



2009 Masters Tournament

(The 16th of 37 events in the PGA TOUR Regular Season)

Augusta, GA
Augusta National Golf Club

April 9-12, 2009
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,435

First-Round Notes – Thursday, April 12, 2009

2009 vs. 2008 Course/Field comparisons

	2008	2009
First-round scoring average:	74.180	* 72.250
2008 # of players under par:	18-94	38-96
2008 # players in the 60s	5-94	19-96

* The all-time low first-round scoring average at the Masters Tournament was 1992 when the field averaged 72.060.

Chad Campbell is playing in his sixth Masters Tournament. He has three missed cuts in five previous trips to Augusta National with a best finish of T3 in 2006, where he held the 36-hole lead and was one off eventual champion Phil Mickelson's 54-hole lead.

The first-round 65 by Chad Campbell is the lowest opening round since ChrisDiMarco's 65 in 2001. DiMarco led Steve Stricker and Angel Cabrera by one stroke and ultimately finished T10.

Hunter Mahan is playing in his third Masters Tournament, second as a professional. He finished T28 as an amateur in 2003 and missed the cut last year. The 65 marked the first time Mahan broke 70 at the Masters, his previous best being 72 (twice). In 10 previous major starts, Mahan's best finish was T6 at the 2007 British Open.

Hunter Mahan led the field with nine birdies on Thursday.

Before carding bogeys on his final two holes, Chad Campbell was within reach of becoming the 24th in major championship history to post a 63 and the first since Tiger Woods at the 2007 PGA Championship in the second round. Just five of the 23 players shooting 63 went on to win.

Masters Tournament – 18-hole lows

Score	Player	Year	Round
63 (-9)	Nick Price	1986	3
63 (-9)	Greg Norman	1996	1

The five consecutive birdies posted by Chad Campbell was the best start in Masters history. The record for consecutive birdies at the Masters is seven, shared by Steve Pate (Round 3, 1999) and Tiger Woods (Round 3, 2005).

Jim Furyk was a perfect 18-of-18 in Greens in Regulation, and his round of 66 bested his previous low at Augusta National (67, Round 3, 1998). It was his second bogey-free round at the Masters, the other being the second round in 2005.

The 1987 Masters champion Larry Mize (67) is making his 26th appearance at Augusta National. Mize has struggled in recent years at the Masters, having missed the cut in seven of his last eight starts. Mize (T3) and Mike Weir (T5) are past Masters winners that are currently in the top-10.

John Merrick (68) is tops among the 19 first-time participants, having earned his exemption into the Masters through a T6 finish at last year's U.S. Open.

There were a total of six eagles during the first round – Stephen Ames (2), Nick Watney (2), Andres Romero (3), Jeev M. Singh (13), Mike Weir (13) and Luke Donald (15).

With a first-round 70, Tiger Woods broke par for the first time in the opening round of the Master Tournament since 2002. Woods has yet to post an opening round in the 60s in 15 starts (13 professional).

As he looks to become the first player since Tiger Woods (2000-01) to win three consecutive majors, Pdraig Harrington found himself in red numbers after a first-round 69. Harrington won the British Open and PGA Championship last summer.

With major wins each of the last two years, Pdraig Harrington (69) is looking to join a select group of major champions. In the era of the modern Grand Slam (1934, the first year the Masters Tournament was conducted), seven different players have won major championships in three or more consecutive seasons. Tiger Woods is looking to capture a major for a record fifth consecutive season, having won at least one major the last four seasons dating back to 2005.

Player	Consecutive seasons with major victories
Ralph Guldahl	1937-38-39
Peter Thomson	1954-55-56
Arnold Palmer	1960-61-62
Jack Nicklaus	1965-66-67
Jack Nicklaus	1970-71-72-73
Tom Watson	1980-81-82-83
Tiger Woods	1999-00-01-02
Phil Mickelson	2004-05-06
Tiger Woods	2005-06-07-08

Paul Casey (72), winner of last week's Shell Houston Open, is trying to become only the sixth player (since WWII) to win the Masters after registering a victory the week before.

Year	Masters Champion	Previous week's win
1939	Ralph Guldahl	Greater Greensboro Open
1949	Sam Snead	Greater Greensboro Open
1959	Art Wall	Azalea Open
1988	Sandy Lyle	Greater Greensboro Open
2006	Phil Mickelson	BellSouth Classic

Defending champion Trevor Immelman rebounded from a front-nine 38, posting three straight birdies at one point (14-16) en route to a 1-under-par 71. Below is a list of how the defending champions have fared in the first round the past 10 years:

Winning Year	Champion	Opening Round the following year
1999	Jose Maria Olazabal	72
2000	Vijay Singh	69
2001	Tiger Woods	70
2002	Tiger Woods	76
2003	Mike Weir	79
2004	Phil Mickelson	70
2005	Tiger Woods	72
2006	Phil Mickelson	76
2007	Zach Johnson	70
2008	Trevor Immelman	71

Raymond Floyd (79) made his 45th consecutive start in the Masters while Ben Crenshaw (73) teed it up for the 38th consecutive year.

All-time consecutive starts at the Masters

50	Arnold Palmer	1955-2004
46	Doug Ford	1956-2001
44	Sam Snead	1937-1983
45	Raymond Floyd	1965-2009
40	Jack Nicklaus	1959-1998
38	Ben Crenshaw	1972-2009

Gary Player (78) made his 52nd career start in the Masters today, having missed just one year (1973) since his first start in Augusta in 1957. Arnold Palmer made 50 consecutive starts from 1955-2004.