



2013 Northern Trust Open

(The 7th of 36 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Pacific Palisades, Calif. Feb. 14-17, 2013 Purse: \$6,600,000 (\$1,188,000 to the winner)
Riviera Country Club Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,349

First-Round Notes – Friday, February 15, 2013

Weather: Sunny, breezy and warm with temperatures reaching 75 degrees. Winds NE 10-15 mph, gusting to 20 mph.

Thursday: Sunny with temperatures in the high 60s by mid-afternoon, Winds ESE 5-10 mph. Cooler temperatures by the end of the day brought in foggy conditions for completion of play.

On Thursday, play was suspended at 5:43 p.m. due to darkness with 18 players still to complete their first round. The first round resumed at 7:20 a.m. on Friday and was completed at 8:14 a.m. The second-round started as scheduled.

First-Round Leaderboard

Matt Kuchar	64 (-7)
Sergio Garcia	65 (-6)
Brandt Jobe	66 (-5)
David Lynn	67 (-4)
James Hahn	67 (-4)
Charlie Beljan	67 (-4)

Matt Kuchar, 64 (-7)

Making his eighth start at the Northern Trust Open, Matt Kuchar carded his best round at Riviera Country Club by two shots (66, final round, 2010) to take a one-stroke lead over Sergio Garcia through 18 holes. Kuchar's best finish at the Northern Trust Open is a T14 in 2008.

Kuchar went bogey-free in the first round, starting his day with three straight "kick-in" birdies. He holed putts of 2' 7" on No. 1; 2' 1" on No. 2; and 2' 5" on No. 3.

Kuchar has four PGA TOUR wins, with only one coming in the first four months of the season (The Honda Classic – March 2002, his first win). His other TOUR wins: Turning Stone Resort Championship (October 2009); The Barclays (August 2010); and THE PLAYERS Championship (May 2012).

But Kuchar's good start this week, and this early in the season, should be no surprise based on his first three events of 2013. He was the only player to finish in the top 10 at both events in Hawaii (T9-Hyundai Tournament of Champions; T5-Sony Open in Hawaii), and he finished T16 at the Humana Challenge before taking three weeks off to rest up for the Northern Trust Open.

Kuchar is looking to break a recent streak by PLAYERS champions; Phil Mickelson (2007) is the last winner of the event to record another victory within a year of THE PLAYERS (Mickelson won later that season at the Deutsche Bank Championship). Since then, Sergio Garcia (2008) didn't win again until the 2012 Wyndham Championship; and Henrik Stenson (2009), Tim Clark (2010) and K.J. Choi (2011) have yet to capture another PGA TOUR title.

Kuchar has held or shared a first-round lead only four previous times in his PGA TOUR career and did not convert any of those leads into an eventual win. His best finish after leading through 18 holes came at The Barclays 2011, where he finished second (54-hole event).

Sergio Garcia, 65 (-6)

Sergio Garcia got his PGA TOUR season off to a great start with three straight birdies on holes No. 10-12 (his round began on the back nine). A bogey on No. 13 was the only blemish on his card. On the front nine, Garcia made four birdies, including a 6-foot-5-inch finishing birdie putt on No. 9, and posted a 65 (-6), his best opening

round in eight starts at the Northern Trust Open (bettering a 66 in round one of 2001, his first-ever start at the event).

Garcia's best finish at the Northern Trust Open was a T4 last year when he closed with a 64, his career-low round at Riviera. His other top-10 finish in the event was sixth place in 2007. In both of those instances, Garcia was making his first PGA TOUR start of the season. The only other time Garcia began his season at the Northern Trust Open was in 2008, when he finished T46.

Since 2000, Garcia has kicked off his PGA TOUR season with a top-15-or-better finish eight of 13 times; he won his first start of the season in 2002.

