**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AdventHealth Championship announces exemptions for 2022 tournament**

*Past AHC Champion and Jayhawk duo feature in this year’s exemptions*

**KANSAS CITY, Missouri** – The AdventHealth Championship announced today their player exemptions for the 2022 AdventHealth Championship, hosted at Blue Hills Country Club the week of May 16-22, 2022. Joining the field of 156 professionals will be Luke Guthrie, Charlie Hillier, Jamie Lovemark, and Andy Spencer.

“We are excited to have players with direct ties to Kansas City in the field this year,” said Executive Director Drew Van Meeteren. “The AdventHealth Championship will give fans the opportunity to cheer on local players as they watch the next stars of the PGA TOUR compete at historic Blue Hills Country Club.”

Luke Guthrie, a Quincy, Illinois native, played golf at the University of Illinois before turning pro in 2012. In his first year on the Korn Ferry Tour, Guthrie won two tournaments, helping him finish the season ranked #2 on the Korn Ferry Tour Money List and earn his TOUR card. From 2013-2016, Guthrie had fifteen Top 25 finishes on the PGA TOUR, before returning to the Korn Ferry Tour in 2017.

Charlie Hillier, a native of Te Puke, New Zealand, played golf at the University of Kansas and turned pro in 2021. The 25-year-old is currently playing in his first season on the PGA TOUR Latinoamerica. Hillier ranks No. 1 in the KU records books for career even or under par rounds (78) and career rounds in the 60s (29). Both Hillier and fellow exempt player Andy Spencer were teammates for three seasons while competing for the Jayhawks.

Jamie Lovemark, our 2013 AdventHealth Championship winner returns to Blue Hills for his fourth appearance, after finishing 11th in 2021. A native of Rancho Santa Fe, California, Lovemark played collegiately at the University of Southern California before turning pro in 2009. Lovemark earned his TOUR card in 2015 and played a total of seven seasons on the PGA TOUR. Lovemark has conditional status on the Korn Ferry Tour this year.

Andy Spencer joins the field through the automatic exemption awarded to the annual winner of the Watson Challenge. In addition to last year, Andy was also the Watson Challenge Champion in 2017 and 2018. Andy, a Shawnee Mission East grad, played golf at the University of Kansas and turned pro in 2020. Andy made it to the final stage of the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying as an amateur, the same year he qualified for the U.S. Amateur.

The AdventHealth Championship is a 72-hole competition featuring 156 players from around the world. Debuting in 2009, the AdventHealth Championship has enjoyed more than a decade of success in the Kansas City area. In 2019, the tournament moved to Blue Hills Country Club where University of Oklahoma product Michael Gellerman edged Kansas City’s own Harry Higgs for his first victory. The 2020 edition was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year’s winner, Cameron Young, currently sits in 13th spot in the FedEx Cup rankings, most recently finishing T2 in the Wells Fargo Championship.

The AdventHealth Championship is a cornerstone Kansas City event utilizing professional golf to positively impact the KC Heartland and those charities supported. The 2022 AdventHealth Championship will take place May 16-22 at Blue Hills Country Club. For more information about the AdventHealth Championship, please visit [www.AdventHealthChampionship.com](http://www.AdventHealthChampionship.com).

**About Korn Ferry Tour**

Founded (1990), owned and operated by the PGA TOUR, the Korn Ferry Tour identifies and develops golf's next stars, preparing them to compete and win on the game's biggest stage. The Korn Ferry Tour, which has served as a path to the PGA TOUR since its inception, began providing 50 PGA TOUR cards annually in 2013. Each season, the top 25 players secure PGA TOUR cards via the Korn Ferry Tour’s regular season and an additional 25 players secure promotion through the Korn Ferry Tour Finals. With more than 590 PGA TOUR titles, 25 major championships and six FedEx Cup Champions, Korn Ferry Tour alumni make up over 75 percent of the PGA TOUR’s current membership. To learn more about the PGA TOUR, the Korn Ferry Tour and to follow the season-long quest for a PGA TOUR card, visit [PGATOUR.COM](http://PGATOUR.COM) or follow the Korn Ferry Tour on social media.

**About AdventHealth Championship**

The AdventHealth Championship, a PGA TOUR sanctioned event on the Korn Ferry Tour, is conducted annually at Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, Missouri. This four-day, 72-hole competition features 156 players from around the world vying for a total purse of $750,000. As the path to the PGA TOUR, the Korn Ferry Tour features some of the most talented professional golfers who are ready to compete and win on golf's biggest stage.​