginia Country Club).
- Played at UCLA for two years (2010-12) and rose to No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking. Avidly supports the UCLA Bruins, even though he came from a family of USC alumni.
- Made his professional debut at the 2012 Travelers Championship, where he missed the cut, only his second missed cut in 11 TOUR starts.
- Cantlay turned pro in June of 2012 and won the 2013 Astara Golf Championship in Bogota, Colombia (second event of the 2013 season) on the Korn Ferry Tour. Later suffered a back injury while warming up prior to the second round at the 2013 Charles Schwab Challenge, where he was playing as a sponsor exemption. Played just seven holes in the second round before withdrawing. During the next three years, he played a total of nine tournaments while trying to resolve what eventually was diagnosed as a stress fracture in his L5 vertebrae.

Family

- Married Nikki Guidish in October 2023 at The St. Regis Rome following the 2023 Ryder Cup. Nikki and Patrick got engaged after the 2021-22 PGA TOUR season (September 2022) in Napa, California while on vacation with close friends Xander and Maya Schaufele.
- Father - Steve, Mother - Colleen, Three younger siblings - Caroline, Nick and Jack -- all play golf competitively. Because of their age differences and varying schedules, it's rare when all four play together. Nick, a former player at Loyola Marymount and Long Beach State, plays professionally, while Caroline, was the 2017-18 Big West Conference Freshman of the Year for Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and the 2019 Southern California Golf Association Match Play champion.
- In July 2022, Cantlay's 18-year-old brother, Jack, set a USGA record for the lowest nine-hole score in U.S. Junior Amateur history. Playing at Bandon Dunes, the incoming freshman at Long Beach State opened the 36-hole stroke-play portion of the U.S. Junior Amateur with a 5-under 67 that included a final-nine, 8-under 28, breaking the previous record of 29 held by Eric Bae (2014) and Yuri Moriyama (2018). Highlights included a 45-foot eagle putt at the par-5 third hole and a final birdie on the par-5 ninth with a chip-in eagle from 30 yards. Jack was eliminated in the Round of 16.
- Jack (brother) was eight when Patrick lost to Kelly Kraft in the 2011 U.S. Amateur final at Erin Hills. "Ever since I saw what Patrick did as an amateur and then as a pro, [I knew] this is what I want to do for a living," said Jack. "I want to be on the PGA TOUR."

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Highly intelligent and a lifelong learner. He is an avid reader, especially of biographies.
- Classic rock is his preferred music choice.
- Film enthusiast; favorite director is Quentin Tarantino and enjoys the Lord of the Rings books and movies.

Charity

- The Patrick Cantlay Foundation partners with initiatives that support the game of junior golf as well as programs assisting and advocating on behalf of first-responders. In Summer of 2021, launched a two-year partnership with the Southern California PGA and the SCPGA Junior Tour for the "Patrick Cantlay Series," a series of four elite junior events on the SCPGA Junior Tour, where Cantlay played during his formative years.
- In April 2025, Folds of Honor announced a partnership with Cantlay, and his caddie, Joe LaCava, to establish three Folds of Honor scholarships. The scholarships will be given to qualified recipients from first responder families in the name of Patrick Cantlay and Joe LaCava: one scholarship will be awarded to a first responder family in California where Patrick grew up, a second to a family in Connecticut, where Joe resides, and the final to a family in New York.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- Friends with Danny Wagner – drummer for American rock band Greta Van Fleet.
- Good friends with Fred Couples. The pair grew close as Couples spent time in Newport Beach and they played a ton of golf together. During team events, Couples has spent time practicing and mentoring Cantlay.

