

20th & Final MEDIA CLASSIC

Player's Guide



SCOTTSDALE
ARIZONA

20th & Final MEDIA CLASSIC

A GREAT GOLF ADVENTURE

Early in 2002, my good friend Gordon Zuckerman and I decided to launch the Media Classic at Resort Suites of Scottsdale, later known as ZONA.

Gordon had done an earlier version in 1993, and given the dismal state of the golf industry at that time -- it was reeling in the aftermath of 9-11 -- "Z" thought it might be the "perfect kickstart" to ignite tee sheets throughout Arizona.

"The way I see it," Zuckerman told me. "You guys (golf media) are the alchemists of golf, and through your stories and reports, you mix the elixir that golfers drink up and then come to Arizona to play the game."

Gordon, a colorful and adventurous type, said he wanted me to organize an event specifically for golf media, and that he would fund it for "two or three years."

So here we are 20 years later (actually, 21 due to COVID) at what has become legendary lore among golf media throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as Mexico, Japan, England, Australia, the Czech Republic and, yes, Iceland. Who would have thunk it? Certainly, not Gordon nor me.

From a modest start in Scottsdale that included about 30 golf media, it grew to a record 108 entries at one time. But, alas, an open Tequila bar in 2011 brought the cap down to 60 to 70 writers. And when the event ventured out of Scottsdale in 2012 and on to Tucson, Mesquite, Nev., Palm Springs and then back here this year to Scottsdale, suddenly it was 2022.

20th & Final MEDIA CLASSIC

Of course, we wouldn't be here this week playing the best public golf courses in Arizona -- We-Ko-Pa, Troon North and Grayhawk -- if not for my terrific tournament partner/BFF Linda Dillenbeck. At times, the Media Classic looked like it might be a goner, but thanks to Linda's never-say-die attitude and her many connections through *Golf Digest*, she found a way -- or the right sponsor -- to keep the "Classic" on course.

So now it's time, because of Father Time, to say farewell to all of our golf media brothers and sisters who helped forge what have become lifelong friendships over the past two decades. To those who have joined in the fun, to those we have lost along the way, Gordon, Linda and I send you our love for sharing this great golf adventure.

We will miss you!
Huff



OUR HOST HOTEL

We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort

10438 WeKoPa Way

Fort McDowell, AZ 85264

2 miles north of Shea Blvd on Hwy 87 (Beeline Hwy)

480.789.4957

About the Resort

We-Ko-Pa is a welcoming resort where you can play, stay and indulge to your heart's content. It's an aspirational destination offering timeless splendor and the kind of luxury everyone can enjoy.

The Resort builds on decades of success and community leadership, carrying with it all the heritage and pride of the Yavapai Nation.

In every sense the Resort has an unbeatable array of offerings. From award-winning golf to incredible gaming, horseback riding, off-road tours, kayaking, spa, fine dining, deluxe rooms and more. It's a Four Diamond Desert Oasis beyond anything you've experienced before.





SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

9am-4pm

REGISTRATION

We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort Lobby

**11:40am -
1:10pm**

Practice Rounds

We-Ko-Pa Saguaro Course

Follow the signs from the hotel to the course.

**5:00pm
6:00pm**

Opening Reception

Cocktails

Dinner

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club Patio & Grille

The evening begins on We-Ko-Pa Golf Club's spectacular patio and includes cocktails at 5pm followed by dinner at 6pm. You'll meet our hosts and enjoy opening remarks from a member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

9:00pm

Casino Night

We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort





MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022

7-8:30am

Breakfast

**We-Ko-Pa Resort & Casino
Private room next to the buffet**

Sponsored by The Thunderbirds, the civic organization that hosts the Greatest Show on Grass - the PGA TOUR WM Phoenix Open.

10:30am

First Round of Play

Troon North Monument Course

10320 E Dynamite Blvd, Scottsdale AZ 85262
480.585.5300

3:00pm

After Golf Reception

Troon Golf Driving Range

Golf will give way to afternoon activities on the driving range where you'll enjoy hors d'oeuvres, tastings, the new Toptracer Range and a special guest you won't want to miss.

9:00pm

We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort

Enjoy one of the major lounges or test your luck at any of the casino games.





TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

7-8:30am

Breakfast

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club Grille

Sponsored by The Thunderbirds, the civic organization that hosts the WM Phoenix Open.

9:00am

Bill Coore, who designed the Saguaro course along with Ben Crenshaw, will be on hand to share his insights about his spectacular design.

11:00am

Second Round of Play

We-Ko-Pa Golf Club Cholla Course

Follow the signs from the Resort to the course.

5:00pm

After Golf

Fort McDowell Adventures

14803 N Hiawatha Hood Rd, Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
480.789.5327

We're back at Fort McDowell Adventures for another fabulous event including cocktails, dinner and entertainment you'll remember for a lifetime.

10:00pm

We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort

Enjoy one of the major lounges or test your luck at any of the casino games.





WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022

7-8:30am

Breakfast

**We-Ko-Pa Resort & Casino
Private room next to the buffet**

Sponsored by The Thunderbirds, the civic organization that hosts the Greatest Show on Grass - the PGA TOUR WM Phoenix Open.

10:00am

**Final Round of the Media Classic
GWAA PING Holiday Classic Round
Grayhawk Golf Club Raptor Course**

8620 E Thompson Peak Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85255
480.502.1800

2:00pm

**The Final Farewell
Grayhawk Golf Club Fairway House**

We'll close out the 20th & Final Media Classic with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, prizes for our tournament winners and closing remarks from our sponsors Experience Scottsdale and Grayhawk.



