



**2015 Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial** (*The 28<sup>th</sup> of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season*)

Fort Worth, Texas Colonial Country Club

May 21-24, 2015 Par/Yardage: 35-35—70/7,204 FedExCup Points: 500 Purse: \$6,500,000 (\$1,170,000)

# Third-Round Notes – Saturday, May 23, 2015

Weather: Due to expected thunderstorms in the afternoon, third round tee times were between 7:00 a.m. and 9:10 a.m. CT, in threesomes off split tees. Overcast, with a high of 76 degrees. SE winds 15-25 mph.

Due to expected, inclement weather again Sunday, final-round tee times will be between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. CT in threesomes off split tees.

Preferred lies in closely-mown areas were in effect for rounds 1-3. This marks the fifth event of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season where preferred lies were utilized and first since the Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

**54-hole cut:** Since more than 78 players made the 36-hole cut (80), a 54-hole cut reduced the field to 73 players at 1-over 211.

### **Third-Round Leaderboard**

Kevin Na64-66-69—199 (-11)Ian Poulter65-67-68—200 (-10)

## Kevin Na

Kevin Na, who began the third round with a two-stroke lead, offset bogeys at Nos. 5 and 15 with birdies at the third, 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> holes as he inches closer to a third top-10 finish at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial and second PGA TOUR title. Na claimed T7 and T9 honors in 2007 and 2009, respectively.

Na has previously had a lead/co-lead after 54 holes three times, but not since the 2012 PLAYERS Championship. The one that resulted in victory was the 2011 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, his lone PGA TOUR victory.

Through 14 stroke-play events this season before this week, Na's third-round scoring average, 71.46, is his season's worst.

Na is making his 16<sup>th</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, one where he has claimed five top-10 finishes, highlighted by a T2 at the CIMB Classic and a T6 at the PLAYERS Championship in his most recent start before this week. His share of second in Malaysia marked his third runner-up finish since the start of the 2013-14 PGA TOUR Season.

Na is making his 288<sup>th</sup> career start on the PGA TOUR this week.

With a win this week, Na would become the second, consecutive international-born winner of the event, but just the sixth since 1995 (David Frost/1997, Sergio Garcia/2001, Nick Price/2002, Rory Sabbatini/2007, Adam Scott/2014).

R3 at a glance: 9 of 14 fairways, 9 of 18 greens, 3 of 3 sand saves, 25 putts.

# Third-Round Leader Stats

In the previous 67 playings of the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win 35 times, but the last six champions have won in come-from-behind fashion: Steve Stricker (2009), Zach Johnson (2010), David Toms (2011), Zach Johnson (2012), Boo Weekley (2013) and Adam Scott (2014).

The third-round leader/co-leader has won nine of 26 stroke-play events this season, most recently Rory McIlroy at last week's Wells Fargo Championship.

Na's one-shot lead marks the ninth time since 2000 that the event has featured an outright leader after 54 holes.

### Ian Poulter

Making his fourth start at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial and first since 2010 (76<sup>th</sup>), Ian Poulter kept it in the 60s for a third-straight day, posting a 2-under 68. He offset a double-bogey six at the 10<sup>th</sup> hole with four birdies.

Of his three previous starts at Colonial Country Club, his lone top-10 finish was eighth place in 2009.

Poulter is making his 12<sup>th</sup> start on the PGA TOUR this season and has finished inside the top 30 in eight of his 11 previous starts. He finished inside the top ten at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions (T6), The Honda Classic (T3) and Masters Tournament (T6). Poulter had a three-stroke lead after 54 holes at The Honda Classic, before a 4-over 74 in the final round (unscheduled Monday finish) resulted in a share of third.

Poulter's only missed cut on TOUR this season (in 12 starts) came at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Poulter is in search of his third career win on the PGA TOUR. He previously won the 2010 WGC-Cadillac Match Play and 2012 WGC-HSBC Champions. Poulter has 13 international victories to his credit, most recently the 2011 JBWere Masters in Australia.

R3 at a glance: 9 of 14 fairways, 13 of 18 greens, 2 of 2 sand saves, 29 putts.

#### **Charley Hoffman**

Making his seventh start in the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, Charley Hoffman is closing in on his first top-10 finish at the event. His best finish is T18 in 2013. In seven starts now, Hoffman has not missed a cut at Colonial Country Club.

With a win this week, Hoffman would join Jimmy Walker (Sony Open in Hawaii, Valero Texas Open) and Jordan Spieth (Valspar Championship, Masters Tournament) as multiple winners this season. Hoffman claimed his third PGA TOUR title early in the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba.