Other

- In March 2011 he became the top-ranked amateur in the world and held that spot for 54 weeks (55 total).
- Low Amateur at the 2011 U.S. Open and 2012 Masters. Was the low amateur at the 2012 Masters. Players to win low amateur and go on to win the Masters include Cary Middlecoff, Jack Nicklaus, Ben Crenshaw, Phil Mickelson, Tiger Woods, Sergio Garcia and Hideki Matsuyama.
- Named winner of the Fred Haskins Award, the Phil Mickelson Award, the Ben Hogan Award, the Mark McCormack Medal and the Jack Nicklaus Award—all by the end of his sophomore year at UCLA.
- On Wednesday night of the 2022 Masters, was honored by the Golf Writers Association of America (GWAA) as the recipient of the 2020 Ben Hogan Award. Due to COVID, the annual awards ceremony was postponed until 2022. The Ben Hogan Award is given to a player who has overcome a physical handicap or serious injury to remain active in golf. After spending more than a year as the No. 1 ranked amateur, his professional career stalled for more than three years due to a back injury. He reached the 2017 TOUR Championship without full status on the PGA TOUR and won the 2017 Shriners Children's Open, his first of six PGA TOUR wins. The Ben Hogan Award was first given to Babe Zaharias in 1954, and was most recently awarded to Tiger Woods in 2019.
- Made his second PGA TOUR start (first non-major) at the 2011 Travelers Championship where he recorded a second-round 60, the lowest round on TOUR by an amateur. Played the first two rounds with Billy Horschel and Sung Kang, with the group playing all 36 holes on Friday due to weather that suspended play on Thursday at 11:28 a.m. Took a one-stroke lead into the weekend, before finishing T24.
- On the round of 60 in second TOUR start: "Yeah, it was huge. It was, I had played the U.S. Open the week before and so it was my first TOUR event that wasn't a U.S. Open and so I was really excited about it, just because it was so new and exciting. That day was the -- it was Friday, but I played 36 holes. They had a bunch of rain on Thursday. So it was kind of good that I got my nerves out of the way the first 18 holes. And I was out there all day and really got in the zone the second 18 and kind of went unconscious and everything went my way. Made a bunch of putts. It was one of the most fun rounds of golf I've ever played."
- First went to St. Andrews at age 12 with his grandfather and again later ahead of the 2011 Walker Cup where his teammates included Jordan Spieth, Harris English and Russell Henley. On his trip with his grandfather (Pat Neylan), "I remember the Old Course being really windy the day we played and not having played in wind like that before. I remember being surprised at how undefined the lines were. Getting on a tee and not knowing which direction to go. Most of the golf I had played was very park land up and to that point."
- Became the first player in history to successfully defend a FedExCup Playoffs event, winning the BMW Championship two years in a row (2021/Caves Valley, 2022/Wilmington Country Club).

