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November 17, 2008

The PGA Tour's 2009 schedule has been released. The good news for the players is that they will have 25 events. The financial crisis that claimed some title sponsors was of great concern, but as Commissioner Tim Finchem said, "The story of the PGA Tour's demise was considerably overstated." Each of the 25 events will have at least \$6 million dollars in prize money. The total to be paid out for all the events is \$222.9 million, which is \$15 million more than this year.

Changes will be made to the FedEx Cup format, but they're still working on the details. Golf gives back to communities and in 2008 the PGA Tour total for charitable giving topped \$123 million.

If you haven't been following double-heart transplant Eric Compton's Tour school progress, he missed advancing to the final stage by one shot. Compton had his second heart transplant this past May.

How's this for one heck of a week. A week ago Wednesday Matt Bettencourt was in a Plano, Texas, hospital passing a kidney stone. The next day he teed off as scheduled in the Nationwide Tour's Championship. While that's a great story in itself, it gets better. Bettencourt ended up winning and the \$180,000 first prize jumped him from 12th in the money list to finish first on the Nationwide Tour for 2008. That automatically gets him a PGA Tour card for the 2009 season.

In case you were wondering what happened to promising Aussie golf star Adam Scott this year, he's wondering the same thing. Back in May he suffered a fracture to the edge of his hand above his little finger, and for the past few months has battled tonsillitis due to being run down from all the international traveling. He plans on taking off some time to get it all figured out again. Scott was a two-time Singapore Open winner but missed the cut by three strokes last week. His doctors have advised him to cut down on his 2009 schedule next year to avoid the exhaustion.

Phil Mickelson has lost his No. 2 world ranking to Sergio Garcia. Almost a decade after he was heralded as golf's next big thing, Sergio now stands where many have long expected him to be: as the world's second-ranked player behind Tiger Woods. He becomes the first European to hold the second spot since Colin Montgomerie had it 12 years ago. Garcia holds another title he's also taken from Mickelson, but one he would gladly pass on to another player: Best player to never have won a major. Sergio came second in the 1999 PGA Championship to Woods and has been edged out twice by Pádraig Harrington in two years, at the 2007 British Open at Carnoustie and in this year's PGA Championship at Oakland Hills.



SST Adds Two Postseason Wins

The PGA Tour season might be over, but SST PURE keeps winning. Jeev Milkha Singh, who first PUREd his clubs in 2007, won the Barclay's Singapore Open by a single stroke over two other players who ask SST to PURE their clubs: Pádraig Harrington and Ernie Els. **Harrington, a strong advocate of PUREing,** won two majors this year – the British Open and the PGA Championship. Singh now is far enough ahead to win his second Asian Tour Order of Merit championship in three years. Singh, no relation to Vijay (another of the huge group of players who ask SST to PURE their clubs), played several events in the United States this year as well as all the majors.

The second victory this week came when Nick Price shot a 7-under 65 to lead the Champions Tour team to two nine-hole tournament victories at the Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge on Tuesday. Price first asked SST to PURE his clubs years ago.

More off-season SST PURE victories are sure to come as PGA Tour players fan out all over the world to play in some lucrative events. 2008 was a record buster for SST as players with PUREd clubs won 37 events, including two major championships by Harrington and the FedEx Cup by Vijay Singh. In fact, SST PURE won all of the four FedEx Cup playoff events.

So what does it mean when I say they play with SST PUREd clubs? SST does not manufacture clubs or shafts, but they do make clubs perform better by analyzing any shaft to find its most stable position.

All shafts manufactured have irregularities in straightness and roundness, and only SST PURE can analyze each shaft and then pinpoint the exact position a specific shaft must be oriented in the club head to eliminate harmful oscillations that make it impossible to impact the same sweet spot position repeatedly.

You can have your clubs PUREd exactly as they are on the PGA TOUR by locating the closest SST PURE licensee near you at www.sstpure.com.

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