



2012 World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship
(The 8th of 37 events in the PGA TOUR Regular Season)

Marana, AZ **Feb. 20-26, 2012** **Purse: \$8,500,000 (\$1,400,000 to the winner)**
The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain **Par/Yards: 36-36 – 72/7,791**

Fourth-Round Notes (Quarterfinals) – Saturday, February 25, 2012

Weather

Sunny and clear skies. Warm with temperatures in the low to mid-70s. Winds SSE in the afternoon at 5-10 mph.

Overtime

Semifinals and Championship/Consolation Matches - If matches are all-square after 18 holes, the extra holes will be the 1st, the 9th, the 10th and then 14 through 18 until the match is decided.

Breakdown of 2012 field of 64 players:

To start the first round:

International players: 42
 U.S. players: 22
 Countries represented: 14
 Largest international contingent: England and Australia (6 each)

After the quarterfinals:

International players: 2
 U.S. players: 2
 Countries represented: 3
 Largest international contingent following the quarterfinals: England, Northern Ireland

Winners of the quarterfinals by country (Number of players initially in the field in parentheses)

Australia (6)	Belgium (1)	Northern Ireland (3)
South Korea (5)	Germany (1)	Rory McIlroy
South Africa (5)	Japan (1)	
Spain (5)	Scotland (2)	United States (22)
Italy (2)		Hunter Mahan
Sweden (3)	England (6)	Mark Wilson
Denmark (2)	Lee Westwood	

The highest-ranked player to survive the quarterfinals: Rory McIlroy (No. 2)
 The lowest-ranked player to survive the quarterfinals: Mark Wilson (No. 42)
 The largest margin of victory in the quarterfinals: Hunter Mahan def Matt Kuchar, 6 and 5
 Number of matches to go extra holes in the quarterfinals: 0

The lowest-ranked player to win the Accenture Match Play Championship:

- No. 62, Kevin Sutherland, 2002
- No. 55, Steve Stricker, 2001
- No. 52, Geoff Ogilvy, 2006

All four of the players who advanced are making their first appearance in the semifinals, the fifth time that has happened in tournament history, not counting 1999 (2000, 2001, 2002, 2011).

Updated all-time Accenture Match Play Championship Records for eight remaining players:

Player	W-L	Years Entered	Best Previous Finish
Hunter Mahan	8-4	5 (2008-2012)	T9 (2011)
Lee Westwood	11-11	12 (1999-2000, 2002, 2004-2012)	T17 (seven times)

Mark Wilson	5-1	2 (2011-2012)	T17 (2011)
Rory McIlroy	9-3	4 (2009-2012)	T5 (2009)

How the remaining number-one seeds fared in the quarter-finals:

Rory McIlroy (No. 2) def Sang-Moon Bae (No. 44), 3 and 2

Lee Westwood (No. 3) def Martin Laird (No. 40), 4 and 2

*Martin Kaymer (No. 4) lost in the third round to Matt Kuchar (No. 14), 4 and 3

*Luke Donald (No. 1) lost in first round to Ernie Els (No. 68)

With Luke Donald falling in the first round of the Accenture Match Play Championship, both Rory McIlroy (NIR) and Lee Westwood (ENG) have the opportunity to take over the No. 1 spot in the Official World Golf Ranking. Both players would need to go on to victory to supplant Donald.

There were 24 players under the age of 30 in the Accenture Match Play Championship field, the most in tournament history, bettering the record of 23 previously set in 2010 and 2011. Two of those players have made it to the semi-finals: Hunter Mahan (29) and Rory McIlroy (22), marking the fourth time in Accenture Match Play Championship history that two 20-somethings have made the final four. If Mahan and McIlroy advance to the Championship Match, it will be the first time in tournament history that the Championship Match will feature two players in their 20s.

Hunter Mahan (No. 22) and Mark Wilson (No. 42) will meet in the semi-finals on Saturday morning, setting up the eighth all-American semi-final in Accenture Match Play Championship history. It also guarantees that an American will be in the finals for the first time since 2008 (Tiger Woods versus Stewart Cink).

