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## 2015 Humana Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation - Tournament Notes

**Dates:** January 19-25, 2015

**Where:** La Quinta, Calif.

**Courses:**

Arnold Palmer Private/PGA WEST; La Quinta, CA

Par/Yards: 72/6,950

Nicklaus Private/PGA WEST; La Quinta, CA

Par/Yards: 72/6,924

La Quinta Country Club; La Quinta, CA

Par/Yards: 72/7,060

**Field:** 156

**2014 champion:** Patrick Reed

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

**FedExCup:** 500 points to the winner

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play (Rds. 1-3 are pro-am format)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/HumanaChallenge](http://www.facebook.com/HumanaChallenge)

**Twitter:** @HumanaChallenge

### How the Humana Challenge was won in 2014

Despite a benign, 1-under 71 final round, Patrick Reed's seven-stroke lead beginning the day held up by two strokes over Ryan Palmer, good for his second career PGA TOUR win at the age of 23 years, 5 months and 14 days in his 46<sup>th</sup> career start on TOUR.

### Patrick Reed at the 2014 Humana Challenge

- Reed led the field with 30 birdies. The TOUR record for most birdies over 72 holes is 34 by Steve Stricker at the 2009 Humana Challenge.
- Reed became just the second wire-to-wire winner of the Humana Challenge (Rik Massengale/1977).
- Reed became the first player in PGA TOUR history to post scores of 63-or-better in his first three rounds of a tournament.
- At 23 years, 5 months and 14 days, Reed became the second youngest winner of the Humana Challenge behind Jack Nicklaus (23 years and 13 days at the 1963 Humana Challenge).

### Reed joins elite company

After his Humana Challenge victory, Reed captured the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship less than two months later. And then two weeks ago, Reed defeated Jimmy Walker in a playoff to win the Hyundai Tournament of Champions. With that victory, he became just the fourth player in the past 20 years to reach four wins before age 25, joining Tiger Woods, Rory McIlroy and Sergio Garcia.

### 20-year anniversary of three U.S. Presidents playing in the Humana Challenge

It was in 1995 when the pro-am team of Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, Gerald Ford, Bob Hope and defending champion Scott Hoch teed up for the tournament's opening round. It marked the first time a sitting president – Clinton – had played during a PGA TOUR event and it is believed to be the first time three presidents had ever played together.

Several of the players in the field this year also played in 1995, including Mark Brooks, Justin Leonard, Scott McCarron, Donnie Hammond and Woody Austin.

The tournament continues to honor and celebrate the legacy of Bob Hope by awarding the Bob Hope Memorial Trophy to its winner.

### A look at the field

- Fourteen of the top 45 in the Official World Golf Ranking, including Matt Kuchar (11), Billy Horschel (13), Phil Mickelson (14), Zach Johnson (19), Chris Kirk (20), Patrick Reed (23), Kevin Na (25), Keegan Bradley (29), Ryan Moore (30), Luke Donald (33), Jason Dufner (36), Bill Haas (40), Ryan Palmer (41) and Webb Simpson (44).

- Eleven of the 30 players who made it to the 2014 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola will play in the Humana Challenge: Billy Horschel, Chris Kirk, Matt Kuchar, Ryan Palmer, Bill Haas, Zach Johnson, Cameron Tringale, Patrick Reed, Webb Simpson, Kevin Na and Brendon Todd.
- Three of the last four FedExCup champions: Bill Haas (2011), Brandt Snedeker (2012) and Billy Horschel (2014).
- Former World No.1-ranked player Luke Donald will make his first career start in the Humana Challenge.
- Phil Mickelson, a World Golf Hall of Fame member and owner of three green jackets, five major championship victories and 42 PGA TOUR wins, will make his 12<sup>th</sup> career start at the Humana Challenge. Mickelson won in La Quinta in 2002 and 2004.
- Jason Dufner will be making his sixth career start at the Humana Challenge and first since a T12 in 2012.
- Rookie Sam Saunders will be looking to make his first cut in his fourth start in the Humana Challenge and first as a TOUR member. Saunders' grandfather Arnold Palmer is a five-time winner of the event.
- Fourteen past champions of the Humana Challenge are in the field: Donnie Hammond (1986), Mark Brooks (1996), Phil Mickelson (2002 and 2004), Mike Weir (2003), Justin Leonard (2005), Chad Campbell (2006), Charley Hoffman (2007), D.J. Trahan (2008), Pat Perez (2009), Bill Haas (2010), Jhonattan Vegas (2011), Mark Wilson (2012), Brian Gay (2013) and Patrick Reed (2014).

