



## **2009 Northern Trust Open**

*(The seventh of 37 events in the PGA TOUR Regular Season)*

**Pacific Palisades, CA      February 19-22, 2009      FedExCup Points: 500      Purse: \$6,300,000**  
**Riviera Country Club      Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,298**

### **Second-Round Notes – Friday, February 20, 2009**

*Weather: Mostly sunny. Winds NE 4-8 mph, shifting in the afternoon SW 6-12 mph.*

The cut came at 1-under 141 with 75 players advancing to the weekend.

Local favorite Scott McCarron, one of five former UCLA golf standouts honored at Thursday night's hoops contest between the host Bruins and visiting Washington Huskies, moved into the outright lead of the Northern Trust Open with a 3-under 68 on Friday. At 10-under 132, he holds a two-stroke lead over Steve Stricker (66) and Tommy Armour III (67).

Scott McCarron is making his 14<sup>th</sup> start at the Northern Trust Open, with a runner-up effort in 2002 his best showing. This represents the fifth 36-hole lead/co-lead of his career. His finishes in the prior four events include a victory at the 2001 BellSouth Classic, T4 finish at the 1997 Freeport-McDermott Classic, T32 at the 2005 BellSouth Classic and T35 at the 1996 Kemper Open.

The second-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win two of six events so far this season, including Geoff Ogilvy at the Mercedes-Benz Championship and Pat Perez at the 90-hole 50<sup>th</sup> Bob Hope Classic presented by Arnold Palmer.

Phil Mickelson's 1-over 72 on Friday snaps a string of nine consecutive sub-par rounds at Riviera Country Club. After struggling somewhat with four missed cuts in his first eight starts at the Northern Trust Open (including just seven of 23 under-par rounds), Mickelson had gone a collective 36-under-par in his last nine rounds before his over-par effort on Friday. The left-hander skipped the tournament from 2002-06, but has finished inside the top two the last two years (2-2007, 1-2008)

Steve Stricker is making his sixth start at the Northern Trust Open, with a T11 in 2008 is his best showing in three made cuts. His 66 on Friday is his best effort in 18 rounds at the tournament. Prior to opening rounds of 68-66 this week, his previous best score at the Northern Trust Open was a 2-under 69, set on four different occasions.

Tommy Armour III is making his 18<sup>th</sup> career start at the Northern Trust Open. He has 10 made cuts in 17 previous appearances, including top-10 finishes in 1998 (T6) and 2000 (T5). He has now played 54 rounds at the tournament, with matching 67s the first two days equaling his career-low rounds at the event (R1-2002, R3-1998).

With identical opening rounds of 67-72, Jeff Klauk and D.J. Trahan (both T34) posted their sixth made cut of the season – the only players on TOUR to perform the feat.

David Duval posted a 2-under 69 on Friday to move to 3-under 139 through two rounds. It represents just the third time since the beginning of the 2007 season that he has made the cut in consecutive starts:

- 2007 – T39-Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, T45-Buick Invitational
- 2008 – T65 Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, T35-Ginn sur Mer Classic
- 2009 – T55-AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, TBD-Northern Trust Open

Ernie Els, winner of the 1999 Northern Trust Open, posted seven birdies and three bogeys on his way to a 4-under 67 on Friday. The 16-time PGA TOUR winner is making his sixth-career start at the event, with his last appearance resulting in a T3 finish (2007).

Seventeen-year-old Ryo Ishikawa (73-71), playing this week on a Commissioner's Foreign Exemption, finished his TOUR debut at 2-over 144. Ishikawa's next scheduled TOUR start will be at the Transitions Championship the week of March 16-22.

Vincent Johnson (70-74), recipient of the Charlie Sifford Exemption, also missed the cut with a two-day total of 2-over 144, which included a triple-bogey on the par-4 fifth hole on Friday.

Daniel Chopra, at 2-under 140, made the cut this week to snap a streak of five consecutive starts without making a cut (four missed cuts, one withdrawal). His last made cut was a T27 in his title defense at the season-opening Mercedes-Benz Championship.

The round of the day was turned in by Bob Estes with a 6-under 65, jumping all the way from T96 to T14.

Scoring Averages at the par-71 Riviera Country Club:

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
Thursday	34.514	35.938	70.451	---
Friday	35.222	35.979	71.201	70.826

The par-5 first hole has played the easiest the first two rounds at 4.260, but has been followed up by the hardest hole – the par-4 second at 4.281.