



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2023

CONTACTS:

Chris King, PGA TOUR Champions Communications, 720-470-2852, ChrisKing@pgatourhq.com

Alissa Kiktavy, Falls & Co., 216-696-5691, akiktavy@fallsandco.com

Tara Byrne, Falls & Co., 216-696-5668, tbyrne@fallsandco.com

Stephen Curry To Be Named 2023 Ambassador of Golf

For B-Roll of Stephen Curry, click [here](#). For photos of Stephen Curry & UNDERRATED Tour, click [here](#).

AKRON, Ohio – Today the Kaulig Companies Championship, PGA TOUR Champions and Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation announced that NBA champion Stephen Curry will be named the 2023 recipient of the Ambassador of Golf Award. Curry will be recognized the evening of Saturday, July 8, 2023 at the Ambassador of Golf event, presented by the FirstEnergy Foundation, at Firestone Country Club. The award – which benefits the Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation – honors a person who has fostered the ideals of the game on an international level and whose concerns for others extends beyond the golf course.

In addition to Curry being named the 2023 Ambassador of Golf, PGA TOUR Champions has partnered with UNDERRATED Golf to host an event at Firestone Country Club featuring 96 junior golfers that includes 48 boys and 48 girls ages 12 to 18 from across the country. This event will be hosted from Thursday, July 6 through Saturday, July 8, 2023 on the South Course at Firestone Country Club – the same course where the Kaulig Companies Championship will be contested the following week.

“While golf has always been a passion of mine, I can’t turn a blind eye to the major inequities that exist in the sport amongst underrepresented individuals,” said **Stephen Curry**. “With UNDERRATED Golf, we want to provide unparalleled opportunities and learnings to individuals who may not normally have access to the sport. I believe that golf, unlike any other sport, offers a very powerful vehicle to positively shape and impact an individual’s social and professional career across their lifetime. It is my hope that through this exciting endeavor, we can create a brighter and sustainable future for these young prospects.”

“Stephen Curry using his platform as a global icon and one of the NBA’s all-time greats to help make the game of golf more diverse and welcoming to all is truly remarkable,” said PGA TOUR Commissioner **Jay Monahan**. “Through UNDERRATED Golf, he has helped make huge strides in bridging the gap, providing access and opportunity to underserved communities. These efforts – along with his support of the neighboring Memorial Tournament presented by Workday – make him the ideal 2023 Ambassador of Golf. On behalf of the PGA TOUR, we are elated to honor him with this distinction at next year’s Kaulig Companies Championship.”

The UNDERRATED Tour started in 2019 as a basketball showcase event for players who might not have otherwise been scouted by college coaches. The Tour is open to players who were ranked as three-star recruits or lower, like Curry. In 2021, Curry launched UNDERRATED Golf, a purpose-driven business endeavor with the overarching commitment to provide equity, access and opportunity to student-athletes from every community by balancing participation in the sport to truly reflect our society.

The inspiring movement joined the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) in efforts to address the sports' lack of diversity. The UNDERRATED Tour is built upon three key pillars – equity: the quality of being just and fair; access: the ability, right or permission to enter; and opportunity: a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something. The UNDERRATED Tour utilizes golf as a platform to offer young, overlooked golfers special programming experiences, including an ongoing speaker series and networking events with brands and corporations, allowing them to understand what it means to make connections and build successful careers.

In its inaugural year, the UNDERRATED Tour held four tournaments, beginning in Chicago and concluding with the best 24 boys and girls competing for the Curry Cup in the Tour's season-ending championship tournament in San Francisco in late August of 2021.

An avid golfer himself, Curry teamed up with Howard University in August 2019 to announce that the school would add NCAA Division I teams in men's and women's golf starting in the 2020–21 school year, with Curry guaranteeing full funding of both teams for six years, ultimately helping Howard golf regain its status as a Division I competitor.

The NBA superstar also paired up with NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning in November 2020 for The Match: Champions for Change, a charity event against NBA Hall of Fame forward Charles Barkley and Phil Mickelson that raised money for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

Curry's additional charitable efforts continue to make a lasting impact. In 2012, Curry started donating three insecticide-treated mosquito nets for every three-pointer he made to the United Nations Foundation's Nothing But Nets campaign to combat malaria, after being introduced to the cause by a former college teammate. In July 2019, Stephen and his wife Ayesha launched their Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation. The non-profit was created to focus on improving the lives of kids and families in Oakland, the Bay Area and across the country. Rooted in three of the most vital pillars for a healthy childhood—nutrition, education and physical activity – Eat. Learn. Play. is working to ensure that every child in Oakland has access to the nutritious food they need to be healthy and thrive; is equipped with the resources to foster a love for learning and reading; and is provided safe places and equitable opportunities to play.

Away from the court, he continues to use his influence to support and further foster growth with initiatives and organizations such as GoodSports, Positive Coaching Alliance, Charity Bounce, Oakland Parks, Recreation & Youth Development and Oakland Athletic League.

The Charlotte, North Carolina native was selected by the Golden State Warriors with the seventh overall pick in the 2009 NBA draft out of Davidson College. Since joining the NBA, he has been selected to eight All-NBA Teams and voted league MVP twice.

