



### 2009 THE PLAYERS Championship

*(The 20th of 37 events in the PGA TOUR Regular Season)*

**Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. May 4-10, 2009**  
**THE PLAYERS Stadium Course, TPC Sawgrass**  
**Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,215**

**First-place FedExCup Points: 600**  
**Purse: \$9,500,000**

## Final-Round Notes – Sunday, May 10, 2009

*Weather:* Partly cloudy and hot, with a high of 90 degrees. Winds SW 4-8 mph, shifting SE 10-15 mph in the afternoon.

### **Henrik Stenson, 68-69-73-66—276 (-12)**

Making his 44<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR start, Henrik Stenson posted the only bogey-free round on Sunday with a 6-under 66 to capture THE PLAYERS Championship by four strokes over Ian Poulter (70). At 12-under 276, Stenson steps into the winner's circle for the second time on the PGA TOUR (2007 WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship).

Stenson's win comes in his fourth start at THE PLAYERS (2006-T3, 2007-T23, 2008-T10, 2009-1). He has now made the cut in all five starts on TOUR this season, including a previous season-best T3 at the Shell Houston Open.

International players have now won five of the last eight titles at THE PLAYERS, including Henrik Stenson (2009), Sergio Garcia (2008), Stephen Ames (2006), Adam Scott (2004) and Craig Perks (2002). Stenson is the ninth international player to win the tournament (10 overall victories), but the first from Sweden. He is also just the third European-born player to win THE PLAYERS, joining Sergio Garcia (2008) and Sandy Lyle (1987).

Stenson is just the second of the last five winners of THE PLAYERS who has failed to lead or tie for the lead in greens in regulation (T12/49 of 72) and driving accuracy (T11/41 of 56). Sergio Garcia (2008), Stephen Ames (2006) and Fred Funk (2005) all ranked either first or T1 in both greens in regulation and driving accuracy when they won.

### **Tiger Woods, 71-69-70-73—283 (-5)**

Tiger Woods' eighth-place finish is his best outing at THE PLAYERS since he won in 2001. He now has four top-10 finishes at the tournament (T10-1999, 2-2000, 1-2001, 8-2009).

Tiger Woods has not missed a cut in 12 attempts at THE PLAYERS, with Sunday's eighth-place finish snapping a string of six consecutive appearances at the tournament without a top-10 finish (dating back to his win in 2001). The six consecutive events without notching a top-10 finish represents Woods' longest streak at any single event in his career.

Sunday represented the 22<sup>nd</sup> time Tiger Woods has entered the final round five shots off the lead. In those events, he came back to win twice (2000 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, 2009 Arnold Palmer Invitational).

By the numbers: Woods is now eight of 21 (38 percent) when entering the final round 2<sup>nd</sup> or T2...He is now eight of 19 (42 percent) when entering the final round 2<sup>nd</sup> or T2 and playing in the final group... Highest score when in the final group and not leading (77 at 1998 Bay Hill Invitational)...Highest score when in the final group and leading (73 at 2008 U.S. Open).

Woods has posted 18 of 20 rounds at par or better in 2009, with his only over-par efforts coming Sunday with a 1-over 73 and during the third round at the Arnold Palmer Invitational (71).

### **Third-Round Leader Notes**

Third-round leader Alex Cejka struggled on Sunday, posting a 7-over 79 and a season-best T9 finish. His previous best showing in 2009 were identical T13 finishes at the Honda Classic, Puerto Rico Open and the Verizon Heritage. Cejka has now failed to win in both attempts with at least a share of the 54-hole lead (2001 British Open-T13, 2009 THE PLAYERS-T9).

