



2015 Barbasol Championship

(The 37th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Opelika/Auburn, Ala. July 13-19, 2015
Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Grand National (Lake Course)

Purse: \$3,500,000 (\$630,000)
Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,302
FedExCup: 300 (winner)

Second-Round Notes – Friday, July 17, 2015

Weather: Mostly sunny, with a high of 95 degrees. Winds NNE 5-10 mph..

36-hole cut: 78 professionals and two amateurs at 1-under 141.

Second-Round Leaderboard

Mark Hensby	69-64—133 (-9)
Whee Kim	67-66—133 (-9)
Charlie Beljan	70-64—134 (-8)
Emiliano Grillo	68-66—134 (-8)
Sam Saunders	64-70—134 (-8)

Whee Kim

South Korea's Whee Kim's 5-under 66 in round two is two strokes shy of his career-low score on the PGA TOUR.

Kim joined the PGA TOUR this season by virtue of his 25th-place finish on the 2014 Web.com Tour priority list.

The 23-year-old Kim is making his 19th start of his rookie season on the PGA TOUR, with a T8 at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans his lone top 10. Kim is coming off a missed cut at last week's John Deere Classic.

A player of Korean-descent in their 20s has won on the PGA TOUR each of the last five seasons:

Anthony Kim (2010 Shell Houston Open/24 years, 9 months, 16 days)
Kevin Na (2011 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open/28 years, 17 days)
John Huh (2012 OHL Classic at Mayakoba/21 years, 9 months, 5 days)
Sangmoon Bae – 1 (2013 AT&T Byron Nelson/26 years, 10 months, 29 days)
Seung-Yul Noh (2014 Zurich Classic of New Orleans/22 years, 10 months, 29 days)
Sangmoon Bae – 2 (2014 Frys.com Open/28 years, 3 months, 21 days)
Danny Lee – (2015 The Greenbrier Classic/24 years, 11 months, 11 days)

When Danny Lee won the Greenbrier Classic three weeks ago, he became the seventh Korean-born player to win on the PGA TOUR, joining K.J. Choi (8), Y.E. Yang (2), Kevin Na (1), Sang-Moon Bae (2), Seung-Yul Noh (1), James Hahn (1).

Lee also became the ninth player of Korean descent to win, joining Choi, Yang, Na, Bae, Noh, Hahn, Anthony Kim (3), John Huh (1). Kim and Huh were both born in the United States.

Kim had never made a start on the PGA TOUR prior to this season.

Kim has previously played on the Korean Tour and OneAsia Tours.

Kim's lead after 36 holes this week is his first after any round on TOUR. In fact, he has never started a round higher than T15.

Mark Hensby

Making his first start on the PGA TOUR since missing the cut at the 2013 Sanderson Farms Championship, 43-year-old Australian Mark Hensby birdied his last two holes of the day, Nos. 8 and 9, to jump into a share of the 9-under lead with Whee Kim.

Hensby, who is playing this week out of the Past Champion category, joined the PGA TOUR in 2001 by virtue of his second-place finish on the Web.com Tour priority list in 2000.

Hensby is making his 177th start on the PGA TOUR, with his lone PGA TOUR victory coming at the 2004 John Deere Classic. This is just his 27th start on the TOUR since 2009. His last top-10 finish came at the 2008 AT&T Byron Nelson (T4).

Hensby has made not a start on the Web.com Tour since 2011.

In 2006, Hensby was involved in a car accident, which limited his play for the remainder of that season. He has been dealing with shoulder injuries for the past few years, also limiting his ability to play.

Hensby has previously held a 36-hole lead/co-lead six times, though none resulted in victory.

Emiliano Grillo

Foreign sponsor exemption Emiliano Grillo improved on a 3-under 68 in round one with a 5-under 66 in round two. Beginning on No. 10, Grillo birdied 11-14, 16, 3 and 5, offsetting two bogeys at Nos. 9 and 17.

The last sponsor invite to win on the PGA TOUR was Pdraig Harrington at this year's Honda Classic. Prior to that, it was Lee Westwood at the 2010 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Grillo, who hails from Argentina, is a member of PGA TOUR Latinoamerica and the European Tour. On PGA TOUR Latinoamerica, the 23-year-old won the 2014 Visa Open de Argentina. On the European Tour, four top-10 finishes in 2014 vaulted him to No. 44 on the European Tour Race to Dubai. On that Tour in 2015, he has collected a pair of top-5 finishes.

Grillo is making his fifth start on the PGA TOUR this week, and third of the season. He lost on the first hole of sudden death to Alex Cejka at the Puerto Rico Open in March. As a result of the top-10 finish, he earned a spot into the following week's field at the Valspar Championship (MC). In his only other starts, he finished T42 and T29 at the 2012 and 2014 Puerto Rico Open, respectively.

Grillo comes into this week's Barbasol Championship at No. 17 in non-member FedExCup points and No. 7 in non-member money (\$198,000).

