



2015 Shell Houston Open
(The 21st of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)



Humble, TX April 2-5, 2015
Golf Club of Houston (Tournament Course)

Purse: \$6,600,000 (\$1,188,000 to the winner)
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,441

Final-Round Notes – Sunday, April 5, 2015

Weather

Mostly cloudy, with a high of 77 degrees. Winds S-SE 8-16 mph

Final-Round Leaderboard

J.B. Holmes	65-70-73-64—272 (-16)*
Johnson Wagner	69-68-66-69—272 (-16)
Jordan Spieth	69-66-67-70—272 (-16)
Russell Henley	69-68-68-69—274 (-14)

J.B. Holmes defeated Johnson Wagner with a par-4 on the second playoff hole (No. 18). Jordan Spieth was eliminated on the first extra hole with a bogey-5.

The Shell Houston Open has had 23 playoffs – more than any event on TOUR other than the U.S. Open (32).

Nine of the 21 events on the PGA TOUR this season have resulted in a playoff.

Playoff Records

J.B. Holmes (2-2)

Defeated Phil Mickelson, 2008 FBR Open
Lost to Paul Casey, 2009 Shell Houston Open
Lost to Jason Day, 2015 Farmers Insurance Open
Defeated Johnson Wagner and Jordan Spieth, 2015 Shell Houston Open

Johnson Wagner (1-1)

Defeated Spencer Levin, 2011 Mayakoba Golf Classic
Lost to J.B. Holmes, 2015 Shell Houston Open

Jordan Spieth (2-2)

Defeated Zach Johnson and David Hearn, 2013 John Deere Classic
Lost to Patrick Reed, 2013 Wyndham Championship
Defeated Patrick Reed and Sean O'Hair, 2015 Valspar Championship
Lost to J.B. Holmes, 2015 Shell Houston Open

J.B. Holmes, 2015 Shell Houston Open champion

J.B. Holmes, who entered the final round of the Shell Houston Open trailing Jordan Spieth by six strokes, stormed out of the gate with birdies on his first five holes en route to an 8-under 64 to join a three-man playoff with Spieth and 2008 Shell Houston Open champion Johnson Wagner. After Spieth was eliminated on the first extra hole, Holmes parred the second playoff hole for his fourth PGA TOUR victory.

Since 1988, two players have won the week prior to the Masters Tournament and then gone on to win in Augusta: Sandy Lyle (Greater Greensboro Open) in 1988 and Phil Mickelson (BellSouth Classic) in 2006.

Holmes wins his fourth PGA TOUR title in his 210th start at the age of 32 years, 11 months and 10 days. It marks the first he has won in come-from-behind fashion.

PGA TOUR victories (4):

2015 Shell Houston Open
2014 Wells Fargo Championship
2008 Waste Management Phoenix Open
2006 Waste Management Phoenix Open

With the victory, Holmes collects 500 points and moves from No. 16 to No. 3 in the FedExCup standings.

Extends his exempt status on the PGA TOUR through the 2016-17 season.

Holmes entered the day trailing Jordan Spieth by six strokes, marking the largest come-from-behind victory on TOUR since Matt Jones came from six back to win the 2014 Shell Houston Open. The previous largest comeback victory this season was five strokes by Robert Streb (The McGladrey Classic) and Dustin Johnson (World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship).

Best come-from-behind win at the Shell Houston Open: 7 (Mike Sullivan in 1989 and Payne Stewart in 1995).

Holmes' 8-under 64 Sunday marks the lowest final round of his PGA TOUR career (65 – 2015 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am).

With his 64, Holmes ties the low fourth-round score at the Shell Houston Open, set 11 previous times and most recently by Pat Perez in 2008.

Holmes' 64 is the lowest by a winner since the Shell Houston Open moved to the Golf Club of Houston's Tournament Course in 2006. The previous low was set by 2011 champion Phil Mickelson (65).

Low fourth-round score by a winner at the Shell Houston Open: 64 (J.B. Holmes/2015, David Duval/1998, David Graham/1983). (Note: Ron Stretch posted a third-round 62 in 1981 and then claimed the title when the final round was wiped out due to inclement weather).

Holmes' 64 falls one shy of the low finish by a winner this season: 7-under 63 (Robert Streb/The McGladrey Classic, Jimmy Walker/Sony Open in Hawaii).

