



## Nashville Golf Open benefitting the Snedeker Foundation (NGO) – A Web.com Tour Event

June 26-July 2, 2017

Nashville Golf & Athletic Club • Brentwood, Tennessee

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### QUICK FACTS:

- The **Nashville Golf Open benefitting the Snedeker Foundation (NGO)** is the 14th Web.com Tour's event on the 2017 schedule
- Site of Event: Nashville Golf & Athletic Club
- Total purse: \$550,000 with the winner earning \$99,000
- 2017 is the second year of a five-year contract between the PGA TOUR and the Brentwood based Tour Visions Promotions for the Nashville Golf Open
- The Web.com Tour and Tour Vision Promotions announced Wednesday (May 3) that the Snedeker Foundation, founded by PGA TOUR star and Nashville native Brandt Snedeker, will be the official charitable beneficiary of the Nashville Golf Open. The tournament's official title is the **Nashville Golf Open benefitting the Snedeker Foundation**.
  - Proceeds from online ticket sales benefit Williamson County high schools or The First Tee of Middle Tennessee, based on consumer choice.

### ABOUT THE NASHVILLE GOLF OPEN FORMAT AND FIELD:

- Defending Champion: James Driscoll
  - James Driscoll won the inaugural Nashville Golf Open (2016) and is set to defend his title this year. Driscoll posted a 19-under par 269 for a three-shot win over Brian Campbell to claim the championship and a \$99,000 winner's check.
- The opening field of 156 players will be cut to the Top 65 and ties following the second round.
- Wesley Bryan was last year's first round leader with a course record 63 en route to a T9 finish. Bryan became the first NGO participant to post a PGA TOUR win on April 16, 2017 when he won the RBC Heritage Classic in Hilton Head with a one stroke victory over Luke Donald.
- Six of the top-10 finishers at the inaugural Nashville Golf Open – Brian Campbell (2nd), Joel Dahmen (T3), Mark Anderson (T3), Grayson Murray (5th), Julian Etulain (6th), and Wesley Bryan (T9) -- now have their 2017 PGA TOUR card.
- The NGO is one of three PGA TOUR-sanctioned event to be contested annually in Tennessee, joining the TOUR's FedEx St. Jude Classic in Memphis and the Web.com Tour's News-Sentinel Open presented by Pilot in Knoxville.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE TIES:

Three Web.com players with Middle Tennessee ties are expected to participate in this year's event, including:

- **Kent Bulle**, 28, is from Glasgow, Ky., and attended MTSU. Bulle was scheduled to play in the inaugural NGO but received late entry into the U.S. Open, where he missed the cut. Bulle currently is 66<sup>th</sup> on the Web.com money list, playing in five events this year. His top career finish was a T-17 at the 2016 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae.
- **Jason Millard**, 27, is from Murfreesboro, Tenn., and attended MTSU. Thru seven events this year, Millard is currently 124<sup>th</sup> on the money list. Millard missed the cut at the 2016 NGO with a two-over par 146 finish. He had four top-10 finishes last year with his best outing a fifth-place finish in the Rust-Oleum Championship.
- **Rick Cochran III**, 30, is from Paducah, Ky., and attended MTSU. This is his third year on the Web.com Tour. His top 2016 Web.com Tour finish was a T-26 at the United Leasing & Finance Championship and he had three top-10 finishes in 2015. His uncle, Russ Cochran, has five PGA TOUR Champions victories since joining that TOUR in 2009. Russ also posted one win on the PGA TOUR, the 1991 Centel Western Open.

## SPONSOR EXEMPTIONS – JOHAN KOK AND OLIVER PEACOCK

- **Johan Kok** has played in the past three PGA Championships (missed cuts) and is the General Manager at the Hideaway at Arrington Golf Course. The 37-year old is a native Nelspruit, South Africa, who attended the University of South Carolina. Kok's success came early as he won the Georgia State Championship while attending McIntosh High School in Peachtree City, Ga. He was low medalist in the regionals both his junior and senior years. He turned professional in 2003. Since moving to Tennessee, he has been very successful winning over 20 Tennessee PGA events from 2011-2014. His most recent victory was the Middle Tennessee Chapter Championship on Nov. 2, 2016, at his home course (Arrington Golf Course).
- **Oliver Peacock** has played in three PGA Championships with a best finish of 37<sup>th</sup> in 2011. He also played in that event in both 2013 and 2014 (missed both cuts). Peacock is currently the head golf professional at Belle Meade Country Club. The 41-year old has played in 10 Tennessee PGA events and was the winner of the 2016 Tennessee PGA Section Championship held at the Hideaway at Arrington on August 3. Peacock has also made the cut in his three appearances in the National PGA Championship for Club Pros. Prior to moving to Tennessee, Peacock was victorious in the 2010 Carolinas PGA Head Professionals Championship. The Arkansas native was an All-Conference selection at Arkansas Tech. He and his wife Amanda have four daughters.