Should Grillo win he can accept membership on the PGA TOUR and become eligible to compete in the FedExCup Playoffs. His FedExCup points earned as a non-member (excluding those won at World Golf Championship events as a non-member) are retroactive and will be counted on the official FedExCup points list.

Below are sponsor exemptions to win on TOUR since 1991:

Phil Mickelson	1991 Northern Telecom Open
Vijay Singh	1993 Buick Classic
Tiger Woods	1996 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open
David Gossett	2001 John Deere Classic
Adam Scott	2003 Deutsche Bank Championship
Jason Gore	2005 84 LUMBER Classic
Lee Westwood	2010 FedEx St. Jude Classic
Padraig Harrington	2015 The Honda Classic

Argentine winners on the PGA TOUR: Roberto De Vincenzo, Jose Coceres, Angel Cabrera, Andres Romero and Fabian

The second-round leader has emerged victorious nine of 34 times on the PGA TOUR this season. The last to do so was Bubba Watson at the Travelers Championship three weeks ago.

Charlie Beljan

In search of his second career PGA TOUR win, Charlie Beljan birdied two of his last three holes (Nos. 7 and 9) en route to a bogey-free, 7-under 64.

Though he trails the lead by one stroke, the last time Beljan was at the top of a PGA TOUR leaderboard after 36 holes, it resulted in a trip to the hospital, for what turned out to be anxiety. En route to his only PGA TOUR win, the 2012 Children's Miracle Network Classic title, Beljan physically struggled through his second round at the Walt Disney Resort, sitting and/or laying down in the fairway between shots. He took a 3-stroke lead into the third round and ended up winning by two strokes over Matt Every and Robert Garrigus.

Beljan, a 2007 University of New Mexico grad, came close to claiming his second TOUR title a year later at the 2013 Northern Trust Open, losing to John Merrick in Sudden death.

Beljan is making his 24th start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season this week, with a solo-third at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am his only top-10 finish.

Beljan comes into the week outside the top-125 in FedExCup points, at No. 135. The only time Beljan made it to the Playoffs was in the 2013, though it was short-lived. In the first of four Playoffs events, he missed the cut at The Barclays and was eliminated.

Sam Saunders

Following his opening-round, 7-under 64, Sam Saunders cooled off with a 1-under 70 in round two. Saunders birdied his last hole of the day, No. 18, to post the sub-par score. At 8-under 134, he will head into the weekend just one stroke back.

Saunders is making his 24th start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, having earned his way out via the Web.com Tour. His 13th-place finish on that Tour's 2014 priority list afforded him his first, full season on the PGA TOUR.

Saunders nearly claimed his first TOUR title earlier this season at the Puerto Rico Open. With a final-round, 4-under 68, he played his way into sudden death with Emiliano Grillo, Jon Curran, Tim Petrovic and eventual winner Alex Cejka.

Carlos Ortiz

Following an opening-round, 5-under 66, highlighted by eagle-threes at Nos. 5 and 13, Mexico's Carlos Ortiz posted a 2-under 69 in round two.

Ortiz made his way to the PGA TOUR for his rookie season following a second-place finish on the Web.com Tour money list, just \$15, 736 behind Adam Hadwin. Ortiz claimed three wins on last year's Web.com Tour.

Playing in his first, fully-exempt season on the PGA TOUR, Ortiz comes to this week's Barbasol Championship with 23 events under his belt. His lone top-10 finish came at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba in his native Mexico (T9).

Below is a list of Mexican golfers who have/had membership on the PGA TOUR:

Player	First Year of Membership (Hometown)
Cesar Sanudo	1969 (Navajoa)
Victor Regalado	1973 (Tijuana)
Rafael Alarcon	1983 (Guadalajara)
Esteban Toledo	1998 (Mexicali)
Alex Aragon	2006 (Mexico City)
Oscar Fraustro	2014 (Mexico City)
Carlos Ortiz	2014 (Guadalajara)

Victor Regalado is the only native Mexican golfer to win on the PGA TOUR.

Ortiz comes to Alabama this week on the heels of four-consecutive missed cuts.

In his only start on the PGA TOUR before this season, Ortiz finished T65 at the 2014 Memorial Tournament.

Ortiz grew up in Guadalajara, Mexico playing Guadalajara Country Club, the same home course where LPGA great Lorena Ochoa grew up playing.

Glen Day

Playing out of the Past Champion category, 49-year-old Glen Day overcame a 1-over 72 in round one with an 8-under 63. The bogey-free score is two strokes shy off his career-low.

Born in Mobile, Ala., Glen Day has not posted a score below 65 since carding a 6-under 64 in round two of the 2009 Wyndham Championship (T13).

Day has bounced between the Web.com Tour and PGA TOUR since 2006, and has made just 35 starts on TOUR since 2010.

Day is making his 471st start on the PGA TOUR this week. Between 1994 and 2006, Day claimed at least one top-10 finish a year. Since 2007, he has earned just two top 10s. Most recently, he finished T10 at the 2013 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Day's lone victory on the PGA TOUR came at the 1999 RBC Heritage, where he won in playoff over Jeff Sluman and the late Payne Stewart.