Born in Akron, Ohio, while his father, Dell Curry, played for the Cleveland Cavaliers, Curry went on to earn his bachelor's degree in sociology in May 2022 from Davidson, after opting out of his senior year in 2009. He became the first Davidson player to have his number retired at a ceremony held in August 2022 where he also entered the Wildcats athletic hall of fame and physically received his diploma. Curry married his long-time girlfriend and Toronto-area native, Ayesha, in 2011. The couple share three children – Riley, Ryan and Canon.

Curry joins an illustrious list of Ambassador of Golf Award winners: 1981 Chi Chi Rodriguez; 1982 Bing Crosby; 1983 Byron Nelson; 1984 Gene Sarazen; 1985 President Gerald Ford; 1986 Bob Hope; 1987 Dinah Shore; 1988 Joe Dey; 1989 Frank Chirkinian; 1990 Barbara Nicklaus; 1991 Arnold Palmer; 1992 Nancy Lopez; 1993 Roberto De Vicenzo; 1994 President George H.W. Bush; 1995 Michael Bonnallack; 1996 Deane Beman; 1997 Peter Thomson; 1998 Ken Venturi; 1999 Gary Player; 2000 Ben Hogan and Sam Snead; 2001 Del de Windt; 2002 Joanne Carner; 2003 Robert Dedman, Sr. and Jack Vickers; 2004 Lee Trevino; 2005 Pete Dye; 2006 Ken Schofield; 2007 Tony Jacklin; 2008 Charlie Sifford; 2009 Hale Irwin; 2010 Tom Watson; 2011 Nick Price; 2012 Nick Faldo; 2013 Jack Nicklaus; 2014 Johnny Miller; 2015 Judy Rankin; 2016 Davis Love III; 2017 Peter Jacobsen; 2018 Jim Nantz; 2019 Fred Couples; 2021 President George W. Bush and 2022 Condoleezza Rice.

Curry will receive the award at the Ambassador of Golf Event--on Saturday, July 8, 2023 at Firestone Country Club. Opportunities to support this charitable fundraiser by being a part of a VIP Roundtable and the ceremony honoring Curry are available. For inquiries and more information, please contact Danielle Thompson at danielle@nogcf.org or 330 245 2302.

To download the Ambassador of Golf logo, please click [here](#).

Jerry Kelly is the defending champion of the Kaulig Companies Championship and next year's tournament will be played July 12-16, 2023. For more information on the 2023 Kaulig Companies Championship, please visit KauligChampionship.com.

ABOUT THE KAULIG COMPANIES CHAMPIONSHIP

The Kaulig Companies Championship is one of five major championships contested annually on PGA TOUR Champions for eligible professionals age 50 and over. The 2023 tournament will be held the week of July 12-16 and will continue professional golf's 70-year tradition at Firestone Country Club. A field of 78 professionals will compete for one of the most prestigious Champions Tour titles and an exemption into the following year's PLAYERS Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

ABOUT PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older, including 34 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame. The Tour's mission is to provide financial opportunities for its players, entertain and inspire its fans, deliver substantial value to its partners, create outlets for volunteers to give back and generate significant charitable and economic impact in tournament communities. Follow PGA TOUR Champions online at PGATOUR.com, on [Facebook](#), on [Twitter](#) (@ChampionsTour), on [Instagram](#) (@pgatourchampions) and on [TikTok](#) (pgatourchampions).

All events are televised in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on GOLF Channel, the exclusive cable-television partner of PGA TOUR Champions. Tournament programming is available via 20-plus TV linear partners in 170-plus countries and territories, with 25 channels carrying long-form and/or highlights coverage, and 170-plus hours of live coverage distributed in 130-plus countries and territories. Programming is also available via the OTT platform GOLFTV powered by PGA TOUR in every market outside of the United States (240-plus countries and territories), excluding China, Korea and Russia, with live coverage distributed in 130-plus countries and territories.

ABOUT KAULIG COMPANIES

Kaulig Companies Limited is the single-member family office (SFO) for Matt Kaulig and his immediate family. The family office operates across a diverse spectrum of businesses, including sports and entertainment, marketing and event management, private equity, real estate, investment advisory services and philanthropy, with a focus on children and families. To learn more visit www.kauligcompanies.com.

ABOUT THE FIRSTENERGY FOUNDATION

The FirstEnergy Foundation is funded solely by FirstEnergy Corp. and provides support to non-profit, tax-exempt health and human services agencies; educational organizations; cultural and arts programs and institutions; and civic groups in areas served by FirstEnergy's 10 electric operating companies and in areas where the company conducts business.

NORTHERN OHIO GOLF CHARITIES FOUNDATION

Northern Ohio Golf Charities and Foundation is the volunteer organization that has helped conduct professional golf tournaments at Firestone Country Club for 65 years through a dedicated, camaraderie-driven volunteer force who support tournament operations, raise funds for northern Ohio charities and recognize golf legends through the Ambassador of Golf program. www.nogcf.org.