



**2014 Northern Trust Open
(The 13th of 41 events in the PGA TOUR Season)**

Pacific Palisades, Calif. Feb. 12-16, 2014 Purse: \$6,700,000 (\$1,206,000 to the winner
The Riviera Country Club Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,349 500 FedExCup points to winner

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, February 15, 2014

Weather: Partly cloudy with temperatures in the low 70s. Winds W/SW at 6-12 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

William McGirt	69-67-65—201 (-12)
George McNeill	69-68-66—203 (-10)
Charlie Beljan	67-68-68—203 (-10)
Jason Allred	73-64-67—204 (-9)
Brian Harman	67-69-68—204 (-9)

William McGirt

McGirt has not previously held a third-round lead/co-lead on TOUR in 96 starts. His previous best position entering a final round was second at the 2012 RBC Canadian Open (finished T2).

McGirt finished runner-up at the RBC Canadian Open in 2012 and 2013.

McGirt is looking to become the third first-time winner on TOUR this season behind Jimmy Walker (Frys.com Open) and Kevin Stadler (Waste Management Phoenix Open).

McGirt is looking for his first TOUR win at the age of 34 years, 7 months, and 26 days.

First-time winners at the Northern Trust Open:

Victor Ghezzi, 1935
Johnny Bulla, 1941
Fred Wampler, 1954
Phil Rodgers, 1962
TC Chen, 1987
Chip Beck, 1988
Kirk Triplett, 2000
Len Mattiace, 2002
John Merrick, 2013

McGirt's final FedExCup ranking the last three years: 2011/No. 83, 2012/No.50 and 2013/No. 100. He was No. 95 in the FedExCup standings entering this week.

McGirt missed the cut in his two previous starts at the Northern Trust Open in 2011 and 2013.

McGirt has eight starts this season without a top 10 and just one top-25 finish.

There has been a one shot margin of victory in five of the last six events on TOUR.

Since 1948, the 54-hole leader (not including rain-shortened events in 1993 and 2005) has gone on to win 33 of 64 times. The largest 54-hole lead since 1948 at The Riviera Country Club was six strokes, held by Steve Stricker in 2010 and Pat Fitzsimons in 1975. Arnold Palmer led by seven through 54 holes when he won the 1966 event at Rancho Park.

There have been 31 come-from-behind wins since 1948 (not including rain-shortened events in 1993 and 2005). The largest since 1948 at The Riviera Country Club was seven strokes by Mike Weir in 2003. The largest in tournament history since 1948 came at Rancho Park when Ken Venturi made up eight strokes to win in 1959.

George McNeill

McNeill has two career wins on TOUR: 2007 Frys.com Open as a rookie and the 2012 Puerto Rico Open.

McNeill is the last player to win the PGA TOUR Qualifying Tournament (2006) and then win on TOUR the following year.

Charlie Beljan

Charlie Beljan, last year's runner up, is back in the hunt again after rounds of 67-68-68 to open his second Northern Trust Open start.

Beljan lost to Los Angeles-native John Merrick last year after a two-hole, sudden-death playoff. Beljan and Merrick both made par on the first playoff hole (No. 18), then Beljan missed a 6-footer for par on No. 10 to give Merrick the win. It was Beljan's only top-10 finish of the 2013 season.

A win this week would make Beljan the sixth player in Northern Trust Open's 88-year history to win the year after finishing second or T2:

- Byron Nelson, 1945 runner-up, 1946 win
- Ben Hogan, 1946 runner-up, 1947 win
- Lloyd Mangrum, 1948 runner-up, 1948 win
- Phil Mickelson, 2007 runner-up, 2008 win
- Steve Stricker, 2009 runner-up, 2010 win

Brian Harman

Harman missed his last two cuts coming into this week at the Waste Management Phoenix Open and AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Harman's two top 10s this season already matches his career-best total from last year.

Harman finished T51 last year in his only other start at the Northern Trust Open in 2013.

Harman's career-best finish on TOUR is T3 at the 2013 Wyndham Championship.

Jason Allred

Pepperdine graduate Jason Allred carded a 66 to Monday qualify for the Northern Trust Open and earn his first start on the PGA TOUR since the 2010 U.S. Open, where he tied for 47th.