## PGA TOUR CARDS:

- With 50 available PGA TOUR cards for the 2017-18 season coming through the Web.com Tour (since 2013), this tour is The Path to the PGA TOUR. Twenty-five (25) TOUR cards are reserved for the leading money winners at the end of the 22-event Regular Season. Another 25 are up for grabs at the four-event Web.com Tour Finals that follow the Regular Season in September.
- Open qualifying: A total of 12 playing spots in the Nashville Golf Open will be up for grabs at Monday's two open qualifying tournaments hosted by the Tennessee Section of the PGA. Greystone Golf Club in Dickson, Tenn., and Old Hickory Country Club in Old Hickory, Tenn., are the sites for the two qualifying tournaments and the top six finishers from each site will earn a spot in the Nashville Golf Open field.

## ABOUT THE NASHVILLE GOLF & ATHLETIC CLUB:

- Nashville Golf & Athletic Club is a 1971 Bruce Devlin / Robert von Hagge design that has been owned and operated by the Whittemore family for over 35 years. The course has served as host venue for the Tennessee State Open on a number of occasions and hosted the 2016 Tennessee Mid-Amateur Championship.
  - "With the inaugural NGO tournament under our belt, we are certain that the years to come will be an even greater success and we couldn't be more excited to be partnered with the PGA TOUR and Tour Vision to host the tournament," said Madison Whittemore, General Manager of Nashville Golf & Athletic Club. "The local community involvement and teamwork that occurred to put together the first year's

event in literally a matter of months was amazing to see and was a strong indicator that this is an event which is only going to get better. Nashville Golf & Athletic Club has continued to work with the PGA TOUR throughout the year to make improvements and we look forward to again offering the players a true test of golf in June of 2017!”

#### **MEDIA CENTER AND PARKING:**

- The Media Center is in the main clubhouse. Media parking is beyond the main clubhouse on the left side of the street adjacent to the volunteer pavilion. Signage will direct you. Your media credential doubles as your parking pass. Please display your media credential at all times when at the tournament.
- NGO Media Contacts:
  - Nick Parker, PGA TOUR – (904) 806-4582, [NickParker@pgatourhq.com](mailto:NickParker@pgatourhq.com)
  - Bob Hyde, NGO Media Chair – (615) 972-9099, [bhyde618@yahoo.com](mailto:bhyde618@yahoo.com)
- To arrange player interviews prior to tournament week, please contact Nick Parker.

#### **NASHVILLE GOLF OPEN SCHEDULE: June 26 –July 2, 2017**

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|--------------------|--|
| Monday, June 26    | Course open for participant practice rounds (open qualifying tournaments, see above)   |
| Tuesday, June 27   | Course open for participant practice rounds  |
| Wednesday, June 28 | Nashville Golf Open Pro-Am, morning tee time begin 7:30 am (tentative)<br>Nashville Golf Open Pro-Am, afternoon tee times begin 12:30 pm (tentative) |
| Thursday, June 29  | Opening round, first tee time scheduled for 6:30 am  |
| Friday, June 30    | Second round, first tee time scheduled for 6:30 am – field cut to top 65 and ties  |
| Saturday, July 1   | Third round, first tee time TBD  |
| Sunday, July 2     | Final round, first tee time TBD, winner ceremony on 18 green following play  |

#### **TICKET INFORMATION:**

- Tickets are available through [ngogolf.com](http://ngogolf.com). Ticket prices start at \$10 for a Daily Pass for one day’s admission and \$35 for a Weekly Pass that provide access throughout the tournament week. Customers can also opt for reasonably priced hospitality suite access that includes food and beverage.
- Proceeds from online ticket sales benefit The First Tee of Middle Tennessee and Williamson County high schools. Consumers can select the charity of their choice upon purchase.
  - Last year, the inaugural event generated approximately \$50,000 for The First Tee and Williamson County schools.

#### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES/PRO AM EVENT:**

- Opportunities exist for companies to utilize Middle Tennessee’s only professional golf event for hospitality. These range from playing spots in the Pro-Am event on Wednesday, June 28, to purchasing hospitality passes or a dedicated skybox.
  - “In just our second year, we are pleased with how companies in Middle Tennessee have recognized the value of aligning with our event,” said Tournament Director Patrick Nichol. “By engaging with businesses in this area, we are able to not only put on a first-class event but we are also able to donate back into the community.”

**For more information on purchasing tickets, corporate hospitality, sponsorships or volunteer opportunities, visit [ngogolf.com](http://ngogolf.com)**