

Sports Illustrated Debuts SI World Golf Rankings

February 22, 2023

Ranking System Encompasses All Professional Tours, Weighs Recent Data-Driven Player and Course Statistics For Weekly Results at SI Golf

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 22, 2023-- <u>Sports Illustrated</u> (SI) today announced the creation of the SI World Golf Rankings, a new ranking system that includes all major men's professional tours and data-driven player results. The rankings will be continuously updated at <u>Sl.com/golf</u> alongside in-depth stories, breaking news, championship coverage, and analysis from SI Golf.

The SI World Golf Rankings seek to address concerns about the widely utilized world rankings system and offer an alternative that:

- Reflects the importance of measuring results from the most immediate 12 months, whereas current world rankings include tournament results as far back as two years ago.
- Leverages data and a proprietary formula to evaluate player performance, inclusive of the competition across all tours.

Current SI World Golf Rankings, as of February 22, 2023:

- 1. Jon Rahm
- 2. Scottie Scheffler
- 3. Rory McIlroy
- 4. Will Zalatoris
- 5. Patrick Cantlay
- 6. Cameron Smith
- 7. Max Homa
- 8. Xander Schauffele
- 9. Justin Thomas
- 10. Tony Finau
- 11. Collin Morikawa
- 12. Matthew Fitzpatrick
- 13. Dustin Johnson
- 14. Cameron Young
- 15. Tom Kim

To see the top 100 and learn about our calculations, click here.

"As the benchmark for comprehensive sports coverage, we are thrilled to create the SI World Golf Rankings to give fans an alternative way to analyze players across global tours," said Chris Pirrone, Senior Vice President & General Manager of *Sports Illustrated*. "We believe the rankings are a better reflection of the state of professional golf competition, are more robust and comprehensive, and provide a more accurate understanding of who the best golfers are right now."

Partnering with Golf Intelligence, the rankings weigh 12 months of player results along with calculations for strength-of-field and course difficulty. All professional golfers will continue to accrue points in 2023 and LIV golfers receive points for events they played in 2022. While it will initially rank the top 100 players in men's golf, it will soon expand to be larger and a women's ranking is slated for release at a later date.

"Golf Intelligence has unique and proprietary data, including on every golf course layout, with artificial intelligence and machine learning capabilities to refine strength-of-field metrics and continuously inform SI Golf's new ranking system," said Jim Stracka, President of Golf Intelligence.

The Arena Group first expanded *Sports Illustrated's* golf coverage with the addition of Morning Read in 2022. The rankings serve as another investment in the golf space, with a team of leading golf insiders analyzing each Monday's release of the <u>SI World Golf Rankings</u>.

LA GOLF is the presenting sponsor to launch the inaugural SI World Golf Rankings. Reed Dickens, LA GOLF Founder and CEO said, "The best players in the world are playing on multiple tours across the globe. These rankings represent an elegant solution, and LA GOLF is proud to be part of this evolution."

Get daily fresh takes on what's happening within the world of golf first thing in the morning by subscribing to SI Golf's Morning Read. Follow Sports Illustrated on Twitter @Slnow, Instagram @sportsillustrated, and Facebook, or subscribe to Sports Illustrated today.

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About The Arena Group

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Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes statements that constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of words such as "forecast," "guidance," "plan," "estimate," "will," "would," "project," "maintain," "intend," "expect," "anticipate," "prospect," "strategy," "future," "likely," "may," "should," "believe," "continue," "opportunity," "potential," and other similar expressions that predict or indicate future events or trends or that are not statements of historical matters, and include, for example, statements related to the expected effects on the Company's business from the COVID-19 pandemic. These forward-looking statements are based on information available at the time the statements are made and/or management's good faith belief as of that time with respect to future events, and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or suggested by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, the duration and scope of the COVID-19 pandemic and impact on the demand for the Company products; the ability of the Company to expand its verticals; the Company's ability to grow its subscribers; the Company's ability to grow its advertising revenue; general economic uncertainty in key global markets and a worsening of global economic conditions or low levels of economic growth; the effects of steps that the Company could take to reduce operating costs; the inability of the Company to sustain profitable sales growth; circumstances or developments that may make the Company unable to implement or realize the anticipated benefits, or that may increase the costs, of its current and planned business initiatives; and those factors detailed by The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. in its public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Should one or more of these risks, uncertainties, or facts materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those indicated or anticipated by the forward-looking statements contained herein. Accordingly, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date they are made. Forward-looking statements should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results and will not necessarily be accurate indications of the times at, or by, which such performance or results will be achieved. Except as required under the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we do not have any intention or obligation to update publicly any forwardlooking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

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