Hoffman was a bit all over the place statistically in round three. He hit just six of 14 fairways in regulation, 50 percent of the greens and needed just 24 putts.

At 9-under 201, Hoffman will begin the final round two strokes back.

### Jordan Spieth

First-round co-leader Jordan Spieth made three putts from 13' or longer in round three, good for a 3-under 67. At 6under 204, he will begin the final round five strokes back. En route to his first two wins on the PGA TOUR, he began the final round of the 2013 John Deere Classic six strokes back and was one back after 54 holes of this year's Valspar Championship.

Through 54 holes, Spieth has played the three holes which comprise the "Horrible Horseshoe," Nos. 3-5, in 5-overpar. In round two, he made double at the par-3 fourth, triple bogey at the par-4 fifth and took a bogey at No. 5 in round three.

### Miscellaneous Stats

Defending champion Adam Scott posted a second-consecutive, 4-under 66, after opening with a 2-over 72. At 6-under 204, Scott will begin the final round five strokes back. En routé to his win last year, Scott began the final round two strokes back at six-under-par.

There are ten past Colonial champions are competing this week: Adam Scott/2014 (-6), Boo Weekley/2013 (-5), Zach Johnson/ 2010, 2012 (-4), David Toms/2011 (MC), Steve Stricker/2009 (-2), Rory Sabbatini/2007 (-7), Tim Herron/2006 (MC), Kenny Perry/2003, 2005 (MC), Steve Flesch/2004 (-2) and Corey Pavin/1985, 1996 (MC).

Fourteen players have won both the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial and AT&T Byron Nelson during their career. Players who have won the "DFW Double": Ben Crenshaw, Roberto De Vicenzo, Ben Hogan, Sam Snead, Bruce Devlin, Jack Nicklaus, Lanny Wadkins, Tom Watson, Bruce Lietzke, Nick Price, Phil Mickelson, Sergio Garcia, Rory Sabbatini and Julius Boros.

#### Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Jordan Spieth (64), Ryo Ishikawa (64), Boo Weekley (64), George McNeill (65), Marc Leishman (66), Ben Crane (66), Zac Blair (66), Rory Sabbatini (67), Cameron Tringale (68), Jhonattan Vegas (68).
R2: Erik Compton (65), Adam Scott (66), William McGirt (66), Sangmoon Bae (67) and Zach Johnson (69).
R3: Colt Knost (66), Nick Taylor (67), Bryce Molder (68).

Colonial CC shows its teeth over the stretch of holes from Nos. 3-5, known as the "Horrible Horseshoe." During the third round, the holes played as third toughest (4.100), the fifth most difficult (3.025) and the toughest (4.225), respectively.

Scoring Averages at the par-70 Colonial Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	34.869	35.123	69.992	
R2:	35.157	35.397	70.554	70.272
R3:	34.363	34.588	68.950	69.944

The par-4 fifth hole played the toughest in round three with a 4.225 average. The par-5 first hole played the easiest at 4.438.

### **Always on Charity Challenge**

Crowne Plaza has selected nine players in this week's field to participate in the "Always On Charity Challenge," a sweepstakes designed to make a significant donation to the Fort Worth community.

The player who generates the most number of unique hashtags between May 18-24 earns a \$125,000 charitable contribution from Crowne Plaza. Of that dollar amount, \$90,000 will remain in the Fort Worth area, \$10,000 will be donated to the charity of the winning player's choice and \$25,000 will go to IHG Shelter in a Storm. In addition, nine participating fans will be selected to win 90,000 IHG Rewards Points for participating.

Competing players in the "Always On Charity Challenge": Hunter Mahan, Boo Weekley, J.J. Henry, Ryan Palmer, Erik Compton, Kevin Streelman, Graham DeLaet, Scott Stallings and Jimmy Walker. A player's hashtag is simply his last name, followed by AlwaysOnSweeps (ie: #MahanAlwaysOnSweeps). Follow the leaderboard at alwaysoncharitychallenge.com.

## Get in the Q Sweepstakes

As part of the "Get in the Q" sweepstakes, Quicken Loans is giving away a monthly mortgage payment to one lucky fan every time a PGA TOUR player hits their tee shot within seven feet of the pin on the 13th hole at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial. To sign-up for "Get in the Q," fans should download the PGATOUR App or visit a Quicken Loans sign-up kiosk at the tournament. Here's a list of the four winners from the third round, bringing the 54-hole total to 21:

Sandra S., Foster, R.I. (Steve Flesch 1'0") Larry C., Granbury, Texas (Paul Casey 5'10") Christopher H., Gross Ile, Mich. (Charley Hoffman 2'4") Jim G., Halton City, Texas (Danny Lee 0'10")