### **Tournament Records**

- Johnny Miller is the only back-to-back winner of the Humana Challenge (1975-76).
- Arnold Palmer won the Humana Challenge five times. The only other players to win more than once are two-time champions: Billy Casper, John Mahaffey, Johnny Miller, Corey Pavin, John Cook, Phil Mickelson.

### **Charity**

Since 1960, Desert Classic Charities, the non-profit entity that organizes the Humana Challenge, has donated more than \$52.5 million to Eisenhower Medical Center and numerous other non-profit organizations in the Coachella Valley.

### **The Humana Challenge and the FedExCup**

The Humana Challenge enters the second season featuring a wraparound schedule that bridges two years with 47 events. The 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season included seven events during the fall of 2014, all of which will awarded FedExCup points. After a seven-week break, the season resumed two weeks ago at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions. The FedExCup Playoffs once again features four events and concludes in September 2015 with the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and the crowning of the FedExCup champion.

Every week is significant in the race for the FedExCup – four of the six winners from the fall calendar of 2013 (Jimmy Walker, Chris Kirk, Dustin Johnson, Webb Simpson) qualified for the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola and two others (Harris English, Ryan Moore) finished inside the top 40.

### **Miscellaneous 2014-15 PGA TOUR notes**

- Entering the 2014-15 season, 29 of the top 30 players in the Official World Golf Ranking were PGA TOUR members, including 2014-15 new members Victor Dubuisson and Jamie Donaldson. Thomas Bjorn (30) is the lone non-member inside the top 30.
- The 2014-15 rookie class of 24 players includes 21 players under the age of 30. The list of 24 includes three players playing on medical extensions from previous years but remain in the rookie category.
- Four new members earned PGA TOUR cards through the non-member FedExCup points list but are not considered part of the rookie class: Victor Dubuisson (France); Francesco Molinari (Italy); Jamie Donaldson (Wales); and Brooks Koepka (United States).
- There are 86 active international players representing 24 countries in 2014-15. Australia has the most international members (16).

### **2013-14 year in review**

- Billy Horschel, thanks to victories at the two final FedExCup Playoff events, became the youngest winner of the FedExCup at the age of 27 years, 9 months and 7 days.
- Rory McIlroy, winner of three events including back-to-back majors (The Open Championship and PGA Championship), was voted the PGA TOUR Player of the Year. McIlroy also captured the Arnold Palmer Award as the leader in official earnings and the Byron Nelson Trophy for lowest adjusted scoring average.
- Chesson Hadley, winner of the Puerto Rico Open presented by seepuertorico.com, was voted the PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year.
- Sixteen different players under the age of 30 won on TOUR in 2013-14, accounting for a total of 22 of the 45 events. The last time there were 16 winners under the age of 30 in a season was 2011, with a total of 18 wins.

- Jimmy Walker held the top spot in the FedExCup rankings for 36 of 37 weeks in 2013-14, including a record 30 straight weeks starting with his Sony Open in Hawaii win. Billy Horschel won the FedExCup thanks to victories at the last two FedExCup Playoff events, the BMW Championship and TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola.
- There were no repeat winners in 2013-14, the last being Tiger Woods who won the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard back-to-back in 2012 and 2013. Ian Poulter came closest, finishing second in the defense of his World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions title.
- 25 of the 45 PGA TOUR events in 2013-14 were decided by one stroke (19) or a playoff (6).
- Hunter Mahan is the only player to qualify for the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola every year since the inception of the FedExCup in 2007. Over the eight years, Mahan is also the only player to play in every FedExCup Playoff event (32).

