





**2014 the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide Insurance** (*The 29<sup>th</sup> of 41 events in the PGA TOUR Season*)

Dublin, Ohio Muirfield Village Golf Club May 29 – June 1, 2014 Par/Yardage: 36-36—72/7,392 FedExCup Points: 500 Purse: \$6,200,000 (\$1,116,000)

# Second-Round Notes – Friday, May 30, 2014

Weather: Mostly sunny with a high of 80 degrees. Winds NE 8-15 mph.

Cut: 76 players at even-par 144 from a field of 120 professionals.

## Second-Round Leaderboard

 Paul Casey
 66-66—132 (-12)

 Bubba Watson
 66-69—135 (-9)

 Chris Kirk
 66-70—136 (-8)

#### **Paul Casey**

Paul Casey's 12-under 132 through 36 holes is his best first-36-hole-score since joining the PGA TOUR in 2004. His previous-lowest opening 36-hole score was 10-under 134 at the 2010 Honda Classic (Heron Bay).

This marks Casey's 10<sup>th</sup> time to sleep on an overnight lead/co-lead. He has previously held at least a share of the 36-hole lead twice. One of the two, the 2010 Shell Houston Open, resulted in his lone PGA TOUR win.

Casey's 3-stroke lead after 36 holes is the largest in the event since 2011, when Steve Stricker led by three at 9under over four others.

Despite the same score in each of the first two rounds, Casey struggled a good bit more off the tee in round two. In round one, he found 13/14 fairways in regulation (92.9 percent). In round two, he hit just 9/14 (64.3 percent).

Playing out of the Past Champion category, Casey is in this week's field thanks to a sponsor exemption. The last player to receive a sponsor invite into an event and parlay it into victory was Lee Westwood at the 2010 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Casey is making his 10<sup>th</sup> start of the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season this week, with his two best finishes coming at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans (T11) and The Honda Classic (T12). Both came as a result of sponsor invitations.

This marks Casey's fifth start in the Memorial Tournament, and is the first time he has managed to put together two consecutive rounds in the 60s at Muirfield. On only one other occasion has he been able to post two straight, sub-par rounds. In 2006, he followed a second round, 3-under 69 with a 70 in round three.

Casey is in search of his second career PGA TOUR win this week in his 144<sup>th</sup> TOUR start (2009 Shell Houston Open). He has amassed 13 international victories, most recently the 2013 Irish Open at Carton House GC in Maynooth.

In the 38-year history of the Memorial Tournament, only seven International players have won at Muirfield Village GC, most recently Justin Rose in 2010.

#### Second-Round Lead Notes

The lowest 36-hole score at the Memorial Tournament is 13 under 131, held by Rickie Fowler in 2010. Fowler finished second to Justin Rose.

Dating to the Memorial Tournament's inaugural year of 1976, 13 second-round leaders/co-leaders have managed to convert for the win. The last to do so was Steve Stricker in 2011.

Through 27 stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR this season, 12 second-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win. Most recently, Brendon Todd achieved the feat at the HP Byron Nelson Championship.

Since 2000 at the Memorial Tournament, the second-round lead has been as high as 6-under 138 (2012) and as low as 13-under 131 (2010).

## **Bubba Watson**

Making his ninth consecutive start at the Memorial Tournament, Bubba Watson's 66-69 start is just the second time in the event he has managed to open with consecutive rounds in the 60s. In 2007, he opened with 66-68 and finished T23 after weekend rounds of 73-74.

Watson has historically struggled in the third round at Muirfield Village Golf Club, with an average of 73.33, more than a stroke above either of the first two rounds. His final-round scoring average is 72.29.

Putting proved more problematic for Watson in round two than so in Thursday's first round. In round one, he took 25 strokes to complete his round, but needed 30 in round two.

Watson is amidst his best season to date, having collected six top-10 finishes in 10 starts. Among them was a win at the Northern Trust Open and a second Green Jacket. Watson also finished with a share of second place at the Waste Management Phoenix Open and WGC-Cadillac Championship.

Should Watson win this week, he would join FedExCup Jimmy Walker as the only player to win more than twice this season. Walker has three wins and is not in this week's Memorial Tournament field.

## Hideki Matsuyama

Making his first start in the Memorial Tournament, Japan's Hideki Matsuyama made six birdies and just one bogey en route to a second-round, 5-under 67. At 7-under through 36 holes, he will begin the third round T4 and five strokes back.

Playing out of the top-125 non-member FedExCup points/money list category, Matsuyama is making his 15<sup>th</sup> start of the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season. He has collected three top-10 finishes, among them a T10 at last week's Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial.

