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

Third-Round Notes - Saturday, December 6, 2014

Weather: Partly sunny. Winds E 5-10 mph. High of 79.

Second-round play was suspended Friday due to heavy rains at 2:54 p.m. and resumed at 4:16 p.m. Play was suspended due to darkness at 5:44 p.m. Two players failed to complete their round, including Steve Stricker (in the next-to-last group) and tournament-leader Jordan Spieth (in the final group). Those players were back in position at 10:15 a.m. Saturday, with the third round beginning at 11:15 a.m.

Third-Round Leaderboard

 Jordan Spieth
 66-67-63—196 (-20)

 Keegan Bradley
 72-66-65—203 (-13)

 Henrik Stenson
 67-68-68—203 (-13)

 Patrick Reed
 73-63-69—205 (-11)

Jordan Spieth

Last week's Australian Open champion Jordan Spieth, at 20-under 196, holds the third-round lead at the Hero World Challenge by a commanding, tournament-record seven strokes over Keegan Bradley and Henrik Stenson. The previous-largest 54-hole lead at the Hero World Challenge was six strokes by Padraig Harrington in 2002 and Tiger Woods in 2007.

Spieth's best round on the PGA TOUR is a final-round 62 at the 2013 Deutsche Bank Championship.

Spieth will be chasing Tiger Woods' tournament record 22-under-par 266 total at the 2007 Hero World Challenge.

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.

Third-Round Leader Results at the Hero World Challenge

In 2013. Tiger Woods (at 11-under) held a two-stroke lead following 54 holes over eventual champ Zach Johnson.

The 54-hole leader/co-leader has won the World Challenge just twice in the last 10 seasons (Tiger Woods/2007, Graeme McDowell/2012).

In the 15 previous playings of the event, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win five times (Tom Lehman/1999, Padraig Harrington/2002, Davis Love III/2003, Woods/2007, McDowell/2012).

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 sits in 18th place after rounds of 77-70-69. Woods' 69 Saturday included three consecutive birdies to close the round.

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.

Miscellaneous Notes

Three past Hero World Challenge champions are in the field: 2010 and 2012 champion Graeme McDowell (T7), defending champion Zach Johnson (11) and five-time champion/tournament host Tiger Woods (18).

Four players, who accounted for nine wins on TOUR last season, are making their first World Challenge start: Patrick Reed (4), Jimmy Walker (T12), Chris Kirk (T12) and FedExCup champ Billy Horschel (T12).