Things To Know

- 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.
- Represents Boston Common Golf alongside teammates Rory McIlroy, Adam Scott and Hideki Matsuyama in the inaugural TGL presented by SoFi, a primetime golf league in partnership with the PGA TOUR that launched in January 2025 on ESPN. The new golf league was created by TMRW Sports whose co-founders include Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy, and fuses advanced technology, innovation and live action for ESPN's primetime television audience. Boston Common Golf is owned by John Henry, Tom Werner, Mike Gordon and Fenway Sports Group as well as Niall Horan as a limited partner.
- On July 8, 2024, the PGA of America announced Bradley as the 2025 U.S. Ryder Cup Team Captain. Two months later, Bradley was announced as a captain's pick for the U.S. Team at the Presidents Cup, following his FedExCup Playoffs victory at the BMW Championship. He was previously announced as a captain's assistant to U.S. Team Captain Jim Furyk, and was eventually replaced by Brandt Snedeker. Making his second Presidents Cup start (2013), Bradley earned the clinching point for the U.S. Team with his 1-up victory over Si Woo Kim.
- Bradley has played in two Ryder Cups (2012 and 2014) and two Presidents Cups (2013, 2024). The 2025 Ryder Cup will be held at Bethpage Black, where he played often as a collegiate golfer at St. John's University in New York City. Bradley will be 39 at the time of the 2025 Ryder Cup, making him the youngest Ryder Cup captain since 34-year-old Arnold Palmer was a playing captain in 1963.
- Became the eighth PGA Championship winner who is the son of a PGA professional. Bradley won the 2011 PGA Championship at Atlanta Athletic Club, becoming the first since Rich Beem in 2002. Justin Thomas is the most recent PGA Championship winner who is a son of a PGA pro (2017, 2022). Bradley's father, Mark, was the PGA professional at Haystack Golf Club in Wilmington, Vermont when Bradley was born. By the time he was a PGA TOUR winner, Mark was director of instruction at Jackson Hole Golf and Tennis Club in Wyoming. Mark is the sister of LPGA Hall of Famer, Pat Bradley.
- Nephew of LPGA great and World Golf Hall of Fame member, Pat Bradley. Keegan was born in 1986, the year Pat won three of four major championships on the LPGA. Keegan secured his seventh win at the 2024 BMW Championship in Colorado on August 25, the same day his aunt Pat Bradley won the 1985 LPGA National Pro-Am in Englewood, Colorado.
- After securing his sixth career PGA TOUR victory at the 2023 Travelers Championship Bradley shared, "This is for all the kids that grew up in New England. Gotta sit through the winters and watch other people play golf ... It's been unbelievable. I'm so lucky and so thankful to be from this New England area and I just can't believe -- this feels like a dream."
- Had never played in a PGA TOUR tournament until his rookie season of 2011. Won his first TOUR event at THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson in what was his 11th start, and won the PGA Championship later that season in his first major championship start, becoming the first rookie to win twice in a season since Todd Hamilton in 2004. Bradley was named PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year over Chris Kirk, Charl Schwartzel, Scott Stallings, Brendan Steele and Jhonattan Vegas. He was also on the ballot for 2011 PGA TOUR Player of the Year, losing to Luke Donald.
- After the 2022 BMW Championship, Bradley decided he was going to begin a health and fitness regimen to radically change his diet and improve his game. Shared his daily eating habits include, "So, I'd have eggs in the morning, maybe chicken or ground beef for lunch and then steak at night. All grass-fed meat is the key. No vegetables. And no condiments, no sides, no starches, not even ketchup. All I did was salt, pepper... and some hot sauce." He lost over 30 pounds in five months.

- Calls Jupiter, Florida home and spends most of his time playing out of The Grove XXIII. Loves the area because there is always another TOUR pro available to play and he frequently goes out with Justin Thomas, Rory McIlroy and Rickie Fowler.

Background

- Led Hopkinton High School to back-to-back golf state titles in Massachusetts.
- Was inducted into the St. John's Hall of Fame in 2019 and remains close to many college friends and faculty members.
- Bypassing most of the premier golf schools, Bradley settled for St. John's, which was hardly a force on the national collegiate scene. Playing for the Redmen, Bradley got opportunities to play many classic layouts in the Metropolitan area - and his favorite was Bethpage Black.