Matsuyama collected three wins on the Japan Golf Tour in 2013, making him that Tour's leading money winner for the season, the first rookie to earn such a distinction.

Matsuyama is looking for his first career PGA TOUR win in his 26<sup>th</sup> start.

## **Rory Mcllroy**

Battling a sensitive knee, first-round leader Rory McIlroy struggled in round two right from the start. A bogey at his first hole of the day (No. 10) was followed by three consecutive double bogeys at Nos. 13-15. A bogey at number 18 resulted in a 7-over 43 on his outgoing nine. His previous 9-hole high score this year was a 6-over 42 on the front nine of THE PLAYERS Championship in round two. The last time McIlroy posted a nine-hole score of 43 was on the back nine of the 2011 Masters in the final round.

The last time McIlroy made three straight double bogeys was in round two of the 2011 Honda Classic (Nos. 15-17).

McIlroy's 78 in round two is one stroke shy of his Memorial Tournament high. In 2012, he posted a second-round, 7over 79 to miss the cut. McIlroy's highest score on the PGA TOUR is 80, posted twice. He first carded the score in round two of The Open Championship, and then again in the final round of the 2011 Masters Tournament.

McIlroy did not hit a fairway until his sixth hole of the day, and ultimately found just 4 of 14 (28.6 percent). In round one, he was 10/14 (71.4 percent). He also struggled at finding greens in round two, hitting just 8/18 (44.4 percent).

In round two, McIlroy needed 28 putts, as opposed to just 22 in round one.

At 3-under, McIlroy will begin the weekend nine strokes back.

## **Camilo Villegas**

Coming into the week on the heels of four consecutive missed cuts, Camilo Villegas began to right the ship in round two with a 4-under 68.

In round one, Villegas found just 50 percent of the 14 fairways in regulation, and hit 13/18 greens (72.2 percent). In round two Friday, he hit 11/14 fairways (78.6 percent) and 12/18 greens (66.7 percent).

Villegas is making his eighth start in the Memorial Tournament, with a best finish being T28 in 2010. His lone missed cut came in his first start at Muirfield Village GC in 2006.

Villegas is making his 19<sup>th</sup> start of the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season, with his lone top-20 finish being a T20 at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. His last top 10 came at last year's FedEx St. Jude Classic (T10).

A three-time winner on the PGA TOUR, Villegas is in search of his first win since the 2010 Honda Classic.

## **Miscellaneous Notes**

Defending Memorial champion Matt Kuchar followed a 2-over 74 in round one with a 69 on Friday. At 1-under through 36 holes, he will head into the weekend 11 strokes back.

2010 Memorial champion Justin Rose called a penalty on himself for a double hit on the 12<sup>th</sup> hole, resulting in a onestroke penalty. That proved to be the difference between Rose making and missing the cut.

Coming off last week's win at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, World No. 1 Adam Scott is 5-under through 36 holes, following rounds of 69-70. Scott is making his ninth start at the Memorial Tournament, where he has never missed a cut. Scott's two top-5 finishes at Muirfield came with T4 and T5 honors in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

Phil Mickelson improved from an opening-round 72 with a 2-under 70 in round two. He will begin the weekend 10 strokes back. Mickelson has claimed a pair of top-5 finishes in 13 starts in the event, a T4 in 2006 and a T5 in 2010.

Playing on a sponsor exemption, Web.com Tour member Carlos Ortiz rebounded from a 3-over 75 in round one with a 4-under 68 in round two. He will begin the weekend 11 strokes back. Akron native Justin Lower missed the cut.

Past Memorial champions in the field: Matt Kuchar/2013 (T48), Steve Stricker/2011 (T24), Justin Rose/2010 (MC); K.J. Choi/2007 (T64), Carl Pettersson/2006 (T64), Ernie Els/2004 (T37), Jim Furyk/2002 (T24) and Vijay Singh/1997 (MC).

Stuart Appleby withdrew before his second round with a back injury.

Bogey-Free rounds:

R1: Keegan Bradley (67), Hunter Mahan (68) and Justin Leonard (68).

R2: Scott Langley (66) and Kevin Na (69).

Scoring averages at the par-72 Muirfield Village Golf Club

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.342	36.817	72.158	
R2:	35.336	36.084	71.420	71.791

The early scoring average in round two was 71.73 and the late scoring average was 71.86

Notes created by: Doug Milne, PGA TOUR Communications Manager (904) 614-0657 Please visit <u>www.pgatourmedia.com</u> for further information.