



**2015 FEDEX ST. JUDE CLASSIC**  
*(The 31<sup>st</sup> of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)*

**TPC Southwind**  
**Memphis, TN**

**June 11-14, 2015**  
**Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,239**

**FedExCup Points: 500**  
**Purse: \$6,000,000**

## **Second-Round Notes – Friday, June 12, 2015**

*Weather: Partly cloudy, with a high of 90 degrees. Winds SSW 10-20 mph.*

### **36-hole-cut**

76 players at 1-over 141 from a field of 154 professionals and one amateur.

### **Second-Round Leaderboard**

Brooks Koepka	64-67—131 (-9)
Austin Cook	68-64—132 (-8)
Steven Alker	65-68—133 (-7)

### **Brooks Koepka**

In today's second round, Koepka hit five of 14 fairways in regulation, 14 of 18 greens for the second straight day and took 28 putts.

Koepka is making his 13<sup>th</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, where he claimed his first career TOUR title in early February at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. With a win this week, he would join Jimmy Walker (Sony Open in Hawaii, Valero Texas Open), Jordan Spieth (Valspar Championship, Masters) and Rory McIlroy (World Golf Championships-Dell Match Play, Wells Fargo Championship) as multiple winners this season.

In addition to his win, additional top-10 finishes for Koepka this year have come at the Frys.com Open (T8) and Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (T4).

After 36 holes in Scottsdale, Koepka was seven strokes off the lead, before weekend rounds of 64-66 (par-71), resulted in one one-stroke win.

Koepka is making his second start at the FedEx St. Jude Classic, having finished T19 last year.

Koepka earned Special Temporary Membership to the PGA TOUR in the 2013-14 season, which he parlayed into a top-125 finish on the non-member FedExCup points, good for his 2014-15 TOUR card.

Koepka, a former Florida State All-American, played full time on the European Tour in 2014. In November, he won the Turkish Airlines Open on that Tour and was named the European Tour's Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year in 2014.

This marks Koepka's second time to hold a lead/co-lead after 36 holes on the PGA TOUR. His was previously tied for the lead after the second round of the 2013 Frys.com Open, before finishing T3.

### **Second-Round Leader Notes**

Since 1990, the second-round leader of the FedEx St. Jude Classic has been able to convert for victory 10 times, including each of the past two champions.

Through 29 stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR this season, seven players have managed to parlay a 36-hole lead/co-lead into victory. Most recently, David Lingmerth achieved the feat at last week's Memorial Tournament.

### **Austin Cook**

Playing on a sponsor exemption, 24-year-old Arkansas native Austin Cook reeled off four consecutive birdies on Nos. 13-16 on his way to a 6-under 64. This is Cook's fourth start on the PGA TOUR.

Cook, who Monday qualified into this year's Shell Houston Open, birdied the last four holes in round two to match Andrew Putnam's 7-under 65 and tie Phil Mickelson for second. He would post rounds of 70-75 to finish T11. In his

only other start of the season before this week, Cook followed an opening-round 74 with a 65 in round two of the AT&T Byron Nelson to miss the cut.

Cook Monday qualified for the 2014 FedEx St. Jude Classic, his first-ever PGA TOUR start, where he finished T13 after rounds of 67-73-65-70—275 (-5).

In his only start on the Web.com Tour, Cook missed the cut at the Greater Dallas Open earlier this season.

Cook, who has limited Web.com Tour status, has competed primarily on the Adams Pro Tour.

Interestingly, Cook's grandfather John H. Cook played in the 1965 FedEx St. Jude Classic, finding himself paired with Jack Nicklaus in the final round. Nicklaus won the event that year, with Cook finishing T36.

Cook is a 2013 biology graduate from the University of Arkansas.

### **Steven Alker**

New Zealand's Steven Alker makes a return to the PGA TOUR this season by virtue of his 20<sup>th</sup>-place finish on last year's Web.com Tour priority list. On that Tour, Alker won the Cleveland Open and lost in a playoff en route to seven top-25 finishes.

Of 211 starts on the Web.com Tour, Alker has won four times, dating to 2002. He is also the winner of six international victories.

Alker, who joined the PGA TOUR in 2003, is making his 54<sup>th</sup> career start on TOUR, with a best finish of 17<sup>th</sup> at the 2003 Farmers Insurance Open.

Alker is making just his second start at the FedEx St. Jude Classic. He finished T70 in his rookie year of 2003.

Alker is making his 14<sup>th</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, where he remains in search of his first top-25 finish. His best showing is T28 at the Wells Fargo Championship.

Before today, Alker has never been higher than T3 after any round on the PGA TOUR.

### **Chris Smith**

Chris Smith, who earned a spot into this week's field after the last reshuffle, made six birdies and three bogeys in round two, good for a second-consecutive 67.

