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## Masters 2024 picks

The first golf major of the year is here with the 2024 Masters Tournament from Augusta National in Georgia.Again this year, we will see PGA Tour and LIV Golf League golfers competing. 2022 Masters champion Scottie Scheffler enters the tournament as the favorite (+450), followed by Rory McIlroy, 2023 winner Jon Rahm, Xander Schauffele and a field of past champions such as Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, Dustin Johnson and Jordan Spieth.Where is the betting value? Will the favorites prevail? ESPN's golf and betting experts break down everything thing you need to know to bet the 2024 Masters.Jump to a section: Experts' picks to win | Betting roundtable|Experts' picksMatt Barrie Winner – Hideki Matsuyama: I get it. It's Scottie Scheffler vs. the field. But what fun would that be? Matsuyama knows how to win at Augusta (2021), and he's finally healthy again. He comes to the Masters in form. A winner at Genesis, followed by finishing T12, T6, T7.Tory Barron Winner – Brooks Koepka: Eat, sleep, win majors. Koepka should have received a nice confidence boost (not that he needed one) after last year's second-place finish in Augusta. "Big-game Brooks," who has finished in the top 11 in each of his past four Masters starts in which he was healthy, is going to do what he does best and take home his sixth major title.Elizabeth Baugh Winner – Rory McIlroy: Never mind that he missed the cut last year -- it's impossible to rule out the No. 2 golfer in the world. This year there's added pressure of this being his 10th attempt to complete the career Grand Slam. On top of that, he'll be playing with a competitive grouping of Scheffler and Xander Schauffele. The stage is set for him to lock in and finally get the elusive green jacket.Michael Collins Winner – Scottie Scheffler: I know this seems like a blasphemous thing to say, but Scheffler can win with his B game. We haven't seen odds this low or ball striking this good since Tiger Woods. I just don't know how you bet against him at the start of any tournament he plays in.Jeff Darlington Winner – Ludvig Åberg: He's too good to call him a long shot - and he's too inexperienced to consider him a favorite -- but Åberg seems like he was built for these big moments. Maybe it's a premature point to pick him, but I'd rather be on this handwagon too early than too late.Michael Eaves Winner – Brooks Koepka: I get the impression that Koepka is still mad that he didn't finish the job here last year, and a mad Brooks Koepka is a motivated Brooks Koepka. Oh yeah, by the way, he owns a career average score-to-par of minus-0.39 per major round, best in the Masters era among players with 100 major rounds. The majors are his thing, and wants this one even more now.Peter Lawrence-Riddell Winner – Jon Rahm: The first repeat winner since Tiger Woods in 2002? It's a little harder to pick Rahm since he hasn't played a ton of competitive golf this year after moving to LIV Golf. But as Brooks Koepka, Phil Mickelson and Patrick Reed showed last year, there are going to be LIV players in the mix this week, and Rahm is the best of that bunch.Andy North Winner – Scottie Scheffler: World No. 1 Scottie Scheffler. How can you not pick him?Laura Rutledge Winner – Scottie Scheffler: I'm going to go out on a real limb here and pick Scottie Scheffler. He has been so dominant even when he hasn't played his best. He is as sure a bet as you'll find right now when it comes to major contenders, so I can't pick against him.Mark Schlabach Winner – Scottie Scheffler: I've already written that Scheffler would win by 4 strokes if he's even an average putter this week. I think his new mallet putter gets hot, and he wins a second green jacket by 5. It might not be a daring pick or very original, but you're supposed to pick the golfer who's going to win. Scheffler's stellar ball striking and magical hands around the greens will help him win his second major.Curtis Strange Winner – Scottie Scheffler: I always like to pick the less-obvious favorite, but I think I'm smart enough to pick Scheffler this year.Paolo Uggetti Winner – Brooks Koepka: While Koepka doesn't arrive at this year's Masters with a recent LIV Golf victory under his belt, there is a sense of inevitability with him when it