



2014 Valspar Championship

(The 18th of 41 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Tampa Bay, Fla.

March 10-16, 2014

Purse: \$5,700,000 (winner: \$1,026,000)

Innisbrook Resort & GC (Copperhead Course)

Par/Yards: 36-35 - 71/7,340

First-Round Notes – Thursday, March 13, 2014

Weather: Mostly sunny with an afternoon high of 66 degrees. Winds N 10-20 mph, with gusts to 30 mph.

Leaderboard

Greg Chalmers	68 (-3)
Matt Every	68 (-3)
Danny Lee	68 (-3)
Pat Perez	68 (-3)

Danny Lee

Leading up to last week's Puerto Rico Open, Danny Lee had missed six consecutive cuts. In his nine starts before Puerto Rico, he had managed to post an opening-round score below 70 just once (AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am/68). Last week at Trump International Golf Club in Rio Grande, Lee posted four straight rounds in the 60s to claim runner-up honors, a career-best. He earned a spot in the field this week via the top-10 finish in Puerto Rico last week.

This marks Lee's first start at the Valspar Championship in his 54th start on the PGA TOUR.

Lee earned his way back onto the PGA TOUR this season after finishing No. 27 on the Web.com Tour priority list. He previously played fully-exempt on TOUR in 2012.

Lee's only win on the Web.com Tour came at the 2011 WNB Golf Classic. He won the 2009 Johnnie Walker Classic on the European Tour at the age of 18.

Lee became the youngest ever winner of the U.S. Amateur Championship in 2008 at 18 years and 1 month. His age record was broken the following year by 17-year-old An Byeong-hun. The win catapulted him to No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking in August 2008, where he remained turning professional in April 2009.

Lee has previously held an 18-hole lead/co-lead once, at the 2012 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He finished T25.

Matt Every

With birdies on three of his last four holes, Nos. 6-8, Matt Every opened with a 3-under 68, his first round in the 60s in seven rounds on the Copperhead Course. Every has missed the cut in each previous start at the Valspar Championship (2010, 2012 and 2013).

Every is making his 92nd start on the PGA TOUR, where he remains in search of his first career TOUR title. His best finishes are a pair of T2s (2012 Valero Texas Open and 2012 Children's Miracle Network Classic).

Coming into the week in Tampa Bay, Every brings three top-10 finishes in nine starts. He finished T7 at The McGladrey Classic, T8 at the Sony Open in Hawaii and T6 at the Northern Trust Open. His only missed cut of the season came at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Despite the score, Every hit just 9/13 fairways in regulation (69.2 percent) and 12/18 greens (66.7 percent).

This marks Every's third 18-hole lead/co-lead. His best finish among them was a T2 at the 2012 Valero Texas Open.

Pat Perez

After missing the cut in his second start of the season, the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, Pat Perez was around for the weekend in each of his ensuing eight starts.

Following a 2-over 70 in the third round of the McGladrey Classic, Perez reeled off 26 consecutive rounds of par-or-better. In his last start before this week, the Northern Trust Open, he struggled after Thursday with over-par scores of 72-73-78 and finished 75th.

Perez is making his 11th start of the 2013-'14 PGA TOUR Season this week, having collected top-10 finishes at the Sony Open in Hawaii (T8), Farmers Insurance Open (T2) and AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (T7).

In search of his second career PGA TOUR title this week (2009 Humana Challenge), Perez is making his 11th start at the Valspar Championship. His best finish is a T7 (2002, 2013). He missed the cut in 2004, 2008, 2010 and 2011. Perez withdrew from the event after the first round in 2008.

Perez has previously held an 18-hole lead/co-lead twice, with the 2009 Humana Challenge resulting in victory (five-round event).

Greg Chalmers

Making his 10th start of the 2013-'14 PGA TOUR Season, Greg Chalmers comes into this week's Valspar Championship on the heels of three straight missed cuts (AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, Northern Trust Open and The Honda Classic).

Chalmers is making his ninth start in the Valspar Championship, and sixth straight. His best finish on the Copperhead Course, a T4, came last year.

In his 345th career PGA TOUR start this week, Chalmers remains in search of his first TOUR win. He has finished T2 on two occasions.

Chalmers' only other 18-hole lead/co-lead was at the 2009 U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee. He finished T15.

First-Round Lead Notes

The highest first-round score to lead the Valspar Championship is a 5-under in 2003.

The only first-round leader of the Valspar Championship to hang on for the win has been K.J. Choi in 2002, when he opened with an 8-under 63.

On just three of 16 occasions this season has a first-round leader emerged victorious. Patrick Reed most recently achieved the feat at last week's World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship.

Miscellaneous Notes:

In 10 previous starts at the Valspar Championship, Jonathan Byrd (69) has collected a tournament record six top-20 finishes. His best among them is a T4 in 2006. He has never missed a cut in the event and finished no worse than T44 (2004, 2005).

Heading into this week, 16 of the 17 wins on the PGA TOUR have come from U.S.-born players. Australia's Jason Day won the World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championship.

K.J. Choi (2002 and 2006) and Retief Goosen (2003 and 2009) are the only multiple winners of the Valspar Championship and both are in the field this week. Choi nearly won for a third time, finishing runner-up to Jim Furyk in 2010.

Ten of the 11 different past champions are in the field this week: Kevin Streelman/2013 (73), Luke Donald/2012 (71), Gary Woodland/2011 (72), Jim Furyk/2010 (71), Retief Goosen/2009, 2003 (72), Sean O'Hair/2008 (73), Mark Calcavecchia/2007 (73), K.J. Choi/2006, 2002 (72), Carl Pettersson/2005 (71) and Vijay Singh/2004 (73).

The last four winners of the Valspar Championship have all finished the season of their win inside the top 25 in FedExCup standings, highlighted by Jim Furyk winning the FedExCup title in 2010, the year of his win in Tampa Bay.

Brian Gay is the only player to compete in each of the previous 13 Valspar Championships. His best finish is a T4 in 2007. In round one, Gay opened with a 4-over 75.

Blake Adams withdrew after his first round with a hip injury.

Bogey-free rounds (par-71):
R1 – Kevin Na (70)

Scoring Averages at the par-71 Copperhead Course:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	37.076	35.569	72.646	--

First-round scoring average on the Copperhead Course since 2009:

2013	73.071
2012	70.667
2011	70.819
2010	72.188
2009	71.625

By comparison, the scoring average at last week's World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship on Doral's daunting Blue Monster was 1.852 strokes above par (73.852).

The par-5 11th hole was the easiest in round one with an average of 4.847. The toughest hole was the par-4 3rd hole, which played to an average of 4.299.