Holmes opened his final round with a 7-under 29, tying Fred Couples (2008) for the front-nine course record at the Golf Club of Houston.

Holmes' 29 falls two shy of the lowest 9-hole score on TOUR this season (Ryan Palmer, 27, R2/Humana Challenge).

With his third-round 1-over 73, J.B. Holmes becomes the first Shell Houston Open champion with an over-par round since Vijay Singh opened with a 74 en route to winning in 2004.

Holmes is the 10th player (11 wins) in his 30s to win on TOUR this season, compared to eight winners in their 20s and two over the age of 40.

All four of Holmes' top-10 finishes have come in his last six starts, including a playoff loss at the Farmers Insurance Open, T10 at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, runner-up finish at the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship and win at the Shell Houston Open.

Wins in his sixth start at the Shell Houston Open (MC-2007, 2nd-2009, T42-2011, T8-2012, T12-2014, 1-2015). In 2009, he fell in a playoff to Paul Casey.

Week at a glance: 25/56 fairways (71st), 57/72 greens in regulation (T10), 110 putts (T5), Strokes Gained: Putting (+1.026/round; 11th), Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (+1.996/round; 4th), 5 of 9 sand saves (T31), Driving Distance (312.4 average/1st).

About J.B. Holmes

Birthdate: April 26, 1982

Birthplace/Resides: Campbellsville, Kentucky/Orlando, Fla.

Family: Wife, Erica

Height, Weight: 5-11, 190

Education: University of Kentucky

Turned Pro: 2005

Joined TOUR: 2006

Johnson Wagner, P2

2008 Shell Houston Open winner Johnson Wagner finished runner-up in his effort to become the first player to win on the PGA TOUR on a sponsor exemption since Lee Westwood at the 2010 FedEx St. Jude Classic. The only player to win the Shell Houston Open on a sponsor's exemption was Ed Sneed in 1982.

Wagner was hoping to become the 10th multiple winner of the Shell Houston Open: Vijay Singh (2002, 2004-05), Curtis Strange (1980, 1986, 1988), Cary Middlecoff (1950, 1953), Mike Souchak (1955, 1964), Jack Burke (1952, 1959), Arnold Palmer (1957, 1966), Bobby Nichols (1962, 1965), Bruce Crampton (1973, 1975) and Stuart Appleby (1999, 2006).

Wagner moves to No. 81 in the FedExCup standings.

Wagner made his eighth start of the season this week, where he has made six cuts. Prior to finishing runner-up this week, his only other finish inside the top 50 was T16 at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. His only top-10 finish last season came at the John Deere Classic (T7).

When he won the event in 2008, Wagner became the first player to capitalize on the “win-and-you’re in” berth into the following week’s Masters Tournament. He was hoping to perform the feat again Sunday, but came up just short.

Last Thursday, Wagner’s father returned home from the hospital, where he underwent lung surgery. The surgery was a success and he is reportedly “doing great.”

Jordan Spieth, P2

Jordan Spieth, aged 21 years, 8 months and 9 days Sunday, was hoping to overtake 1971 champion Hubert Green (24 years, 4 months, 19 days) as the youngest Shell Houston Open champion.

Spieth was hoping to become the third different player since 1940 to win three times on the PGA TOUR before reaching their 22nd birthday. Below is the list of players to accomplish the feat:

Tiger Woods	1996 Las Vegas Invitational	20 years, 9 months, 6 days
Tiger Woods	1996 Walt Disney World Classic	20 years, 9 months, 20 days
Tiger Woods	1997 Mercedes Championship	21 years, 13 days
Tiger Woods	1997 Masters Tournament	21 years, 3 months, 14 days
Tiger Woods	1997 GTE Byron Nelson Golf Classic	21 years, 4 months, 18 days
Tiger Woods	1997 Motorola Western Open	21 years, 6 months, 6 days
Sergio Garcia	2001 MasterCard Colonial	21 years, 4 months
Sergio Garcia	2001 Buick Classic	21 years, 5 months, 16 days
Sergio Garcia	2002 Mercedes Championships	21 years, 11 months, 28 days

Spieth is winless in four attempts with the lead/co-lead after 54 holes: 2015 Shell Houston Open (playoff loss), 2014 Hyundai Tournament of Champions (2nd), 2014 Masters Tournament (T2) and 2014 PLAYERS Championship (T4).