comes to major championships that remains -- just look at what happened at Oak Hill. Last year, Koepka had a real shot at securing a green jacket and let it slip away. This year, he won't.Scott Van Pelt Winner – Scottie Scheffler: Scheffler because when he's on the first page Sunday and you didn't pick him, you're going to ask yourself, "Why didn't I pick him?"Betting roundtableOdds by ESPN BET Anita Marks, ESPN betting analyst Winner: Xander Schauffele (14-1)Why he'll win: Xander is one of the hottest players on tour, sporting six top-10 finishes in eight starts. His metrics fit what is needed -- he's first in proximity over 200 yards, par-3 and par-4 scoring and scrambling.Tyler Fulghum, ESPN betting analyst Winner: Rory McIlroy (12-1)Why he'll win: This is not for the faint of heart, but I'm taking McIlroy (+1200) to finally break through for his first career green jacket. McIlroy missed the cut at last year's event. More attention is being paid to Scheffler, Tiger Woods and LIV golfers like Rahm and Koepka. It feels like no one (despite the betting odds) is considering Rory as a legit threat to win this. Maybe this is when he finally does.Zach Jones, ESPN Stats & Information Winner: Schauffele (14-1)Why he'll win: When looking at the Masters, we often get caught up in the perceived importance of putting, but recent champions like Sergio Garcia and Hideki Matsuyama tell the real story -- that this is a place for players who flush it. In the non-Scottie Scheffler division, nobody's been doing that better than Xander Schauffele (+1400) this year, and the X-Man has done everything BUT win; six top-10s in eight PGA Tour starts. Oh, and he was a triple-bogey away from a potential playoff with Matsuyama in 2021.Who is your favorite bet to make the top 10?Corey Connors (+475)Jones: To be clear, Connors has not had a sparkling major championship career. That's 20 career major starts with three top-10 finishes, in case you're curious. But you know why you'll be backing the Canadian this week? Because all of those top-10s have come at the Masters, and all in his past four appearances. See above for my thoughts on ball-striking at the Masters, which marries quite nicely with Connors' strokes gained rankings in approach play (fourth) and tee-to-green (11th).Marks: Connors comes in hot, having a great season. He's third in the field for SG approach and top 15 off-the-tee. He has four top-25 finishes during his past five outings.Si Woo Kim (+500)Fulghum: Kim is a great value bet at this price to finish in the top 10. He's coming off a 17th at the Houston Open and a sixth at the Players in his past two starts. He ranks fourth on tour in SG: tee-to-green behind only Scheffler, Schauffele and Matsuyama. Kim has also made six straight cuts at Augusta featuring a T12 finish in 2021.Phil Mickelson (+1100)Marks: A three-time Masters winner, Phil finished T2 last year. This track is a great fit for lefties, which he is.What is your favorite Tiger Woods bet?To make the cut (-110)Fulghum: Of all the options, Woods to make the cut is probably the market providing the better the best chance at winning. Woods has made 23 consecutive cuts at Augusta National. Woods' problem with his damaged body has been stamina and fatigue. He still has enough juice to stay competitive for maybe two rounds, but not four.To finish in the top 20 after Round 1 (+315)Jones: I totally agree with Tyler that you've got to find something that doesn't require much more than 36 holes over extremely hilly terrain. In that vein, "Tiger Woods to finish in the top 20 after Round 1" asks for just one strong round, and at the point in the tournament when Woods' body should be the freshest. For reference, top-20 after the opening round was a 70 last year, even par 72 in 2022, and 1-over-par 73 in 2021, so we're not asking for a vintage round here.Who are your favorite long shots to win?Phil Mickelson (225-1)Fulghum: Seeing Mickelson at these odds doesn't make sense to me. Just a year ago, he finished T2 after a sizzling 65 on Sunday. Mickelson now has three green jackets and 10 top-three finishes at Augusta. Woods, who has shorter odds than Mickelson to win this tournament, has eight top-3 finishes at The Masters just for reference. Lefty has made the cut in six straight starts here. He's a screaming value at this number.Sungjae