2012	T4	Northern Trust Open
2011	T15	Transitions Championship
2010	T52	AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am
2009	T33	World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship
2008	T46	Nissan Open (Northern Trust Open)
2007	6	Nissan Open (Northern Trust Open)
2006	7	Mercedes Championships
2005	T10	Mercedes Championships
2004	T9	FBR Open
2003	T25	Mercedes Championships
2002	Won	Mercedes Championships
2001	T13	Phoenix Open
2000	MC	Phoenix Open

Brandt Jobe, 66 (-5)

Competing this year on a Major Medical Extension, Brandt Jobe tied his career-low round at the Northern Trust Open (33 rounds) with a nearly flawless 66 (-5); Jobe's lone bogey came on the 18th hole. The 66 betters his career-low, first-round score at the Northern Trust Open by three shots and is his lowest round on TOUR since the third round of the Travelers Championship (64) in June 2012, which was his second-to-last start of the 2012 season. He was forced to take the remainder of the year off due to a herniated disc in his neck.

Jobe needs to earn \$303,178 in 10 events this season to maintain status on the PGA TOUR (that money, coupled with \$344,332 earned in 2012 would equal No. 125 from the 2012 money list). He missed the cut last week at the Farmers Insurance Open, his first start of the season. Solo fourth-place is \$316,800 this week at the Northern Trust Open.

Jobe is one of five UCLA alums in the Northern Trust Open field this week, joined by Corey Pavin (75), Patrick Cantlay, Kevin Chappell (73) and John Merrick (68). If he continues his good play, he'll have more than enough support on Saturday, which has been designated as "UCLA Day" at the Northern Trust Open. UCLA Football Offensive Coordinator Noel Mazzone, Defensive Coordinator Lou Spanos and Wide Receivers Coach Eric Yarber will be in the Palisades Club, along with Men's Water Polo Coach and 2012 US Olympian Adam Wright.

USC Day is tomorrow. The lone Trojan in the field is Kevin Stadler (72). He is scheduled to make an appearance in the Palisades Club after his round on Friday, along with Athletic Director Pat Haden and Senior Associate Athletic Director J.K. McKay, USC coaches, staff, men's and women's golf teams and the USC Song Girls.

Charlie Beljan, 67 (-4)

Second-year PGA TOUR pro Charlie Beljan carded a 67 (-4) in his first appearance at the Northern Trust Open, finishing up late in the day with birdies on 14, 15 and 16 and a bogey on 18; Beljan three-putted from 43 feet on the last hole, putting out just after the horn blew to call play due to darkness. The only other blemish on Beljan's card was a double-bogey on No. 12, the result of hitting his drive out of bounds left.

The 67 is Beljan's best round of the year; he finished T23 at the season-opening Hyundai Tournament of Champions before missing the cut in his next four starts coming into the Northern Trust Open.

The last player to win the event in his first appearance at the Northern Trust Open was Adam Scott in 2005.

David Lynn, 67 (-4)

Rookie David Lynn made the most of his first round at the Northern Trust Open, posting five birdies against a lone bogey for a 67 (-4), which ties his lowest of 10 rounds thus far as a PGA TOUR member this year (67 – round one – Farmers Insurance Open; finished T34).

The Englishman qualified for the TOUR by finishing in the top 125 on the 2012 PGA TOUR non-member money list, thanks to a second-place finish at the PGA Championships, worth \$865,000.

The only English player to win the Northern Trust Open is Nick Faldo (1997).

The last player to win the event in his first appearance was Adam Scott in 2005. There have been eight players who made the Northern Trust Open their first victory on the PGA TOUR:

Victor Ghezzi, 1935
Johnny Bulla, 1941
Fred Wampler, 1954
Phil Rodgers, 1962
TC Chen, 1987
Chip Beck, 1988
Kirk Triplett, 2000
Len Mattiace, 2002

James Hahn, 67 (-4)

Another rookie near the top of the leaderboard is James Hahn, who is fresh off a T3 performance at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. Hahn seems to be working hard to make sure he's known as much for his solid play as he is for his Gangnam-style dance moves at the Waste Management Phoenix Open, which were shown on CBS after he made birdie on No. 16 and have since made him a YouTube sensation.