Family

- Married Jillian Stacey, his longtime girlfriend and Vermont sweetheart, in Palm Beach, Florida in 2016. Among the PGA TOUR colleagues who attended were Luke Donald and Camilo Villegas. The couple honeymooned in Italy.
- Keegan and Jillian welcomed son Logan James Bradley (November 2017) and son Cooper Leo (Leo was Keegan's grandfather's middle name) in January 2021.
- His father Mark (one of Pat Bradley's brothers) is a member of the PGA of America, and retired after nearly 20 years as the Director of Instruction at Jackson Hole Golf and Tennis Club. While a club pro in Hopkinton, Mass., in the summers, Mark and Keegan lived in a trailer which they named "Tin Cup II." Keegan loves the story, but wants people to know it didn't indicate that he grew up poor. Quite the opposite; his family had resources, just not enough to provide for a national golf life as a kid, so Keegan rarely played in AJGA tournaments.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Huge fan of Boston sports teams - most passionate for the NFL's New England Patriots and MLB's Boston Red Sox. His Boston Sports Mount Rushmore includes Tedy Bruschi, Paul Pierce, Patrice Bergeron, Trot Nixon. Big fan of Boston-based rock band, Dropkick Murphys.
- Enjoys collecting sports memorabilia. His favorite piece is Micky Ward autographed boxing gloves.
- Enjoys fly-fishing.
- Was a competitive ski-racer early on in Vermont, competing at a very high level. March 3, 1999, as a 13-year-old, finished T-9 in one of his last races at a Vermont State Championship J-4 Alpine competition. The winner of that race, Tim Kelley, went on to ski at the World Cup and U.S. National Team level. Keegan told his dad he was quitting because "I don't want it to hurt my PGA TOUR career," so that race in 1999 was one of his finales. He skied a little in 1999-2000 but eventually hung up the boots and poles.
- Enjoys reading and learning about World War II history.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- First met Michael Jordan at the 2012 Ryder Cup in Chicago, where Jordan came and spoke to the team and spent time inside the ropes watching the U.S. Team play. Jordan lives nearby in South Florida, so the pair frequently play together. "It's very rare that I find somebody that loves the game of golf like I do. He wants to play all the time. He's just the greatest guy, I can't say enough about him."
- Bradley was the first ever Jordan Brand ambassador in the golf space. Since the brand didn't manufacture golf shoes back when they started working together, they created custom Jordan golf shoes for him. Bradley flew out to Oregon and participated in hours of tests. Today, despite the brand expanding into golf shoes, Keegan still receives his custom shoes from Jordan brand. He has a dedicated team at Nike HQ that works with him on his shoes. Bradley said "as a kid, I was so obsessed with Michael Jordan and Jordan shoes so it's surreal to be part of that company."
- Since he's a Jordan Brand ambassador, he receives a ton of shoes - in fact he had to get a storage unit because shoes were coming so often. He does reserve some shoes that are particularly special - like the Jordan 1s he matched with his family in when he threw out the first pitch at Fenway Park. Other special pairs include ones he wore in the Masters and some of the original shoes that were made.

Other

- At the age of 12 in 1998, caddied for his father Mark at Innisbrook Resort for the unofficial JCPenney Classic - a mixed team competition. Mark was paired with his sister, LPGA Hall of Famer Pat Bradley.

Things To Know

- Sydney, Australia native now calls Seattle home. One of very few TOUR pros to live in Washington year round, joining Kyle Stanley who resides in Gig Harbor.
- Won his first two PGA TOUR titles at the Rocket Classic in Detroit, earning victories in 2021 and 2024. First PGA TOUR win at the 2021 Rocket Classic fell on the seventh anniversary of his first date with his wife, Jonika.
- Made his Presidents Cup International Team debut at Quail Hollow Club in 2022, as he was chosen by Captain Trevor Immelman. Went 2-3-0, including a win alongside Si Woo Kim in opening-day Foursomes over Sam Burns and Scottie Scheffler.
- Won the 2017 Australian Open at The Australian Golf Club (where he previously won the 2015 Australian Amateur) after beginning the final round six strokes back of the lead. Entered the week ranked 1,494th in the Official World Golf Ranking and had recently lost his status on PGA TOUR Canada.
- Although he plays right-handed, he can hit equally well on the other side. There is an impressive 2014 video of him on the driving range hitting right and left-handed.
- Favorite memory was watching Tiger Woods play for the first time at the Australian Masters in 2009.

Background

- Amateur career highlights included a victory at the 2015 Australian Amateur at The Australian Golf Club, a co-runner-up finish at the 2015 Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship, and earning individual medalist honors at the 2016 World Amateur Team Championship (Eisenhower Trophy), where he, Harrison Endycott, and Curtis Luck led Australia to a 19-stroke victory in the team competition.
- Earned Korn Ferry Tour membership for the first time ahead of the 2018 season, but his T113 finish at Final Stage of 2017 Q-School left him buried on the priority ranking. Davis capitalized on a pair of sponsor exemptions as he played his way up the priority ranking, and won his fifth start (in the 12th event of the season) at the 2018 Simmons Bank Open in Tennessee. Davis went on to earn PGA TOUR membership via the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour Finals.