Im (125-1)Jones: You're getting an elevated number on Im because his 2024 hasn't been great. But he's another ball-striker who has absolutely piled up birdies at Augusta -- 32 of them in the past two years, the third-most of any player. He has three top-20s in his four career Masters appearances, and if he can keep a few of those stray bogeys off the card, he has plenty of horsepower to go low this week.What other things are you betting or avoiding?Avoiding: Bryson DeChambeau to win (+3300) and to finish top-five (+650)Jones: DeChambeau's prices to win and to finish top-five represent a special kind of faith in something we just haven't seen before. Since his "Par 67" declaration in 2020, he's recorded exactly one round of 67 or better at Augusta, and eight of his 12 Masters rounds have been 74 or worse. He's never cracked the top 20 in seven previous attempts here, so Bryson's odds feel more rooted in name recognition than actual performance.Betting: Joaquin Niemann (25-1 to win)Marks: Niemann is my favorite LIV Tour player teeing it up this week. He has finished in the top five in seven of past nine events, and already has 2 LIV wins. This will be his fourth trip to Augusta, and finished T16 last year.Avoiding: Viktor Hovland betsMarks: Hovland is 119th in SG Total on Tour, 104th on approach and has become one of the worst short-game players on tour.Betting: Nick Taylor to finish in the top 20 (+330) Marks: Taylor is already a two-time winner in the past six months. He is top 15 in both SG approach and putting. With a plethora of Masters odds to go through and the tournament less than 24 hours from teeing off, our Covers experts have put together their favorite bets of the week, including their picks to win and their best bets on the board. Chris Gregory • Publishing Editor Apr 10, 2024 • 17:08 ET • 5 min read Photo By - USA TODAY Sports We're just hours away from the Masters teeing off at Augusta National and with tons of Masters odds to comb through, there are a million directions to go with your Masters predictions. Luckily, our best Covers golf experts have pieced together their favorite plays ahead of Thursday's opening round, including their picks to win, a sleeper to watch, and their best bet on the board. 2024 Masters expert picks Writer Pick to win Sleeper pick Best bet Andrew Caley Xander Schauffele Shane Lowry S. Scheffler Top 5 (+105) Neil Parker Brooks Koepka Sam Burns P. Reed Top 30 (-105) Chris Gregory Xander Schauffele Corey Connors C. Connors Top 30 (+105) All UsersTiger Woods to be par or better after three holes in Round 1BOOSTED from -170 to +100! Claim Now All Users50% boost for one Masters bete.g. +3,500 BOOSTS to +5,250!Claim Now Eligible USA locations only. Also, see our full list of best sportsbook promotions for 2023.21+- Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER Covers staff Masters picks Andrew Caley, Senior Betting Analyst (@Covers Caley) Pick to win: Xander Schauffele (+1,600 ) Sleeper pick: Shane Lowry (+6,000 ) Best bet: Scottie Scheffler Top 5 (+105 ) When looking to pick a winner, you want someone strong off the tee, dialed in with approach shots, and in good form. That's without a doubt Scottie Scheffler, but I'm not paying the +450 price. Instead, I must hate myself because I'm picking Xander Schauffele. Take away his name and he's the player who should be at the top of your list. He's second in total strokes gained behind Scheffler this season and has three Top 10s in his last five Augusta starts. If he can just avoid a Sunday meltdown, it's easy to see Xander dawning the Green Jacket. For a dark horse, give me the big Irishman Shane Lowry. The 2019 Open Championship winner has his game in good form right now with two Top 5s in his last three Tour starts. He's gone T3 and T16 in his last two Masters tries and is suited for the early-week bad weather. It feels foolish to not have a bet on Scheffler so we'll add his Top 5 to the card. He already has five Top-5 finishes this year and has a staggering 25 such results dating back to his 2022 Masters win. Neil Parker, Betting Analyst (@NeilParkerBets) Pick to win: Brooks Koepka (+2,000 ) Sleeper pick: Sam Burns (+8,000 ) Best bet: Patrick Reed Top 30 (-105 ) Rewind a year: Brooks Koepka took down the LIV Orlando event and parlayed it into a 54-hole lead at Augusta that