Day is making just his sixth start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season this week, where he has made three cuts. His best finish is a T45 at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He has made seven starts on the Web.com Tour this season, with a T6 at the Panama Claro Championship in his first start of the season his best showing.

Martin Piller

A week after his Web.com Tour win at the Albertsons Boise Open, 29-year-old Dallas, Texas native Martin Piller birdied his first three holes (Nos. 10-12) and his last three holes in round two en route to a 5-under 66. At 7-under 135, Piller will begin the third round just two strokes back.

Robby Shelton

Entering his junior season at Alabama, Robby Shelton is making his second career start in a PGA TOUR event. He missed the cut last season at the U.S. Open. Shelton followed his 3-under 68 in round one with a 2-under 69 in round two.

Earlier this season at the Waste Management Phoenix Open, Jon Rahm became the first amateur to finish in the top 5 of a PGA TOUR event since Chris Wood (5th) at the 2008 Open Championship and Justin Rose (T4) at the 1998 Open Championship.

Here's a look at the last three amateurs to win a PGA TOUR event:

Phil Mickelson	1991 Northern Telecom Open	1 stroke over Tom Purtzer, Bob Tway
Scott Verplank	1985 Western Open	def. Jim Thorpe in a playoff
Doug Sanders	1956 Canadian Open	def. Dow Finsterwald in a playoff

Amateurs cannot top 10 into the next PGA TOUR event.

Miscellaneous Notes

The Barbasol Championship is the first PGA TOUR event in Alabama since the 1990 PGA Championship.

With only eight events remaining before the FedExCup Playoffs, the Barbasol Championship will play an important role in the field for the first Playoffs event at The Barclays.

The Barbasol Championship and the FedExCup Playoffs

In 2014, it took 438 FedExCup points (No. 125/Robert Allenby) to qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs. Below are players in the field that are currently on "the bubble" for the FedExCup Playoffs:

<i>FedExCup Position</i>	<i>Player</i>	<i>FedExCup Points</i>
120	Mark Wilson	391
123	Brian Stuard	377
124	Billy Hurley III	372
126	Scott Langley	365
128	Will Wilcox	358
129	Alex Prugh	353
130	Brice Garnett	352
132	Blayne Barber	345
134	Michael Thompson	339
135	Charlie Beljan	337
140	Ryo Ishikawa	321

Players with ties to the State of Alabama include: Smylie Kaufman/Birmingham native (T20), Blayne Barber/Auburn (T15), Josh Broadaway/Troy State (MC), Glen Day/born in Mobile, (T6), Patton Kizzire/Auburn (MC), Steve Lowery/Alabama (T38), Ben Schlottman/ Auburn (MC), Robby Shelton/Alabama (T20), Heath Slocum/South Alabama (MC), Zack Sucher/UAB (T63), Michael Thompson/Alabama (T20), Brett Wetterich/Wallace State Community College (MC) and Will Wilcox/UAB (T15).

Michael Thompson is in the last year of his exemption from winning the 2013 Honda Classic. He is currently outside of the top 125 in the FedExCup standings, at No. 134. Thompson attended Tulane University two seasons

until the school disbanded its golf team after Hurricane Katrina. He transferred to the University of Alabama and was the 2008 SEC Player of the Year.

Other Barbasol Championship sponsor invitation recipients

Richy Werenski, winner of the Golf Channel's reality TV competition program "The Big Break," earned an exemption through the show. Werenski is a Web.com Tour member and has never made a start on the PGA TOUR. With rounds of 73-68, Werenski made the cut on the number at 1-under 141.

Former Auburn golfer Patton Kizzire is currently No. 1 on the Web.com Tour money list. He will be looking for his second made cut in his fourth career start on the PGA TOUR (T54/2014 McGladrey Classic). With scores of 71-76, Kizzire missed the cut.

Entering his sophomore season at Auburn, Ben Schlottman is making his first career start on TOUR. He was the SEC Freshman of the Year and earned 2015 All-SEC first-team (first freshman in Auburn history to be named All-SEC first-team). Schlottman's scores of 75-69 resulted in a missed cut.

Robin Freeman and Benjamin Alvarado withdrew before round two. J.S. Park withdrew during the second round with a shoulder injury.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Sam Saunders (64), David Toms (69), Austin Cook (69) and Tyrone Van Aswegen (70).

R2: Glen Day (63), Charlie Beljan (64), Derek Ernst (65), David Toms (66), Mark Hensby (64), Josh Teater (67) and Johnson Wagner (68).

Scoring Averages at the par-71 Grand National (Lake Course):

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.754	35.006	70.760	
R2:	34.991	35.378	70.369	70.567

Morning Scoring Average: 70.36

Afternoon Scoring Average: 70.16

Through 36 holes, the easiest hole has been par-5 13th hole, playing to an average of 4.490. The most difficult hole is the par-4 fourth, with an average of 4.284.