Family

- Moved to Seattle after turning professional where he met Jonika, whom he proposed to on April 21, 2019. They were married on September 5, 2020 in Seattle.
- Has a dog, Hobbes. Has had a dog engraving and name on his wedges.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- One of his biggest hobbies is disc golf. When on the road, he and his caddie seek out disc golf venues in the towns the TOUR visits and try to set up a game.
- Played soccer growing up with his brothers, as well as tennis and cricket.

Inner Circle/Special Connections

- On the passing of former Australian professional golfer and youth coach Jack Newton during the week of the 2022 RBC Heritage: "He's done such a great job, such an awesome amount of work for young Australians to get into the game. I wouldn't be here without what he put in place. Yeah, very sad. I didn't really get to know him super well, but I did get some text messages when I did play well or I got an opportunity like a major, some words of encouragement, and that meant a lot to me. Yeah, it's tough, but glad I could play well this week. He was definitely in my thoughts all week after he passed."

Things To Know

- Mackenzie was selected to the 2024 Presidents Cup International Team captained by fellow Canadian Mike Weir. Hughes joined fellow Canadians Corey Connors and Taylor Pendrith (both captain's picks) on the International Team. The 2024 playing at The Royal Montreal Golf Club was Hughes' Presidents Cup debut, and Hughes said of the experience, "Being on the International Team was the highlight of my career. It was magical. I knew it would be, and it lived up to all the hype and more." Hughes provided one of the highlights of the week, as he chugged a beer on the first tee and riled up the home crowd prior to the start of the first day's matches.
- Was the first player to earn victories on PGA TOUR Canada (2013 Cape Breton Celtic Classic), Korn Ferry Tour (2016 Price Cutter Charity Championship), PGA TOUR (2016 RSM Classic). on TOUR in the traditional sense - winning on each Tour in successive progression (PGA TOUR Canada to Korn Ferry Tour to PGA TOUR).
- The Canadian trio of Hughes, Corey Connors, 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).
- Represented Canada at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (played in 2021) alongside childhood friend and fellow multi-time PGA TOUR winner Corey Connors.
- Motto he lives by: "Success is never owned. It is rented, and the rent is due every day."
- Resides in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he is a member of Quail Hollow Club. Moved to Charlotte in 2012 after his wife, Jenna, was offered a job there. Now with three kids, Mackenzie and Jenna believe the city of Charlotte is the perfect place to raise a family, and the couple see themselves living there for many years to come.

Background

- Born in Dundas, Ontario, Canada. Dundas is a community in Hamilton, Ontario nicknamed Valley Town, as it is nestled in a valley surrounded by the Niagara Escarpment along Lake Ontario.
- Got his start in golf at seven when his parents brought him along to the driving range at Dundas Valley Golf and Curling Club (Stanley Thompson-designed course) instead of hiring a babysitter. In 2017, the par-3 course at Dundas Valley was renamed the 'Mackenzie Hughes Par 3' as a homage to the place where it all began for Hughes. (Photo of 1st tee sign available in Catalyst files)
- Won back-to-back Canadian Amateur Championships in 2011 and 2012. Notably earned the victories over future PGA TOUR winners Corey Connors (T3 in 2011, 4th in 2012) and Taylor Pendrith (T20 in 2011, T5 in 2012).
- Played four seasons at Kent State University (2008-12), where he earned three collegiate victories and finished with a career scoring average of 73.67. Hughes was a three-time All-Mid-American Conference First Team selection (2010-12), as well as the 2009 MAC Freshman of the Year, and helped Kent State win four consecutive MAC Championships (2009-12) during his time with the program.
- Alongside teammates and fellow Canadians Corey Connors and Taylor Pendrith, Hughes helped Kent State qualify for 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. Kent State fell to the Justin Thomas-led Alabama Crimson Tide in match play. Other notables in the 2012 NCAA Championship field were Patrick Cantlay (T4), Thomas (T7), Max Homa (T9), Keith Mitchell (T9), and Patrick Rodgers (T9). Hughes was teammates with Connors and Pendrith for his final two seasons at Kent State (2010-11 / 2011-12 seasons), as Connors' and Pendrith's time with the program both spanned 2010-14.
- Represented Canada at the 2012 World Amateur Team Championship (Eisenhower Trophy) with Corey Connors and Albin Choi. Canada finished T6, while a United States team featuring Justin Thomas won the title.

