



2014 Hero World Challenge

Isleworth Golf & Country Club
Windermere, Florida

December 4-7, 2014
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,354

Purse: \$3,500,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, December 4, 2014

Weather: Sunny. Winds ENE 8-15 mph. High of 79.

First-Round Leaderboard

Jordan Spieth	66 (-6)
Zach Johnson	67 (-5)
Steve Stricker	67 (-5)
Rickie Fowler	67 (-5)
Henrik Stenson	67 (-5)

Jordan Spieth

One week removed from winning the Australian Open, Jordan Spieth carded a 6-under 66 to take a one-stroke lead over four players (including defending champion Zach Johnson) after the first round of the Hero World Challenge.

Spieth's round included just one bogey, at the par-3 11th hole.

Spieth struggled in his inaugural start at the 2013 Hero World Challenge, with rounds of 77-72-77-71 leading to a T16 finish among the 18-player field.

In his only start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season, Spieth posted rounds of 70-74-72-74 to finish T35 at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions.

Spieth is coming off of a 15th place finish in the 2013-14 FedExCup, with runner-up finishes at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions and Masters Tournament the best of his eight top-10 finishes.

First-Round Leader Results at the Hero World Challenge

In 2013, eventual champion Zach Johnson, at 5-under-par, led Matt Kuchar by one stroke after the first round.

In the 15 previous playings of the Hero World Challenge, the first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win just three times (Davis Love III in 2003, Tiger Woods in 2004 and Zach Johnson in 2013).

Tiger Woods

Making his return to competitive golf for the first time since a missed cut at the PGA Championship one week after withdrawing from the World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational, Hero World Challenge host Tiger Woods opened with a 5-over 77 – his worst round in 53 rounds at this event. His previous high round was a 76 in 2000.

Woods, the winner of 79 career PGA TOUR titles including 14 major championships, is playing in the Hero World Challenge for the 14th time. He has five victories (2001, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2011) and five runner-up finishes (2000, 2002, 2003, 2010 and 2013) in the event.

Woods was limited to just seven official events in 2013-14 with his best finish being T25 at the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship. He took nearly four months off from the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship until the Quicken Loans National after having back surgery in late March. Dr. Charles Rich performed the microdiscectomy surgery in Park City, Utah.

Woods' 77 represents just the fifth time in 14 starts at the World Challenge he has failed to open with a sub-70 score – 2003 (71), 2005 (72), 2012 (70), 2013 (71), 2014 (77). His best score at the World Challenge is a second-round 62 in 2007 and 2013.

Miscellaneous Notes

Three past Hero World Challenge champions are in the field: defending champion Zach Johnson (67; T2), 2010 and 2012 champion Graeme McDowell (67; T2) and five-time champion/tournament host Tiger Woods (77; 18th),

Four players, who accounted for nine wins on TOUR last season, are making their first World Challenge start: Jimmy Walker (68; T6), Chris Kirk (70; 11th), FedExCup champ Billy Horschel (73; T16) and Patrick Reed (73; T16).