#### **Notable changes for the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season:**

- Starting in January 2015, winners of the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard and the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide will receive a three-year PGA TOUR exemption and a three-year exemption into THE PLAYERS Championship.
- The Presidents Cup 2015 eligibility for the U.S. Team will be based on FedExCup points instead of money. Presidents Cup points for the FedExCup Playoffs will be weighted the same as World Golf Championships (550 for first place, 315 for second, etc.).
- The Top 125 Money List from the previous season, established following the conclusion of the 2014 Wyndham Championship, will remain as an exempt category in 2014-15 for standard, open events only.
- The Humana Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation and the RBC Heritage will include the Top 10 from the Previous Tournament Category.

Below are the 2014-15 PGA TOUR rookies:

<b>2014 Web.com Tour Regular Season Graduate Rookies (13)</b>				
<b>Player</b>	<b>(Cuts/Starts)</b>	<b>Birthdate</b>	<b>Age as of October 9, 2014</b>	<b>College</b>
Carlos Ortiz	(1-1)	4/24/91	23 years 5 months, 15 days	North Texas
Andrew Putnam	(0-1 pro, 0-1 amateur)	1/25/89	25 years, 8 months, 14 days	Pepperdine
Zack Sucher	(0-1 amateur)	10/2/86	28 years, 7 days	UAB
Adam Hadwin	(8-11)	11/2/87	26 years, 11 months, 7 days	Louisville
Justin Thomas	(3-7 pro, 3-4 amateur)	4/29/93	21 years, 5 months, 10 days	Alabama
Blayne Barber	(2-3)	12/25/89	24 years, 9 months, 14 days	Auburn
Tony Finau	(1-3)	9/14/89	25 years, 25 days	--
Jon Curran	(2-5)	2/17/87	27 years, 7 months, 22 days	Vanderbilt
Daniel Berger	(1-1)	4/7/93	21 years, 6 months, 2 days	Florida State
Jonathan Randolph	(2-2 pro, 1-2 amateur)	8/10/88	26 years, 1 month, 29 days	Ole Miss
Mark Hubbard	(1-2)	5/24/89	25 years, 4 months, 15 days	San Jose State
Byron Smith	(0-0)	3/31/81	33 years, 6 months, 8 days	Pepperdine
Roger Sloan	(1-2)	5/15/87	27 years, 4 months, 24 days	UTEP
<b>2013 Web.com Tour Finals Graduates (8)</b>				
<b>Player</b>	<b>(Cuts/Starts)</b>	<b>Birthdate</b>	<b>Age as of October 9, 2014</b>	<b>College</b>
Zac Blair	(1-1)	8/20/90	24 years, 1 month, 9 days	BYU
Tom Hoge	(0-1)	5/25/89	25 years, 4 months, 14 days	TCU
Whee Kim	(0-0)	2/22/92	22 years, 7 months, 17 days	Yonsei University
Scott Pinckney	(0-1 pro, 0-1 amateur)	3/13/89	25 years, 6 months, 26 days	Arizona State
Nick Taylor	(0-3 pro, 2-6 amateur)	4/14/88	26 years 5 months 25 days	Washington
Oscar Fraustro	(1-3)	6/14/82	32 years, 3 months, 25 days	--
Sung Joon Park	(0-0)	6/9/86	28 years, 4 months	--
Carlos Sainz Jr.	(0-0)	11/7/85	28 years, 11 months, 2 days	Mississippi State
<b>2013 Web.com Tour Graduates – Major Medical Extension (2)</b>				
<b>Player</b>	<b>(Cuts/Starts)</b>	<b>Birthdate</b>	<b>Age as of October 9, 2014</b>	<b>College</b>
Patrick Cantlay	(10/19 pro, 7/8 amateur)	3/17/92	22 years, 6 months, 22 days	UCLA
Benjamin Alvarado	(1-7)	9/2/85	29 years, 1 month, 7 days	Arizona State
<b>2010 Web.com Tour Graduates – Major Medical Extension (1)</b>				
Joe Affrunti	(5/17)	8/1/81	33 years, 2 months, 8 days	Illinois