Family

- Married to wife Jenna (2016) and has three children: sons Kenton Robert (2017) and Cohen Alan (2020), and a daughter, Ellie Mae (2022); Kenton is named in part as tribute to Kent State, where Mackenzie and Jenna met. According to Jenna, "Mac is an amazing father and nothing brings him more joy than playing with his kids or watching their sporting events."
- Jenna and Mackenzie met in an extra-credit project during their freshman year at Kent State. Jenna is originally from upstate New York. According to good friend Corey Connors, Hughes "spent a long time convincing Jenna to go out with him at Kent State."
- Jenna and family try to travel with Mackenzie on TOUR as often as they can. Jenna, Kenton and Cohen were on-site to see his second PGA TOUR win at the 2022 Sanderson Farms Championship. Hughes says, "It's nice having them on the road with me, which I know eventually won't always happen. There are many families out there that also travel and have kids similar ages that we'll hang out and do fun things with. We also have a daycare on the road for our kids. These teachers travel with the TOUR and help kids learn and discover things from a young age. The environment for families is great."
- Mother, Sandra, is a vascular access nurse in Ontario, Canada; she worked on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic, and Mackenzie calls his mom his "biggest supporter."
- Also counts his in-laws (Jenna's parents Alan and Karen) as an integral part of his support system.

Interests/Hobbies/Quirks

- Grew up a loyal Toronto sports fan, supporting the Maple Leafs (NHL hockey), Raptors (NBA basketball), and Blue Jays (MLB baseball). Adopted the Carolina Panthers (NFL) as his football team after moving to Charlotte, and roots for his wife's hometown NFL team, the Buffalo Bills.
- Will not eat anything chocolate.
- Avid scrap pickleball player.

Charity

- Mackenzie and wife Jenna created the Mackenzie Hughes Family Foundation in 2023. The mission of the foundation is to make a positive difference for children and families through financial assistance, community experiences and creating lifelong memories.

- Helen Ross wrote a great piece on the friendship between Mackenzie Hughes and Corey Conners, which has endured nearly two decades. 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, college teammates at Kent State, represented Canada at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics (played in 2021), and were in each other's weddings. The story is full of great quotes from the two of them and photos from their friendship, as well as a painting of the two of them as children that Conners' grandmother had commissioned. Hughes said, "For two kids that grew up and trained together and came from small towns in Ontario, to both be finding some pretty good success on the PGA TOUR and to do it together is really quite extraordinary. But that's why you dream big, and you work hard."
- Served as a standard bearer in Mike Weir's group at the 2004 RBC Canadian Open, which was roughly a year and a half after Weir's historic victory at the 2003 Masters Tournament (Weir became Canada's first Masters champion).
- Had "goosebumps and shivers" the first time he played with Tiger Woods, which was during the third round of the 2018 PLAYERS Championship, and ended up shooting his best round of the season. He had the chance to meet Woods about two months earlier at the Arnold Palmer Invitational, as Woods was sitting five feet away from Hughes in the locker room, but he couldn't muster up the courage to walk over and say hello.
- Friends with former NFL quarterback Alex Smith. The two met during 2018 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.
- Played under legendary head coach Herb Page for all four seasons at Kent State University (2008-12). 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 Hughes (2008-12) and fellow future PGA TOUR winners Corey Conners (2010-14) 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.