Smith is making his 10<sup>th</sup> start in the FedEx St. Jude Classic and first since 2010. His first round, 3-under 67 marked his first, sub-par score in the event since an opening-round, 6-under 64 in 2006, a span of 10 rounds.

Smith has now made four cuts in 10 starts in the event, with his best finish being T37 in 1998.

Smith is making his sixth start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, with a top-10 finish coming at the Puerto Rico Open (T10). In his only other made cut this season, he finished T43 at the Sanderson Farms Championship.

Smith is making his 322<sup>nd</sup> start on the PGA TOUR this week, with his lone TOUR victory coming at the 2002 Barclays.

### **Phil Mickelson**

A week after his 78-75 finish at the Memorial Tournament (T65), Phil Mickelson followed a 2-under 68 in round one with a 69 in round two. At 3-under, Mickelson will begin round three six strokes back.

In round one, Mickelson found just five of 14 fairways in regulation at TPC Southwind. In Friday's second round, he improved slightly to seven of 14.

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Defending champion Ben Crane wasn't able to mount much of a charge in round two, finishing with an even-par 70. At 4-under 136, he will head into the weekend at five strokes back. Last year, Crane held a four-stroke lead over Camilo Villegas and Retief Goosen after 36 holes.

At even-par 140, amateur Bryson DeChambeau will be around for the weekend. As such, he becomes the first amateur to make the cut at the FedEx St. Jude Classic since David Gossett in 1998.

During today's second round of the FedEx St. Jude Classic, David Hearn aced the fourth hole with a 6-iron from 185 yards. A short time later, Hudson Swafford aced the 14<sup>th</sup> hole from 169 yards, using a 9-iron. As the Official Mortgage Sponsor of the PGA TOUR, Quicken Loans will award one year's worth of mortgage payments to Scott S. of East Wareham, Mass. (Hearn) and Patrick W. from Lowell, Ind. (Swafford) 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](http://www.pgatour.com/quickenloans). Participants in the 2014 Sweepstakes must re-register to be eligible in 2015.

Since moving to TPC Southwind in 1989, Hearn's and Swafford's aces are the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> aces recorded in competition, respectively.

Before today, the last ace recorded at the FedEx St. Jude Classic belonged to Stuart Appleby, on No. 8 in the first round last year.

The last ace on No. 4 came in 2010 (Alex Cejka/R3). Since 1989, No. 4 has yielded nine aces (including Hearn's).

The only previous ace on No. 14 was produced by Bob Estes in the third round of 2002.

The top 60 players from the Official World Ranking Monday after the FedEx St. Jude Classic earn a spot into the U.S. Open field. 2013 FedEx St. Jude Classic champion Harris English came into this week ranked 68<sup>th</sup> in the rankings. He needs to finish no worse than in a two-way tie for second in order to move into the top 60. Headed into the weekend, English is five strokes back at 4-under 136.

This year marks the ninth consecutive playing of the event the week before the U.S. Open. The best U.S. Open finish by the prior week's champion is a T16 by Lee Westwood in 2010. Since moving to TPC Southwind in 1989, the FedEx St. Jude Classic was also played the week before the U.S. Open in 2001 (Bob Estes/T30 U.S. Open), 1999 (Ted Tryba/T66 U.S. Open) and 1992 (Jay Haas/T23 U.S. Open). Despite last year's win in Memphis, Ben Crane did not qualify to play in the following week's U.S. Open.

There are 24 players in this week's field scheduled to compete next week at next week's U.S. Open at Chambers Bay.

The best U.S. Open finish by a winner of the FedEx St. Jude Classic the same year was a T3 by Fred Couples in 1993, when the Memphis event was contested two weeks after the U.S. Open.

Since moving to the TPC Southwind in 1989, the closest a Memphis winner has come to winning a major in the same year was when Lee Westwood claimed runner-up honors at the 2010 British Open.

Since 1934, just 11 players have won the week before winning a major championship, most recently being Rory McIlroy (2014 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, PGA Championship).

Past FedEx St. Jude Classic champions in the field: Ben Crane/2014 (T15), Harris English/2013 (T15), Harrison Frazar/2011 (T39), Justin Leonard/2005, 2008 (MC), David Toms/2003, 2004 (T15) and Dicky Pride/1994 (MC).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Greg Owen (64), Ryan Palmer (64), Scott Brown (65), Brian Davis (65), Alex Prugh (66) and Jerry Kelly (69).  
R2: Russell Knox (64), David Toms (66), Chad Campbell (66), Mark Hubbard (68), Troy Merritt (67) and Whee Kim (68).

Scoring Averages at the par-70 TPC Southwind:

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	35.432	35.491	70.938	---
R2:	35.607	35.806	71.413	71.174

Morning Scoring Average (70.96) vs. Afternoon Scoring Average (71.16).

In Friday's second round, the par-4 12<sup>th</sup> hole played as the toughest (4.426). The par-5 16<sup>th</sup> was the easiest with the exact same scoring average as No. 12, 4.426.