In addition to his T3 last week, Hahn finished T4 at the Humana Challenge, giving him 84.5 percent of his earnings so far this year from those two events alone. He currently ranks No. 11 in the FedExCup standings, the second-highest-ranked rookie, behind Sony Open in Hawaii winner Russell Henley.

Additional Player Notes

Thanks to a sponsor's exemption, Fred Couples is making his 31st start at the Northern Trust Open, which surpasses Gene Littler for the most starts in tournament history. He said on Wednesday, "There's no reason just to play at L.A. to shoot a couple 74s. That's a waste of everyone's time." Couples was in no danger of doing that in round one, carding five birdies against two bogeys for a 68 (-3), his lowest opening round since 2009, when he finished T3 for his most recent of 12 career top-10 finishes at Riviera.

Couples won the Northern Trust Open in 1990 and 1992. Only MacDonald Smith (4), Lloyd Mangrum (4), Ben Hogan (3) and Arnold Palmer (3) have won this tournament three or more times.

Lee Westwood opened with a 68 (-3), his best first round in seven starts at the Northern Trust Open. Westwood last played Riviera Country Club in 2008 (MC). His best finish at this event is a T5 in 2006.

Northern Trust Open Exemption recipient Jeremiah Wooding (brother of the 2010 recipient) carded a 75 (+4) in round one.

Miscellaneous Notes

The Northern Trust Open field includes four of the top five players in the current FedExCup standings. Here's a look at how those five fared in Round One:

2	Brian Gay	72 (+1)
3	Phil Mickelson	71 (E)
4	Dustin Johnson	76 (+5)
5	Russell Henley	72 (+1)

From the Official World Golf Ranking, 18 of the top 30 are in the field and 25 of the top 50, the most players from the top 30 and top 50 in a tournament field so far this year on TOUR.

Defending Champion Bill Haas is one of 11 past champions representing 15 titles in the field.

Player	R1 Score
Bill Haas (2012)	70 (-1)
Aaron Baddeley (2011)	78 (+7)
Phil Mickelson (2008, 2009)	71 (E)
Charles Howell III (2007)	73 (+2)
Rory Sabbatini (2006)	71 (E)
Adam Scott (2005)	71 (E)
Mike Weir (2003-04)	75 (+4)
Robert Allenby (2001)	76 (+5)

Ernie Els (1999)	70 (-1)
Corey Pavin (1994-95)	75 (+4)
Fred Couples (1990, 1992)	68 (-3)

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Matt Kuchar (64) and Jesper Parnevik (71)

Withdrawals: R1 – Chris Stroud (wrist injury), Carl Pettersson (flu), Cameron Beckman (no reason given) and Sean O'Hair (no reason given) after 18 holes; Stephen Ames (back) after 9 holes.

Steve Marino was disqualified for signing an incorrect scorecard.

The Northern Trust Open is excited to once again be part of Chevron's EAGLES FOR EDUCATION® program. Chevron's EAGLES FOR EDUCATION initiative will donate \$3,500 for every eagle scored during the Northern Trust Open. Each eagle will support 350 students through the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce and The First Tee. Chevron's goal is to raise \$100,000 over the course of the week. In addition to the funding provided, Chevron is also hosting more than 500 Los Angeles area students to the "STEM Zone" - a customized hospitality area dedicated to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. During the 2012 Northern Trust Open, Chevron's Eagles for Education program raised \$97,500.

Eagles in round one: **16** x \$3,500 = **\$56,000**

Section Champion Michael Block is responsible for two of those eagles. He went for the first green in two, from 214 yards, and made an 18-foot-10-inch putt for eagle to get his round started. He also eagled the 11th, chipping in from 95 feet short of the green. Block finished with round one at 69 (-2). Since 1983, only three other players have recorded two eagles in one round at the Northern Trust Open:

2011	Brendon de Jonge, finished 29th
2004	Bernhard Langer, finished 51st
1995	Tom Kite, finished 41st

Please visit www.pgatourmedia.com for further information.