



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

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, February 16

Weather: Sunny, breezy and warm with temperatures reaching 77 degrees. Winds NE 8-12 mph.

CUT: 79 professionals at 2-over-par 144 from a field of 144 professionals made the cut following the second round. With more than 78 players making the cut, a third-round cut to the top 70 and ties was instituted. A total of 73 professionals at 4-over-par or better advanced to the final round.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Bill Haas	70-67-64—201 (-12)
Webb Simpson	70-66-68—204 (-9)
Charl Schwartzel	69-67-68—204 (-9)
John Merrick	68-66-70—203 (-9)
Luke Donald	69-66-70—205 (-8)
Fredrik Jacobson	69-66-70—205 (-8)

Bill Haas

Defending champion Bill Haas shot a 7-under-par 64 to move to 12-under for the tournament and holds a three-stroke lead over Webb Simpson, Charl Schwartzel and John Merrick heading into the final round. The 64 was the low round of the day, besting the next-lowest round by three strokes, and he was the only player to go bogey-free in round three.

Haas is attempting to become the first player to defend a title on the PGA TOUR since Steve Stricker recorded back-to-back-to-back wins at the 2009, 2010 and 2011 John Deere Classic.

In the history of the Northern Trust Open, seven players have recorded victories in consecutive years:

Phil Mickelson	2008-09
Mike Weir	2003-04
Corey Pavin	1994-95
Arnold Palmer	1966-67
Paul Harney	1964-65
Ben Hogan	1947-48
MacDonald Smith	1928-29

This is the third time that Haas has led or shared the lead entering the final round of a PGA TOUR event. In his previous two tries, Haas has gone on to win once, at the 2010 Viking Classic. Haas led by four entering the final day and shot 72 to win by three strokes.

The 2011 FedExCup champion has played 40 holes without a bogey going back to No. 5 in the first round (his 14th hole after starting on No. 10).

Haas is looking for his third consecutive top-10 finish after a T9 at the Farmers Insurance Open and at T6 at the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

Bill Haas' father, Jay, recorded nine victories on the PGA TOUR in 798 starts (1 win per 88.6 starts). With a victory, Bill Haas would have five wins in 218 starts (1 win per 43.6 starts).

A win would give Haas victories in each of the last four seasons, joining Phil Mickelson and Dustin Johnson.

Dating back to the second round of his victory last year, Haas has now shot six consecutive rounds under par at the Northern Trust Open. Haas has a final-round scoring average of 69 at this event.

Of his four PGA TOUR wins, one came when having a third-round lead. Last year, he entered the final round T6, two strokes behind co-leaders Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley. In a memorable playoff, it was Haas who secured victory with a 45-foot putt on the 10th hole, the second playoff hole.

John Merrick

It is fitting that on the tournament's "UCLA day," John Merrick, a UCLA graduate and one of several PGA TOUR players who reside in nearby Long Beach, shot 1-under-par 70 is tied for second at 9-under-par for the tournament.

Merrick is playing the event for the sixth time in his career with only a T54 as his best finish in 2010. Before this week, Merrick had recorded two rounds in the 60s in 14 rounds at Riviera Country Club. He has three rounds in the 60s this week.

Merrick is looking for his first career victory on the PGA TOUR. He has finished runner up at the 2009 Humana Challenge and the 2012 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Eight players have recorded their first-ever PGA TOUR win at the Northern Trust Open:

Len Mattiace, 2002
Kirk Triplett, 2000
Chip Beck, 1998
TC Chen, 1987
Phil Rodgers, 1962
Fred Wampler, 1954
Johnny Bulla, 1941
Victor Ghezzi, 1935

Webb Simpson

Playing in the Northern Trust Open for the second time in his career, 2012 U.S. Open champion Webb Simpson shot a third-round 3-under-par 68 and at 9-under is tied for second, three strokes behind leader Bill Haas.

Simpson has become a regular in the top 10 of PGA TOUR events the last two seasons (averaging a top-10 finish every 2.5 events with 19 top 10s in 48 events in 2011 and 2012). In 2011 and 2012 combined seasons, only Luke Donald (22) has more top-10 finishes than Simpson's 19. With that said, Simpson is playing in his fifth event of the 2013 season and is looking for his first top-10 finish of the year.

Simpson is looking for his fourth career PGA TOUR victory after two wins in 2011 and his U.S. Open win last year.

Charl Schwartzel

South African Charl Schwartzel is joined by John Merrick and Webb Simpson at 9-under-par, three strokes behind Bill Haas. Schwartzel, who is making his PGA TOUR debut this week, has played in two European Tour events this season, finishing 2nd at the Joburg Open and winning the Alfred Dunhill Championship in December. A victory this week would be his second career victory on the PGA TOUR (2011 Masters).

Schwartzel is playing in the Northern Trust Open for the first time in his career. The only players to win the Northern Trust Open in their first appearance are Harry Cooper (1926/first year of event), Danny Shute (1930), Tommy Bolt (1952), Pat Fitzsimons (1975) and Adam Scott (2005/unofficial win).

Schwartzel would become the third South African in tournament history to win the Northern Trust Open, joining Rory Sabbatini (2006) and Ernie Els (1999).

Luke Donald

Donald is making his first start of 2013. This is the third consecutive time that Donald has started the season at the Northern Trust Open (2011/MC, 2012/T56).

Donald is making his 12th start at the Northern Trust Open, with a best finish of 2nd in 2010. His three top 10s in this event came in consecutive seasons (2008/T3, 2009/T6 and 2010/2nd).

Last year, Donald defeated Sang-Moon Bae and three other players in a playoff at the Tampa Bay Championship.

Additional Notes

Jim Furyk and England's Greg Owen were two of the four players who drove the 10th green on Saturday. Furyk and Owen were the only two to convert those drives into eagles. Owen nearly recorded a hole-in-one on the 290-yard hole, hitting it to 11 inches for a tap-in eagle.

Northern Trust Open Exemption recipient Jeremiah Wooding (brother of the 2010 recipient) shot a 1-under-par 70 and is T22 at 2-under-par. He is the first Northern Trust Open Exemption recipient to make the cut.

Miscellaneous Notes

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.

Bogey-free rounds:

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

R2 – Bill Haas (67), Ernie Els (68), Trevor Immelman (69), Keegan Bradley (70).

R3 – Bill Haas (64)

Scoring Averages for the par-71 Riviera Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	35.641	36.570	72.211	--
R2	35.181	36.304	71.486	71.854
R3	35.418	36.430	71.848	71.852

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

Eagles in round two: 21 x \$3,500 = \$73,000

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

Total: 53 X \$3,500 = \$185,500

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