Should Mahan or Wilson go on to win the Accenture Match Play Championship, it would mark the first time Americans have won the first eight events on the PGA TOUR schedule since 2001, when Robert Allenby won the Northern Trust Open in the ninth event of the year. Prior to 2001, the last time Americans won the first eight events of the year was in 1991 when they won the first 12 before Ian Woosnam claimed the USF&G Classic (Zurich Classic of New Orleans).

Rory McIlroy (No. 2) and Lee Westwood (No. 3) will meet in the semi-finals on Saturday morning, marking only the second time in Accenture Match Play Championship history that two top seeds have squared off in the semi-finals (2000 – No. 1 Tiger Woods versus No. 4 Davis Love III; Woods won, 5 and 4). It also marks the first time two top seeds have made the final four since 2004 (Tiger Woods, Davis Love III).

Quarterfinals - match highlights

Mark Wilson (No. 42) def Peter Hanson (No. 35), 4 and 3

Peter Hanson had not trailed in any of his three previous matches this week, but went 1 down to Mark Wilson after a bogey on the first hole in the quarterfinals. The two were all square through nine holes before Hanson made bogeys on three of the next five holes. The match ended when Hanson and Wilson matched birdies on the par-4 15th hole.

Wilson has yet to play the 17th or 18th holes in his four rounds this week. Luke Donald (2011) and Tiger Woods (2003) are the only players to win the Accenture Match Play Championship without playing the final hole (Woods played No. 18 once as part of the 36-hole Championship Match). No player has won without playing the last two holes all week.

Last year was Wilson's first appearance in the event; He was defeated in round two by Bubba Watson.

Wilson is guaranteed to post his best finish, and first top 10, in a World Golf Championships event in seven starts. His current best finish came at both the 2011 Accenture Match Play Championship and Bridgestone Invitational (T17).

Wilson has won five PGA TOUR events, with three victories coming since the start of the 2011 season (2011 Sony Open in Hawaii; Waste Management Phoenix Open; 2012 Humana Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation), and all in January and February. A win this week would give him more PGA TOUR victories (four) than any other player in 2011-2012. Steve Stricker, like Wilson, has won three times since the start of 2011.

Hanson's T5 finish is his best in five Accenture Match Play Championship starts, as well as his best finish in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event in 35 starts. His previous best was a T7 at the 2011 U.S. Open.

Hunter Mahan (No. 22) def Matt Kuchar (No. 14), 6 and 5

Hunter Mahan's 6-and-5 win over Kuchar is the largest margin of victory in Accenture Match Play Championship quarterfinals' history. The previous record was 5 and 4 (6 times):

- 2000 David Duval defeated Scott Hoch, 5 and 4
- 2003 Tiger Woods defeated Scott Hoch, 5 and 4
- 2007 Geoff Ogilvy defeated Paul Casey, 5 and 4
- 2007 Trevor Immelman defeated Justin Rose, 5 and 4
- 2010 Paul Casey defeated Stewart Cink, 5 and 4
- 2011 Luke Donald defeated Ryan Moore, 5 and 4

The 6-and-5 victory is the largest for Mahan of his seven previous Accenture Match Play Championship match victories.

Mahan has only played 62 holes thus far through four rounds. After needing one extra hole to defeat Zach Johnson in round one, Mahan has won the next three rounds by impressive margins: 5 and 3 over Y.E. Yang; 4 and 3 over Steve Stricker; and 6 and 5 over Matt Kuchar.

Mahan would need to close out his match tomorrow on the 11th hole to tie Luke Donald's record for fewest holes played en route to a championship match (73).

Mahan made seven birdies in his round-two victory over Y.E. Yang (15 holes); nine birdies against Steve Stricker (15 holes); and four birdies against Kuchar (13 holes).

Mahan (No. 22) is ranked higher than his semi-final opponent, Mark Wilson (No. 42). Only once before has Mahan lost to a player ranked lower than him at the Accenture Match Play Championship (2010).

