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The 2018 BMW Championship gets underway at Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, PA with first-ever trip to Philadelphia market.

Two-Time NCAA Champion Head Coach Jay Wright and Former NFL Quarterback Ron Jaworski Participated Alongside TOUR Players in the BMW Championship Gardner Heidrick Pro-Am to Mark the Official Start of BMW Championship Week

Newtown Square, PA – September 5, 2018... The 2018 BMW Championship kicked-off today at Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, PA, as the event makes its first trip to the Philadelphia area. Defending BMW Championship winner Marc Leishman will look to become the first repeat champion in the event's history.

Two-time NCAA champion head coach, Jay Wright of the Villanova Wildcats was joined by former Philadelphia Eagles quarterback, Ron Jaworski in the annual BMW Championship Gardner Heidrick Pro-Am. Playing alongside PGA TOUR players, Wright and Jaworski participated in the largest fundraising event for the Platt Evans Scholars program, which grants full college scholarships to deserving young caddies in the Philadelphia area.

All net proceeds from the 2018 BMW Championship benefit the Platt Evans Scholars. Since the tournament's inception in 2007, the BMW Championship has raised more than \$27 million for the Evans Scholars Foundation. In the 2018-19 academic year, 985 caddies will be attending 18 major colleges and universities on Evans Scholarships. Currently, there are more than 10,800 Evans Scholarship alumni nationwide.

The BMW Championship is the penultimate event of the PGA TOUR's FedExCup Playoffs and will be played Thursday, September 6 through Sunday, September 9.

The 70-player field includes some of the most decorated golfers in the sport, such as Tiger Woods, Jordan Spieth, Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Phil Mickelson, and Jason Day. All

three of this year's major championship winners will also take on the challenge of Aronimink, including Brooks Koepka (U.S. Open and PGA Championship winner), Patrick Reed (Masters champion), and Francesco Molinari (British Open champion), as well as defending FedExCup winner Justin Thomas.

Once again, BMW will also provide a full, four-year tuition and housing grant through the Platt Evans Scholarships in the name of the first PGA TOUR player to record a hole-in-one during the 2018 BMW Championship.

PGA TOUR Players will also have the opportunity to earn some significant prizes by carding a hole-in-one on the 17th hole. The first player to record an ace will receive the all-new BMW M850xi Coupe.

As always, fans attending the BMW Championship will have a multitude of interactive activities on the grounds, in addition to the golf, including:

- **BMW Experience**

Located behind the 17th green, the BMW Experience features BMW's newest vehicles and a variety of fun activities and contests. Visitors will see a lineup of some of BMW's most exciting vehicles including a closed-room sneak-peek at the all-new BMW X7 Sports Activity Vehicle and BMW 8 Series convertible.

- **Biergarten**

Inside the BMW Experience, fans can once again find a great place to relax and experience the BMW Championship without missing any of the action. The Biergarten is a one-of-a-kind venue on the grounds of Aronimink, featuring rows of picnic tables, authentic German beer, and of course, pretzels. With a larger video board showing live tournament coverage, you can take a break and enjoy a taste of Germany while enjoying the competition between the ropes.

- **BMW Owners' Pavilion**

A BMW key unlocks the best that the BMW Championship has to offer in this unique setup between the 17th green and 18th tee box. Once inside the grounds, Owners and a guest can access the BMW Owners' Pavilion by simply showing their

BMW key. There, they are invited to relax and enjoy premium concessions. The BMW Owners' Pavilion offers both indoor and outdoor viewing space, as well as premium views of multiple holes. Regardless of who raises the BMW Championship trophy this year, BMW Owners are the real winners.

- **BMW Putting Challenge To Benefit Platt Evans Scholars**

Also a part of the BMW Experience, the BMW Putting Challenge will provide patrons the opportunity to not just “drive the green,” but also to make a truly impactful hole-in-one. A miniature golf hole is designed to challenge fans of all skillsets, as those in attendance will have the opportunity to sink a 40-foot putt to help support the BMW Putting Challenge, to help support the Evans Scholars Foundation. Anyone who makes the putt will be entered to win a trip to the BMW Performance Center in Thermal, California.

- **BMW Owners' Parking and Concierge**

BMW Owners receive exclusive parking in the BMW Owners' Lot, personal concierge service, and shuttle service to/from the BMW Championship grounds.

For updates during the 2018 BMW Championship, follow the conversation with:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BMWChampionship>
- Twitter: @BMWchamps, @PGATOUR, @BMWUSA @WGAESF, @AroniminkGC
- Instagram: @bmwchamps, @PGATOUR, @BMWUSA, @WGAESF, @aroniminkgolfclub
- Hashtags: #BMWChamps, #BMWGolf, #PGATOUR, #FedExCup, #LiveUnderPar

Journalist Note:

All press releases, downloadable photos and videos regarding the 2018 BMW Championship are available at: <http://bmwusanews.com/BMWChampionship>

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About the BMW Championship

The BMW Championship dates back to 1899 when it debuted as the Western Open, making it the third-oldest tournament on the PGA TOUR schedule, behind only the British

Open and U.S. Open. BMW has sponsored the tournament since 2007 when it became the penultimate event of the PGA TOUR's FedExCup Playoffs. The BMW Championship features a field of the top 70 players in the FedExCup standings to determine the final 30 players for the FedExCup finale at the TOUR Championship in Atlanta. Since 2007, the BMW Championship has contributed more than \$27 million to the Evans Scholars Foundation, the event's charitable beneficiary. To learn more, visit www.bmwchampionship.com.

About the Western Golf Association

The Western Golf Association conducts three national golf championships and sponsors the nationally acclaimed Evans Scholars Foundation. Headquartered in Golf, Illinois, the organization was founded in 1899 by 11 Chicago-area golf clubs to promote their interests in golf. In addition to the BMW Championship, the WGA conducts two prestigious amateur championships, the Western Amateur and the Western Junior. To learn more, visit www.wgaesf.org.

About the Platt Evans Scholarship

Started in 2013, the Platt Evans Scholarship is co-sponsored by the Evans Scholars Foundation and the J. Wood Platt Caddie Scholarship Trust. Awarded to caddies from Golf Association of Philadelphia clubs, Platt Evans Scholars earn full tuition and housing scholarships to Penn State-University Park. Recipients meet the criteria of both programs and are considered Evans Scholars and Platt Scholars.

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