TOURNAMENT FORMATS & RULES

MONDAY - FOUR-BALL SHAMBLE

- > Players receive 25% of their combined handicaps
 - > All players hit drive off the tee
 - > Handicaps of 15 and lower play from the Gold tees
 - > Handicaps of 16 and above play from the Jade tees
 - > Women play from the Rust tees
 - > All players hit drive off the tee. Select the best drive from which point each player finishes the hole with his/her own ball
 - > Write down everyone's gross score, and at bottom of scorecard, Write down the two best gross scores. DO NOT write down net scores, as the official scorer, Golf Genius, will compute the final scores once you turn in your scorecard.
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TUESDAY - TWO-PERSON SCRAMBLE

- > Players receive 50% of their combined handicaps
 - > All players hit drive off the tee
 - > Handicaps of 15 and lower play from the Purple tees
 - > Handicaps of 16 and above play from the White tees
 - > Women play from the Green tees
 - > Each player must have a minimum of two drives
 - > Write down the best gross score. DO NOT write down net scores, as the official scorer, Golf Genius, will compute the final scores once you turn in your scorecard.
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WEDNESDAY - MEDAL PLAY (FOR BOTH THE MEDIA CLASSIC & GWAA TOURNAMENT)

- > Players receive 100% of handicap
- > Handicaps of 15 and lower play from the Diamond tees
- > Handicaps of 16 and above play from the Square tees
- > Women play from the Circle tees
- > Play your own ball and total your own gross strokes
- > Write down the best gross score. DO NOT write down net scores, as the official scorer, Golf Genius, will compute the final scores once you turn in your scorecard.

TOURNAMENT FORMATS & RULES

DETERMING THE MEDIA CLASSIC CHAMPIONS

Points will be awarded each day in each flight, as follow:

- First place - 10 points
- Second place - 9 points
- Third place - 8 points
- Fourth place - 7 points
- Fifth place - 6 points
- Sixth place - 5 points
- Seventh place - 4 points
- Eighth place - 3 points
- Ninth place - 2 points
- 10th & lower - 1 point

At the end of the three days, the players with the highest points in the three flights - the Good, Bad and Ugly -- will be declared the winners of their respective individual flight. Ties will be determined by the best finishes for the week.

Example: If two people tie for first and one player was the first-place finisher during one day of the week and the other's best finish was second place, the player who finished first is the overall winner. If two players have a first-place finish, then the next-best finish wins.

DETERMINING THE CHAMPIONS OF THE GWAA HOLIDAY CLASSIC PRESENTED BY PING

There are two winners in this event, a gross champion and a net champion. You can't win both and you must be a member to win.

Note: All scores are subject to handicap verification if necessary. The Tournament Chairman will make any necessary adjustments. All decisions are final.

PARTICIPANTS

Mike	Bailey	NBC Sports Next, Golf Monthly
David	Bataller	AZ Golf Insider
Pam	Borges	newengland.golf
Stephen	Boyd	USGA
Jeffrey	Brooke	The Globe and Mail
Joe	Burkhardt	TriState Golfer Magazine
David	Cowx	Prestige Golf Magazine
Barry	Cronin	Chicago District Golfer
Michael	Cunningham	Inside Golf Canada/European Golf
Gary	Davies	Dreamscapes Magazine
Gregg	Dewalt	Alabamagolfnews.com; teetimesgolfnews.com
John	Edwards	Colorado Golfer News
Grant	Fraser	Flagstick Magazine
Chuck	Garbedian	CMG Entertainment; iHeart radio
Tom	Gorman	newengland.golf
Herb	Gould	TMG Sports/SI.com
Jim	Grosjean	OH, IN & MI Golf Journals
Grant	Hall	ESPN 99.5 FM
Scott	Hall	ESPN 99.5 FM
Fred	Hart	Golfin' Around
Brian	Hewitt	Freelance
Rex	Hoggard	The Golf Channel
Tomo	Kuga	NHK/Golf Digest Japan
Ted	Johnson	Colorado Avid Golfer
Dove	Jones	Premier Golf/Nat'l Club Golfer
Allan	Landolt	AZ Golf Authority
Joe	Logan	myphillygolf.com
Robert	Lusetich	Freelance
Johnny	Lyon	Northeast Golf Magazine

PARTICIPANTS

Tom	Mackin	Troon Magazine, SCAA Fore Magazine, Morning Read
Ken	MacLeod	Golf Oklahoma magazine
Matt	McKay	Conquering Lion Media
Jamie	McWilliams	Traveling Golfer TV
Allan	Melbourne	On the Links
George	McNeilly	VOA Networks/Sports Business Update
Chris	Moore	Golffrederickmd.com; WFMD
Jeff	Neuman	MetGolfer
John Paul	Newport	WSJ, Bloomberg/Businessweek
Joe	Passov	Links Magazine/Sigolf.com
Mike	Purkey	LIV Golf
Dan	Reardon	KMOX Radio
Luis	Rivera	pgatour.com
Jeff	Rude	Freelance writer
John	Schwarb	Sports Illustrated
Alice	Scott	NEGolf.com
Danny	Scott	America'sgolfingcouple.com
David	Shefter	USGA
Craig	Smith	Carolinas GCSA
Mark	Snover	ASAP Sports
Reid	Spencer	Metro Golf Magazines
Lee	Spencer	Metro Golf Magazines
Jay	Stuller	The A Position
Gary	VanSickle	SI.com
Ken	VanVechten	Freelance
Bruce	Vittner	southern New England Golfer
Dan	Vukelich	New Mexico Golf News; morningread.com
Phil	Weidinger	Golf the High Sierras
Vic	Williams	Audubon International
Gregg	Wires	Golf Minnesota
Rick	Zurak	Niagara Golf Network

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS
OF THE MEDIA CLASSIC



SCOTTSDALE
ARIZONA

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#mediaclassic2022

Thanks for joining us.

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MEDIA CLASSIC

www.themediaclassic.com