The third-round leader/co-leader has won 14 of 19 events (74 percent) on TOUR this season. Last year, the third-round leader/co-leader only won 22 of 46 events (48 percent). The five players that have come from behind to win this season are listed below:

<b><u>Tournament</u></b>	<b><u>Winner/54-hole Standing</u></b>	<b><u>54-hole Leader</u></b>
Buick Invitational	Nick Watney/3 (5 strokes back)	John Rollins
Transitions Championship	Retief Goosen/2 (1 stroke back)	Tom Lehman
Arnold Palmer Invitational	Tiger Woods/2 (5 strokes back)	Sean O'Hair
Quail Hollow Championship	Sean O'Hair/T5 (3 strokes back)	Zach Johnson
THE PLAYERS	Henrik Stenson/T2 (5 strokes back)	Alex Cejka

Since THE PLAYERS moved to TPC Sawgrass in 1982, the third-round/co-leader has gone on to win just 11 of 28 times (39 percent).

### **Miscellaneous Player Notes**

Geoff Ogilvy (T22) maintains the top spot in the FedExCup standings for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive week, with 1,431 points. He is followed closely by Phil Mickelson (1,377 points).

Ian Poulter has now finished runner-up three times in his career on TOUR (2-2009 THE PLAYERS, 2-2008 British Open, T2-2006 WGC-American Express Championship).

John Mallinger (T3) has now finished a career-best third or T3 six times in his career (3-2007 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, T3-2007 Zurich Classic of New Orleans, 2007 Turning Stone Resort Championship, 2008 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, 2008 Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, 2009 THE PLAYERS).

The round of the day was turned in by champion Henrik Stenson and Aussie Aaron Baddeley with matching 6-under 66s. The lowest final round in PLAYERS Championship history is an 8-under 64, posted by Fred Couples (1996) and Davis Love III (2003).

Vijay Singh posted a 5-under 67 to finish T9, just his third sub-70 round this season. It represents his best round since a final-round 63 in winning the 2008 Deutsche Bank Championship.

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Jim Furyk's T5 finish is his third top-5 finish in his last six starts at THE PLAYERS (T4-2003, T3-2006, T5-2009).

Stephen Ames finished T49 this week, his worst showing in seven made cuts here (11 starts). Ames entered the week with T17 or better finishes in five out of the last seven years, including a win in 2006 and a runner-up effort in 2002.

Brian Davis (T5) became the 55<sup>th</sup> player in tournament history to post four sub-par rounds in one tournament, posting rounds of 71-69-71-71. Retief Goosen (2006) had been the latest to do so.

Daniel Chopra (T14) led the field this week with 22 birdies. Fuzzy Zoeller holds the tournament record with 26 birdies in his runner-up effort in 1994.

Boo Weekley withdrew during the final round (on No. 11) with a left shoulder injury.

THE PLAYERS has yet to have a player win in back-to-back seasons, with defending champion Sergio Garcia recording a T22 finish this week. The best finish by a defending champion at THE PLAYERS is T5, recorded by Jack Nicklaus in 1977, Tom Kite in 1990 and Hal Sutton in 2001.

Sergio Garcia was one of six past champions of THE PLAYERS who made the cut this week, including:

Tiger Woods, (2001)	71-69-70-73—283 (-5)	8 <sup>th</sup>
Sergio Garcia (2008)	71-73-73-69—286 (-2)	T22
Justin Leonard (1998)	70-69-75-73—287 (-1)	T32
Stephen Ames (2006)	70-71-75-74—290 (+2)	T49
Phil Mickelson (2007)	73-71-71-76—291 (+3)	T55
Fred Funk, (2005)	73-71-78—222 (+6)	MDF

Local favorite Jeff Klauk, with a T14 finish, had the best showing of the 19 first-time participants at THE PLAYERS this week. Nine first-time participants (two of which are rookies) made the 36-hole cut at this year's PLAYERS Championship. Here's how the first-timers fared this week:

Jeff Klauk*	71-72-71-71—285 (-3)	T14
Scott Piercy*	71-72-74-69—286 (-2)	T22
Jason Dufner	67-70-77-73—287 (-1)	T32
Michael Letzig	71-68-74-76—289 (+1)	T45
Brad Adamonis	67-76-74-74—291 (+3)	T55
Martin Kaymer	71-73-69-78—291 (+3)	T55
Chez Reavie	70-72-75-75—292 (+4)	T60
Jeev M. Singh	68-74-76-76—294 (+6)	T64
Martin Laird	71-72-76—219 (+3)	MDF

