



2015 Barracuda Championship

(The 41st of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Reno, Nev.
Montréux Golf & CC

August 6-9, 2015
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,472

FedExCup Points: 300 (to the winner)
Purse: \$3,100,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, August 6, 2015

Weather: Partly sunny, with temperatures reaching the low 90s. Winds W-SW at 7-12 mph.

The Barracuda Championship is employing the Modified Stableford scoring format for the fourth time in its 16-year history, the first PGA TOUR event to use the format since The International in 2006. Players are allocated points based on the number of strokes taken at each hole with the goal of achieving the highest overall score.

Score	Points
Double eagle	+8
Eagle	+5
Birdie	+2
Par	0
Bogey	-1
Double bogey or worse	-3

First-Round Leaderboard

Zack Sucher	+18
Patrick Rodgers	+15
Ricky Barnes	+14

Each of the top three players after round one remains in search of his first PGA TOUR win.

Zack Sucher

PGA TOUR rookie Zack Sucher made nine birdies and no bogeys en route to 63, worthy of 18 points and his first PGA TOUR lead. Sucher ties the record for the most, single-day points in the event, joining Nick Watney (R1/2014), Justin Hicks (R4/2014) and Jonathan Byrd (R4/2013).

Sucher's previous-best position after any round on TOUR was T10 after round one of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

Sucher, an Atlanta native now living in Birmingham, Ala., made his way onto the PGA TOUR this season by virtue of his 14th-place finish on last year's Web.com Tour priority list, thanks largely to his victory at the Midwest Classic.

On last year's Web.com Tour, Sucher was one of just three players to compete in all 25 events. Kelly Kraft and Casey Wittenberg were the others.

Sucher is making his 17th start on the PGA TOUR this season, having not experienced the success he would have hoped. He has made just four cuts, with his best finish being a T44 at the John Deere Classic. In addition, he has missed the cut in all three starts on the Web.com Tour.

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Seven players have made the Barracuda Championship their first PGA TOUR victory in the 15-year history of the event: Notah Begay III (1999), Chris Riley (2002), Vaughn Taylor (2004), Will MacKenzie (2006), Parker McLachlin (2008), Matt Bettencourt (2009) and Scott Piercy (2011).

First-Round Lead Notes

Last year, Nick Watney held a 2-point lead over Tim Wilkinson and eventual winner Geoff Ogilvy with 18 points after the first round. Watney ultimately finished T8 with 34 points.

The first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win the Barracuda Championship four of 16 times, most recently Matt Bettencourt in 2010.

Patrick Rodgers

Special Temporary Member Patrick Rodgers birdied four of his first five holes (Nos. 11-14) en route to 15 points.

Rodgers achieved Special Temporary Membership to the PGA TOUR with his T40 finish at the Memorial Tournament in June. Had he finished solo-second at the Wells Fargo Championship a month earlier, he would've achieved said status then. He came up just shy, finishing tied for second in Charlotte.

Rodgers is making his 16th start of the season, with his finish in Charlotte his only top-10 finish.

On the Web.com Tour, Rodgers has climbed all the way to No. 17 on the money list after just seven starts. Largely credited for that position is a playoff victory at the Colombia Championship in February.

Ricky Barnes

Coming off a T8 finish in last year's Barracuda Championship (34 points), Stockton, Calif. native Ricky Barnes made eight birdies against two bogeys to pick up 14 points in round one.

Barnes is making his sixth start in this week's Barracuda Championship. As a stroke-play event in 2003 and 2009, he missed the cut in his first two starts at Montreux G&CC. Since being played under the modified stableford format, he finished T21 in 2012, 62nd in 2013 and T8 last year.

Barnes is making his 26th start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, with a T3 at the Barbasol Championship last month his lone top-10 finish.

Barnes is making his 205th career start on the PGA TOUR, where he remains in search of his first career victory.

With 318 points, Barnes is currently outside the top-125 in FedExCup points at No. 151. Ryo Ishikawa currently holds the 125th spot with 421 points.

David Toms

Currently outside the top-125 in the FedExCup standings at No. 152 with 318 points, David Toms got off to a good start at improving that position with seven birdies and one bogey (+13). He trails Zack Sucher by five points.

Toms has made a berth in the Playoffs each year since its 2007 inception, with the exception of 2013.

Toms made seven birdies and just one bogey in round one.

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Toms is making his fifth start in the Barracuda Championship. In his first two starts in the event in 1999 and 2000, he finished T2 and T7, respectively, when it was a stroke-play event. Under the modified stableford format, he finished T16 in 2013 and withdrew after last year's second round with a back injury.

Toms, a 13-time winner – including the 2001 PGA Championship – is in search of his first win since the 2011 Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial.

Geoff Ogilvy

Defending champion Geoff Ogilvy took a costly double-bogey at the par-5 18th hole to finish at -1.

With 350 FedExCup points (ranked No. 144) currently, Ogilvy needs to finish inside No. 125 or better after the Wyndham Championship in two weeks to again advance to the FedExCup Playoffs.

Miscellaneous

During today's first round of the Barracuda Championship, Ollie Schniederjans aced the seventh hole with a 9-iron from 154 yards. As the Official Mortgage Sponsor of the PGA TOUR, Quicken Loans will award one year's worth of mortgage payments to Shinjie Liu of Fremont, Calif. to commemorate the ace. The Quicken Loans' Hole-In-One Sweepstakes awards one year's worth of mortgage payments to a randomly selected entrant for every ace during official PGA TOUR events from the Waste Management Phoenix Open through the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola. Fans can enter the sweepstakes by visiting www.pgatour.com/quickenloans. Participants in the 2014 Sweepstakes must re-register to be eligible in 2015.

Schniederjans' ace was the ninth in tournament history, and was his ninth ace in a competitive round.

The Barracuda Championship and World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational begin the final, three-week stretch of the PGA TOUR Season leading up to The Barclays, the first event in the FedExCup Playoffs. The top 125 players on the FedExCup points list following the Wyndham Championship will qualify for The Barclays.

If not otherwise qualified, this week's winner of the Barracuda Championship will earn an invitation to next week's PGA Championship at Whistling Straits.

Noteworthy players outside the top 125 in the Barracuda Championship field

Player	FEC standing	R1 Position (Points)
Luke Guthrie	139	T95 (+1)
Sam Saunders	140	T64 (+4)
Geoff Ogilvy	144	T108 (-1)
David Toms	152	T4 (+13)

There are eight past champions of the Barracuda Championship in this week's field: Geoff Ogilvy/2014 (-1), J.J. Henry/2012(+13), Matt Bettencourt/2010 (+2), John Rollins/2009(+8), Parker McLachlin/2008 (+1), Vaughn Taylor/2004, 2005 (+8), Chris Riley/2002 (+9) and Scott Verplank/2000 (+2).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Zack Sucher (63), Jonas Blixt (66) and Brendan Steele (68).

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