



Inner City Youth Golfers' Incorporated

Press Release

“2009 President’s Cup Teammates Win Top Prizes”

By: Malachi Knowles, Golf Editor, Westside Gazette
Newspaper



Riviera Beach, FL (USA), September 27, 2009:

2009 President’s Cup Teammates, Phil Mickelson and Eldrick “Tiger” Woods won the top prizes for this year at East Lake Golf Course, Atlanta, GA. Phil won the tournament - “*The Tour Championship* presented by Coca-Cola” but Tiger won the *FedEx Cup* based on a year long point system. This was the eighth time that golf’s two biggest stars finished 1-2 in a tournament. They have never shared the spotlight with each one going home with an important trophy.

Mickelson capped off a tumultuous summer at home with a spectacular rally at East Lake, closing with a 5-under 65 to go from four shots behind to a three-shot victory, his first since his wife and mother were diagnosed with breast cancer in the spring. He also earned a \$3 million bonus for finishing second to Woods in the 2009 *FedEx Cup* standings.

"I like the way today went," Mickelson said. "I was two back of him, I beat him by three. He gets the \$10 million check, and I get \$1 million. I've got no problem with that. I just love holding this finally." He motioned toward the crystal trophy of *THE TOUR Championship*, which has not belonged to him since he won in 2000 at East Lake by again rallying in the final round to beat Woods. Mickelson finished at 9-under 271 and finished second in the *FedEx Cup*. It was his third victory of the year, the 37th of his career, and it pushed him back to No. 2 in the Official World Golf Ranking. "It means a lot to finish the year off on such a good note," Mickelson said. "We've been through a lot, and I'm very proud of my wife and my mom on the fight that they've been through. We're in good shape. Although day-to-day is tough, and it's not easy for them, we're fortunate that our long-term outlook is good" said Phil.

Woods made two late birdies, not enough to put any heat on Mickelson, but to secure the *FedEx Cup* and its \$10 million bonus. It finished a season in which he won six times and was no worse than second in nine of his 17 tournaments. Woods stood on the 18th green with his biggest rival, perturbed by his inability to make putts inside 20 feet, trying to remind himself that he had a remarkable season coming off major knee surgery.

"I'm sure I would probably be more happy tomorrow than I am right now, because you're in the moment trying to win this event," Woods said. "Winning takes care of everything. But when you're in the moment out there, i'm trying to win a golf tournament. I'm trying to beat Phil, he's trying to beat me ... we're all there, and it was just a great leaderboard." It was a great finish to a *FedEx Cup* that was compelling to the very end said Tiger who had just won his second *FedEx Cup*. I still predict that he will be named “Player of the Year!” Do you believe me? Congratulations to Phil and Tiger from Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc.; African American Golfers Hall of Fame and *The Westside Gazette* newspaper family.

Phil and Tiger will join their United States teammates at Harding Park Golf Course, San Francisco, CA, USA to defend against the International Team during its 8th challenge, October 6 – 11, 2009. The U.S. Captain is Fred Couples and International is Greg Norman. The first African American President, Barack Obama, will serve as Chairman and expected to attend.

Photo credit: Pete Souza, White House, From left, International Captain Greg Norman; United States President, Barack Obama; PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem; U.S. Captain Fred Couples and U.S. Vice President, Joe Biden in the Oval Office, White House, Washington, DC.