



**2015 Barracuda Championship** (*The 41<sup>st</sup> of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season*)

Reno, Nev. Montrêux Golf & CC August 6-9, 2015 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,472 FedExCup Points: 300 (to the winner) Purse: \$3,100,000

# Third-Round Notes - Saturday, August 8, 2015

Weather: Sunny, with afternoon highs in the upper 80s. Winds S/SW 7-12 mph.

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

# Second-Round Leaderboard

J.J. Henry	13-11-17—41
David Toms	13-9-18—40
Jonas Blixt	12-12-16—40

#### J.J. Henry

2012 Barracuda Championship winner J.J. Henry made nine birdies in round three, including a tap-in at the last, to take a onepoint lead headed into the final round.

This marks Henry's third 54-hole lead. En route to his 2012 Reno victory, Henry led by three, with 36 points over Alexandre Rocha. He claimed the victory by a point over Rocha with 43. Henry also led after 54 holes at the 2006 Travelers Championship en route to his first career PGA TOUR victory.

Henry is making his 11<sup>th</sup> start in the Barracuda Championship, where he has collected four top-10 finishes; 2012/1<sup>st</sup>, 2009/T9, 2005/T4 and 2002/T3. In only the Valero Texas Open has he amassed as many top-10 finishes.

Henry is in search of his third career PGA TOUR title and first since winning in Reno in 2012. His first TOUR win came at the 2006 Travelers Championship.

Henry is making his 26<sup>th</sup> start of the season and remains in search of his first top-10 finish. His best showing is T11 at the Farmers Insurance Open.

Henry is currently ranked 150<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup standings, with 319 points. Ryo Ishikawa currently holds the 125<sup>th</sup> spot with 421 points.

Since his PGA TOUR rookie year of 2001, Henry has managed to finish inside the top 125 in earnings every season until last season.

The third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win the Barracuda Championship 10 of 16 times, most recently Geoff Ogilvy last year. Nine of the last 10 54-hole leaders/co-leaders have gone on to victory at the Barracuda Championship, dating to 2005. Scott McCarron in 2010 failed to convert his third-round lead into victory.

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### **David Toms**

David Toms made 10 birdies and two bogeys in round three, good for an 18-point day and 40-point total to get within one of 2012 Barracuda Championship winner J.J. Henry.

Toms had mixed feelings about being in Reno this week. His son, Carter, competed in the Junior PGA Championship, which David won in 1984.

A motivating factor for Toms' choice is that he is currently outside the top-125 in the FedExCup standings at No. 152 with 318 points. At T2, he is making strides at improving that position. Toms has made a berth in the Playoffs each year since its 2007 inception, with the exception of 2013.

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.

### Jonas Blixt

Making his first start in the Barracuda Championship, Jonas Blixt made seven birdies and an eagle en route to a 16-point day and 40-point total. Blixt currently sits at No. 137 in the FedExCup standings. He needs to be inside the top 125 after the Wyndham Championship in two weeks to advance to the Playoffs. He is not in next week's PGA Championship field.

Blixt is amidst his second and final exempt season, which came with his 2013 win at The Greenbrier Classic. Blixt's other PGA TOUR win came at the 2012 Frys.com Open.

Blixt is making his 23<sup>rd</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, where he remains in search of his first top-10 finish. His best showing is a T13 at the CIMB Classic in November.

# **Miscellaneous**

A day removed from his career-low-tying 10-under 62 (21 points), second-round co-leader Andres Gonzales only managed seven points in round three and is eight points back (33). Brendan Steele, with whom Gonzales shared the 36-hole lead, collected six points and is nine points back with a total of 32.

Andres Romero hit a sign with his hand during round three, but struggled through to completion. He took five bogeys and four double bogeys, for a loss of 13 points. He withdrew following his 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.

There are eight past champions of the Barracuda Championship in this week's field: Geoff Ogilvy/2014 (MC), J.J. Henry/2012 (1<sup>st</sup>), Matt Bettencourt/2010 (T49), John Rollins/2009(64<sup>th</sup>), Parker McLachlin/2008 (MC), Vaughn Taylor/2004, 2005 (T41), Chris Riley/2002 (T49) and Scott Verplank/2000 (MC).

Bogey-free rounds:

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

R2: Roberto Castro (66), Rod Pampling (69) and Michael Thompson (69).

R3: Retief Goosen (64), Colt Knost (66), Mark Wilson (66), Austin Cook (68) and Derek Ernst (69).

 PGA TOUR

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