The last Monday qualifier to win a tournament was Arjun Atwal at the 2010 Wyndham Championship. Prior to that, it was Fred Wadsworth at the 1986 Southern Open.

Allred's wife is two weeks from having the couple's third child. He said Thursday after his round, "If I get that call, I'll be out of here in a minute."

Allred is one of three Pepperdine University alums in the field this week, along with fellow-Monday qualifier Jason Gore. Here are local alums in the field this year (Thursday was Pepperdine Day; Friday was USC Day; Sunday is UCLA Day):

Michael	Putnam	Pepperdine University	T76
Jason	Gore	Pepperdine University	T59
Jason	Allred	Pepperdine University	T4
Kevin	Chappell	UCLA	T33
John	Merrick	UCLA	MC
Kevin	Stadler	University of Southern California	T50

Jordan Spieth (T6, 8-under)

Jordan Spieth at the age of 20 years, 6 months, 19 days is attempting to become the youngest player since 1932 to compile two PGA TOUR wins. Ralph Guldahl clinched his second TOUR win at the age of 20 years, 2 months and 9 days at the 1932 Arizona Open. Spieth would be the third youngest since 1900 to compile two TOUR wins behind Guldahl and Gene Sarazen who was 20 years, 4 months and 18 days when he won his second at the 1922 U.S. Open.

Spieth would become the youngest winner of the Northern Trust Open by almost four years. Pat Fitzsimmons currently holds the record at 24 years, 2 months and 8 days from 1975.

In 2012, Spieth helped lead the Texas Longhorns to the NCAA Championship at Riviera Country Club.

In 36 starts (pro and amateur) on TOUR, Spieth has finished in the top-5 19.4% (7) of the time and in the top-10 30.5% (11) of the time.

Field Notes

The largest come-from-behind on the last day on TOUR this season is three shots by Jimmy Walker (Frys.com Open) and Scott Stallings (Farmers Insurance Open).

Charl Schwartzel (T6, 8-under) is looking to become the 12th International winner of the Northern Trust Open and first since Aaron Baddeley in 2011. He would be the third South African to win (Ernie Els/1999 and Rory Sabbatini/2006).

The defending champion has missed the cut the last two weeks on TOUR: Brandt Snedeker/AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-am and John Merrick/Northern Trust Open. The last time it happened was at the beginning of the 2013 season when Johnson Wagner/Sony Open in Hawaii and Mark Wilson/Humana Challenge both missed the cut in consecutive weeks as the defending champion.

Harold Varner III (T55) is the second Northern Trust Open Exemption recipient to make the cut (Jeremiah Wooding, 2013, T42). Varner's 69 in the first round was the second-lowest round by a Northern Trust Open Exemption recipient (Jeremiah Wooding, 66, round 2, 2013). Varner has full status on Web.com Tour this season after finishing T32 at the final stage of the Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament. Varner, 23, was chosen from a pool of applicants to receive the exemption, created and sponsored by Northern Trust. The annual exemption provides an opportunity for a top golfer who represents the advancement of diversity in golf and wouldn't otherwise be eligible to compete in the event. Varner is the sixth recipient of the Northern Trust Open Exemption, following Vincent Johnson (2009), Joshua Wooding (2010), Joseph Bramlett (2011), Andy Walker (2012) and Jeremiah Wooding (2013).

Bogey free rounds:

R1: None

R2: Sang-Moon Bae (66)

R3: Bubba Watson (64), Brendan Steele (67), Ernie Els (68), Lee Westwood (68)

Scoring Averages at The Riviera Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	34.937	36.542	71.479	---
R2	34.943	36.571	71.514	71.496
R3	34.701	35.494	70.195	71.217

Miscellaneous Notes

While the field for the next week's World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship was finalized following the conclusion of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (top 64 in the Official World Golf Ranking), players can improve their position in the bracket through the Northern Trust Open. Seeding for the Accenture Match Play Championship will be based off of the updated OWGR following the conclusion of the Northern Trust Open, meaning that while players can't play their win *in*, they can play their way *up*.

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 and 2013 Northern Trust Open, Chevron's Eagles for Education program generated \$300,500.

Eagles in R1: 9 x \$3,500 = \$31,500

Eagles in R2: 15 x \$3,500 = \$52,500

Eagles in R3: 14 x \$3,500 = \$49,000

Total: 38 x \$3,500 = \$133,000