\*=denotes PGA TOUR rookie

In the 35-year history of THE PLAYERS, Jack Nicklaus (1974), Hal Sutton (1983) and Craig Perks (2002) are the only players to win the tournament in their first attempt, with Sutton and Perks doing so at TPC Sawgrass. In the history of THE PLAYERS at TPC Sawgrass, 19 players have enjoyed top-10 finishes in their first PLAYERS starts, with Jeff Klauk (T14) barely missing out in his bid to be the 20<sup>th</sup> such player. The list includes:

Player	Year	Finish
Hal Sutton	1983	Won
Craig Perks	2002	Won
Tommy Tolles	1996	2
Fulton Allem*	1988	T3
Henrik Stenson	2006	T3
Camilo Villegas*	2006	T3
Lee Westwood	1998	T5
Joe Ozaki	1993	T6
Steve Lowery	1994	T6
Chad Campbell	2003	T6
Robert Karlsson	2007	T6
Jeff Quinney*	2007	T6
Nick Price	1984	7
Zach Johnson	2005	T8
Greg Chalmers	2000	T9
Jim Booros	1982	T10
Dave Rummells*	1986	T10
Bob Tway	1986	T10
Paul Casey	2004	T10

#### **TPC Sawgrass Notes**

The par-72 TPC Sawgrass yielded a 72.690 average for the week, with the par-4 14<sup>th</sup> playing the toughest (4.353) and the par-5 16<sup>th</sup> the easiest (4.622).

The famous island green par 3 No. 17 played to an average of 3.025 this year. The last time the hole yielded an under-par average was 1997 when it played to an average of 2.952.

A total of six balls were hit in the water off of the tee on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole on Sunday. Here is a breakdown of balls hit in the water during regulation since 2003:

Year	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Cumulative
2009	14	6	4	6	30
2008	20	18	10	16 (in regulation)	64
2007	50	21	10	12	93
2006	19	17	12	9	57
2005	7	8	25	28	68
2004	9	10	4	7	30
2003	6	10	3	10	29

Of the 28 winners since THE PLAYERS moved to TPC Sawgrass in 1982, only two players have bogeyed the par-3 17<sup>th</sup> hole on Sunday (Steve Elkington-1991, Fred Funk-2005). The eventual champions have combined for 17 pars (including Stenson on Sunday), nine birdies and two bogeys during the final round at the famed hole.

Sunday's scoring average was 73.457. Here is a look at final-round scoring averages at THE PLAYERS since 2004:

**Final-round scoring average since 2004**

Year	Avg.	Sub-par	Sub-70
2009	73.457	20	9
2008	75.176	8	2
2007	71.266	45	19
2006	75.378	11	3
2005	76.512	10	4
2004	73.470	22	8

Stat leaders for the week:

Driving Distance	Bubba Watson	308.5 yards
Driving Accuracy	Jeff Klauk	45 of 56 (80.36 %)
Greens in Regulation	Paul Casey, Brian Davis	52 of 72 (72.2 %)
Putts per Round	Luke Donald	25.75 per round

The Birdies for Charity program annually leads up to THE PLAYERS Championship and allows the community to support local charities through tracking the exciting, high-level of play during the tournament. Similar to a walk-a-thon, Birdies for Charity participants make a pledge to a local organization for each birdie made by professional golfers during THE PLAYERS. A record 68 local organizations are participating this year, up from 51 in 2008 and a strong indication that the generosity of First Coast residents will allow for a record fundraising effort.

First-round birdies: 548 = \$58,485.60

Second-round birdies: 486 = \$56,892.20

Third-round birdies: 251 = \$50,852.70

Final-round birdies: 217 = \$49,978.90

**Total birdies: 1,502 = \$216,209.40**