ultimately resulted in a T2 finish at the 2023 Masters. His Masters resume also includes a T2 finish in 2019 and another pair of Top-15 results. Add his additional 12 Top-5 results in major championships and I'm as confident in Koepka playing well at Augusta as he is in himself. While Sam Burns hasn't been a factor in majors to this point of his career, the five-time Tour winner has the all-around game to compete at Augusta National and he's coming off a respectable T29 finish in the 2023 Masters. Fairways and greens are the perfect recipe for him to be successful this week because his putting will lead to more circles than squares on the card. Fresh off a T9 finish in the LIV Miami event where he gained strokes on the field on medium and short approaches and on the greens, Patrick Reed heads to Augusta National following his best showing of the year. The 2018 Masters champion has carded three additional Top-10 finishes since winning, including last year's T4 result. Chris Gregory, Publishing Editor (@ChrisGregoryyy) Pick to win: Xander Schauffele (+1,600 ) Sleeper pick: Corey Connors (+6,600 ) Best bet: Corey Connors Top 30 (+105 ) Xander's odds are reflective of what makes him a true contender at Augusta every year, and all of that rings true in 2024. His tee-to-green game and form have been pristine, with six Top 10s in eight starts this year, and when you combine that with the success he's had here at the Masters in his career (T2 in 2019, T3 in 2021, T10 in 2023), his prospects of winning it this year are as great as ever. Corey Connors is always someone to watch considering he went T10-T9-T6 in three Augusta starts between 2020 and 2022. He's logged four Top-25 finishes in his last five starts but it's his ball-striking metrics that stand out to me. He ranked fourth on approach at the Texas Open and second at Bay Hill. That has him fourth in the field on approach and 12th from tee to green over the last three months. Those types of numbers usually mean a good week at the Masters. Rob Bolton | Talk of the TOUR Podcast | Masters TournamentWritten by Staff With a new season comes a new evolution for PGA TOUR Expert Picks. Fans of PGA TOUR betting can now see tips and picks for specific markets that the Golfbet team will be riding with each week. The traditional format for lineups and rosters will remain with Experts looking to come out on top in PGA TOUR Fantasy Golf. How it works: Each week, our experts from PGATOUR.COM will make their selections in PGA TOUR Fantasy Golf. Each lineup consists of four starters and two bench players that can be rotated after each round. Adding to the challenge is that every golfer can be used only three times per each of four Segments.Aside from the experts below, Golfbet Insider Rob Bolton breaks down the field at the Masters Tournament in this week's edition of Power Rankings.WILL GRAY (Lead, Fantasy & Betting)Winner: Scottie Scheffler (+400) - It's not sexy, but I've spent too much time trying to rationalize a pick on someone else. At the end of the day, Scheffler was red-hot heading into his 2022 Masters triumph - and he's playing materially better this time around.Top 10: Ludvig Åberg (+225) - We all know the trends against first-time winners, but they don't apply to the finish markets. Åberg led the Valero field in SG: Tee-to-Green last week and has all the skills required to contend in his major championship debut.Longshot: Russell Henley (+6000) - The former Georgia Bulldog finished T4 here a year ago and has been known to heat up on the greens from time to time. Two top-5s in his last three starts show signs of promise.H2H: Chris Kirk (-120) over Keegan Bradley - There aren't a ton of course comps for Augusta National, but there are some undeniable parallels with the terrain of Kapalua. Expect the Sentry champ to play well, having finished T23 here last year, while Bradley has missed three of four cuts entering the week.BEN EVERILL (Senior writer, Fantasy & Betting)Winner: Xander Schauffele (+1600) - Look, we all know Scheffler has the chance to take this tournament and run with it but my process of elimination story brought me a winner last year and I'm banking it can do it again. Schauffele is ready to contend again... and you have to be knocking on the door to eventually be let in. Back off my blacklist and into the