Spieth at the Shell Houston Open: 2013/T50, 2014/MC, 2015/P2.

In Spieth’s last three starts on the PGA TOUR, he claimed his second career TOUR title at the Valspar Championship, finished second a week ago at TPC San Antonio and dropped a playoff this week at the Shell Houston Open. He is currently second in the FedExCup standings.

Third-Round Lead Statistics

Through 21 events this season of the PGA TOUR, only six have converted for the win. Most recently, Jimmy Walker achieved the feat at last week’s Valero Texas Open.

The 54-hole leader has won the Shell Houston Open four of the last eight years and 10 times since 2000.

The biggest come-from-behind win at the Shell Houston Open since it’s been played at Golf Club of Houston is six shots by Matt Jones last year.

Additional Player Notes

Russell Henley finished solo-fourth and two strokes out of the three-man playoff. He and Johnson Wagner were the only players with all four rounds in the 60s this week. This week marked his third start at the Shell Houston Open and his second-consecutive top-10 finish (T45-2013, T7-2014, 4-2015).

Keegan Bradley finished T5 for his third top-10 finish in five starts at the Shell Houston Open (T4-2012, T5-2015, T10-2013).

Cameron Tringale finished T5 for his third top-10 finish in five starts at the Shell Houston Open (4-2014, T5-2015, T8-2012). It is his first top 10 since a runner-up finish at The Barclays in 2014.

Web.com Tour member and Monday Qualifier Austin Cook finished T11. The last two players to win on the PGA TOUR after earning a spot into that week's field via Monday qualifying were Arjun Atwal (2010 Wyndham Championship) and Fred Wadsworth (1986 Southern Open). The last player to win the Shell Houston Open in his debut was Mike Heinen in 1994.

2009 Shell Houston Open champion Paul Casey finished ninth for his first top 10 at the Shell Houston Open since winning in 2009. He had missed the cut in his prior three starts.

First-round leader Scott Piercy finished 10th for his best finish in five Shell Houston Open starts. The 2011 Barracuda Championship and 2012 RBC Canadian Open winner opened the week with a course-record-tying, 9-under 63.

2011 Shell Houston Open champion Phil Mickelson finished T17 in his bid to become the 10th multiple winner of the Shell Houston Open. The others: Vijay Singh (2002, 2004-05), Curtis Strange (1980, 1986, 1988), Cary Middlecoff (1950, 1953), Mike Souchak (1955, 1964), Jack Burke (1952, 1959), Arnold Palmer (1957, 1966), Bobby Nichols (1962, 1965), Bruce Crampton (1973, 1975) and Stuart Appleby (1999, 2006).

Miscellaneous Notes

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Scott Piercy (63), Luke Guthrie (66), Charles Howell III (66), Shawn Stefani (66), Alex Prugh (67), Michael Thompson (68), Scott Brown (68), Johnson Wagner (69), Jhonattan Vegas (69), Russell Henley (69), Bryce Molder (69) and Cody Gribble (70).

R2: Andrew Putnam (65), Mark Wilson (66), Keegan Bradley (66), Jordan Spieth (66), Erik Compton (66), Chesson Hadley (66), Jason Bohn (67), Brendon de Jonge (67), Luke Guthrie (68), Johnson Wagner (68), Justin Thomas (68), Tony Finau (68), Charles Schwartzel (68), Jim Herman (68), Kevin Kisner (68), Pat Perez (68), Kevin Streelman (69), Kelvin Day (69), Francesco Molinari (70), Louis Oosthuizen (70), Bill Haas (70), Fabian Gomez (71).

R3: Scott Piercy (66), Kelvin Day (68).

R4: Victor Dubuisson (66), Brendon de Jonge (67), Pat Perez (67), David Hearn (68), Russell Henley (69).

Scoring Averages:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	35.438	35.514	70.951	---
R2	35.169	34.937	70.106	70.531
R3	36.225	35.549	71.775	70.779
R4	35.070	36.169	71.239	70.855

The most difficult hole this week was the par-4 18th (4.304). The easiest hole was the par-5 13th (4.603).