- In 2008, he was ranked No. 35 and lost in the second round to Steve Stricker (No. 3)
- In 2009, he was ranked No. 48 and lost in the second round to Rory McIlroy (No. 16)
- In 2010, he was ranked No. 30 and lost in the first round to Charl Schwartzel (No. 35)
- In 2011, he was ranked No. 18 and lost in the third round to Martin Kaymer (No. 2)

Mahan has three TOUR wins, one of which came at the World Golf Championship-Bridgestone Invitational in 2010. This is Mahan's 16th start in a World Golf Championships event.

Kuchar's Accenture Match Play Championship record is a solid 8-3; his last two losses, however, have been by significant margins. He lost to Luke Donald in the semi-finals last year, 6 and 5, matched by today's 6-and-5 loss to Mahan.

Rory McIlroy (No. 2) def Sang-moon Bae (No. 44), 3 and 2

Rory McIlroy never trailed in his quarterfinal match against Sang-moon Bae. In fact, McIlroy hasn't trailed by more than 1 down in his first three matches; he last trailed on the 10th hole of his first-round match.

McIlroy has an opportunity to become not only the youngest winner in Accenture Match Play Championship history, but also the youngest winner of a World Golf Championships event. He will be 22 years, 9 months and 22 days old on Sunday. The current two records are as follows:

Youngest Accenture Match Play Championship winner: Tiger Woods, 27/2/2, 2003

Youngest World Golf Championships winner: Tiger Woods, 23/7/30, 1999 Bridgestone Invitational.

Outside of Tiger Woods, the youngest player to win a World Golf Championships event is Martin Kaymer at the 2011 HSBC Champions at 26 years, 11 months, 28 days.

With a T5, Bae posts the best finish of his rookie season and the best finish by a Korean player at the Accenture Match Play Championship, bettering the previous mark of T9 by KJ Choi (2008) and YE Yang (2011). He also posts the best finish of the tournament by a player making his first Accenture Match Play Championship start (of 11 who began the week).

Bae was attempting to become only the second rookie to win a World Golf Championships event (Henrik Stenson, 2007 Accenture Match Play Championship).

The "Top 10 from Previous Tournament" exemption does not apply to World Golf Championships; therefore, Bae's finish here at the Accenture Match Play Championship will not earn him a spot in next week's Honda Classic field. However, Q-school and Nationwide Tour grads are reshuffled five times a year based on money earned. The reshuffle affects their priority for entry into tournaments. The first reshuffle occurs after this week, and Bae's finish will move him high enough to gain entry into The Honda Classic.

Lee Westwood (No. 3) def Martin Laird (No. 40), 4 and 2

Like Peter Hanson, Lee Westwood had yet to trail in any of his three previous matches this week. And also like Hanson, Westwood immediately went 1 down after the first hole, with Laird making a 7-foot, 8-inch birdie putt. Westwood, however, regained control of the match thanks to four bogeys on the next five holes by Laird: No. 6 (all square); No. 7 (Westwood 1 up); No. 9 (Westwood 2 up) and No. 10 (Westwood 3 up).

Westwood has yet to play the 18th hole in his four rounds this week. Luke Donald (2011) and Tiger Woods (2003) are the only players to win the Accenture Match Play Championship without playing the final hole (Woods played No. 18 once as part of the 36-hole Championship Match).

By advancing to the semi-finals, Westwood continues a streak of Englishmen making it to the final four:

- 2001 – Luke Donald
- 2010 – Ian Poulter and Paul Casey
- 2009 – Paul Casey

With a T5, Laird posts his best finish and his second top 10 in a World Golf Championships event (T10 at the Cadillac Championship). This is his sixth start in a World Golf Championships event.

Laird matches the best finish by a Scot in Accenture Match Play Championship history:

- Paul Lawrie, 5 appearances, best finish – T5 in 2001
- Martin Laird, 2 appearances, best finish – T5 in 2012
- Colin Montgomerie, 8 appearances, best finish – T9 in 2004, 2008
- Andrew Coltart, 1 appearance, best finish – T9 in 2001

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