No. 1 Ernie Els and No. 10 Jerry Kelly Commit to Compete in Inaugural Simmons Bank Championship Presented by Stephens

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 10, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Two of the top players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings, No. 1 Ernie Els and No. 10 Jerry Kelly, have declared their intention to compete in the inaugural Simmons Bank Championship, October 21-27, tournament officials announced today.

Els, 54, is a World Golf Hall of Fame member, who has won six times on the PGA TOUR Champions, with three of those victories coming this year. One of those wins, the Kaulig Companies Championship in Akron, OH, is a major on the circuit, which he won in July.

The South African's PGA TOUR career included 19 wins from 1994 through 2012 and seven Presidents Cup appearances. Els was a three-time major championship winner during that span, including the 1994 U.S. Open, the 2002 Open Championship and the 2012 Open Championship, his last win on the PGA TOUR.

Kelly, 57, has accumulated eleven titles on the PGA TOUR Champions, including the Kaulig Companies Championship as his one major title. He has six top ten finishes so far this year.

The Madison, WI native and resident, won three times on the PGA TOUR from 1991 through 2016 and played on one Presidents Cup team for the U.S.

The inaugural Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens will be held at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Little Rock, Arkansas with activities throughout the week of Oct. 21-27. Tournament play will take place Friday, Oct. 25 through Sunday, Oct. 27. The tournament will serve as the second round of the PGA TOUR Champions annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs. The field will consist of the top 54 players in the standings competing for $2.3 million in prize money and a chance to earn their spot among the top 36 in the final event of the season.

Tickets for the Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens—a PGA TOUR Champions playoff event—are now on sale and more options have recently been added for the general public. For a complete listing of ticket options or to purchase tickets, please visit the tournament website at simmonsbankchampionship.com

Corporate sponsorships and hospitality packages as well as playing positions and teams in our official Pro-Am golf experience are also available for purchase. For more information, visit the website or contact sales@simmonsbankchampionship.com.

The Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens will be the first-ever PGA TOUR event held in Arkansas, and the first PGA TOUR-sanctioned tournament held in the state since the Korn Ferry Tour's Fort Smith Classic, which was last contested in 2010. Net proceeds from the Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens will used by the tournament's charitable arm to support multiple nonprofit organizations in the state of Arkansas.

For more information about the Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens, to purchase tickets and to stay up to date on tournament news, visit the tournament website, simmonsbankchampionship.com.

Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens
The Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens, a PGA TOUR Champions Charles Schwab Cup Playoff event contested in Little Rock, Arkansas, will be played at Pleasant Valley Country Club the week of October 21-27, featuring a 54-player field and a $2.3 million purse. In its inaugural year, the tournament will focus on charitable giving and making a lasting impression on the State of Arkansas. For more information about the tournament, visit the tournament website (simmonsbankchampionship.com) or follow the Simmons Bank Championship presented by Stephens on Facebook (@SimmonsBankChampionship), Instagram (@sbgolfchamp), X [formerly Twitter] (@sbgolfchamp), TikTok (@sbgolfchamp), LinkedIn (@SimmonsBankChampionship) and YouTube (@SimmonsBankChampionship).

Simmons Bank
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