furnace!Top 10: Sahith Theegala (+320) - I really like Theegala as an outright option here over the next few years. T9 a year ago with a hot finish and another year wiser to his game. He still has more foul balls off the tee than I'd like but if he can get away with those this week he's a chance.Longshot: Jason Day +6600 - Longshots don't win the Masters and my campaign to move the threshold to +4000 this week fell on deaf ears (Zalatoris, Finau, Smith...). But how can I not plump for the man who - in his prime - had me declaring he'd win two green jackets in his lifetime? Multiple chances in the past... why not another.Head to Head: Shane Lowry (-110) over Collin Morikawa - Lowry's Tee-to-Green game has been good of late whereas Morikawa is in a ball-striking slump compared to his usual high standards. This is as much a Morikawa fade as anything else.CHRIS BREECE (Senior Content Manager Golfbet)Winner: Scottie Scheffler (+400) - I'll be that guy. My three finalists were him, Spieth and Schauffele. It came down to who I trusted most to win. And it's not even close.Top 10: Matt Fitzpatrick (+275) - I'm staying patient and not backing off my support of him. He had the best weekend of anyone in San Antonio and I still feel like he has great golf ahead of him.Longshot: Max Homa (+5500) - I know what you're thinking. However, name me a player with more talent/star power whose odds are above +5000.H2H: Shane Lowry (-110) over Collin Morikawa - I almost picked Lowry for the top 10. Generally plays well here and has been in good form.MATT DELVECCHIO (Social content manager, Fantasy & Betting)Winner: Will Zalatoris (+4000) - Beware the hungry dog runs faster. It's comeback time for the previous major runner-up. He's come back to good form from his back surgery with a three-game stretch of T13, T2 and T4 earlier in the year. He played with Tiger on Monday and saw how great he looked recovering from his own surgery. Will even talked about the influence Tiger's comeback has had on his own journey. People are sleeping on Zalatoris' comeback because of his MC at THE PLAYERS and T74 in Houston. Augusta will bring something out of him. Zalatoris is ready to be among the top players in the world and will show it this week. Top 10: Bryson DeChambeau (+300) - It's been four years since he called Augusta National a par 67. He is older and wiser now to say such a thing. DeChambeau's game fits Augusta well and I see him taking a big charge at this championship in a quest to become a two-time major champion. Longshot: Sam Burns (+5500) - The only reason I'm taking him here is that I've liked him to win for the past couple of months now and he hasn't. A wise man once said, "if you like a player to win soon, more likely than not they will".H2H: Lowry (-110) over Morikawa - Collin's game is a mystery this year. Most alarming has been his iron play which in past years has been seen as unstoppable. Combo that with the fact that Lowry does like Augusta and is in relatively good form as of late. I'll take the current form over past success. Odds were sourced on Tuesday, April 9. For live odds, visit BetMGM.Want to see how to set up your PGA TOUR Fantasy Golf lineup? Scroll below. THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN OUR EXPERTS? The PGA TOUR Experts league is once again open to the public. You can play our free fantasy game and see how you measure up against our experts below.Joining the league is simple. Just click here to sign up or log in. Once you create a team, click the "LEAGUES" tab. Then click on "FEATURED," and then on the PGA TOUR Experts league that populates.NameSeason RankPointsSegment RankPoints@RobBoltonGolf (Rob Bolton)1497.3896181,330PGATOURSMartin (Sean Martin)3367.2891,8711,195@MikeGlasscott (Mike Glasscott)3507.2821,2651,264TPCCSkaret (Christian Skaret)8607.0312,0761,162Quack Hooks (Cameron Morffitt)1,3486,6622,3191,104Brett Jungles (Brett Jungles)\*2,3554,6092,2001,138\*Brett Jungles joined the Expert Picks league at the beginning of Segment 1 and did not accumulate any points from the FedExCup Fall.OverallOutrightTop 10H2HMatt DelVecchio-4.97u-14u9.73u-0.7uBen Everill-8.47u-14u-0.17u5.7uChris Breece-12.75u-14u0.95u0.3uWill Gray -24.7u-14u-5.25u-5.45uGolfbet experts longshot: 0-14For resources to overcome a gambling problem, call or text 1-800-GAMBLER today.