



2015 John Deere Classic

(The 35th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

**Silvis, IL
TPC Deere Run**

**July 6-12, 2015
Par/Yards: 35-36—717,268**

**Purse: \$4,700,000 (\$846,000)
FedExCup: 500 (winner)**

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, July 11, 2015

Weather: Steady showers in the morning (.80" fell). Mostly cloudy in the afternoon with a high of 81. Winds SE 6-12 mph.

Due to inclement weather, the third round was suspended from 8:54 – 9:51 a.m. Play was again suspended from 11:29 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Jordan Spieth 71-64-61—196 (-17)
Danny Lee 68-68-62—198 (-15)

Jordan Spieth

Jordan Spieth recorded a career-low 10-under 61, supplanting his previous low of 9-under 62 which he has recorded on two occasions – 2013 Deutsche Bank Championship final round and 2015 RBC Heritage second round.

Spieth began today's third round five strokes back at 7-under-par. At the 2013 John Deere Classic, Spieth was also five strokes back at 7-under-par after 36 holes before his dramatic playoff victory.

With eagles on Nos. 2 and 17, today marks the first time in his career Spieth has had two eagles in one round. So far this week, he has recorded three eagles, which ties his record for most eagles in an event (2013 Deutsche Bank Championship).

Today marked Spieth's 12th round this season with seven or more birdies or better.

Only 11 players have managed to win on the PGA TOUR the week before winning a major. Since 2000, the only three players to achieve the feat were Phil Mickelson (2006 BellSouth Classic/Masters Tournament), Tiger Woods (2007 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational/PGA Championship) and Rory McIlroy (2014 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational/PGA Championship). Mickelson won the Scottish Open the week prior to his 2013 Open Championship title.

This is the seventh time Spieth has held a lead/co-lead after 54 holes. He has converted two 54-hole leads to victory, both in his last two wins – 2015 Masters and 2015 U.S. Open.

With his 2013 victory at the John Deere Classic, Spieth became the youngest player to win on TOUR since Johnny McDermott won the 1911 U.S. Open.

With his victory at the U.S. Open, Spieth became just the second player since 1940 to win four times on TOUR before the age of 22. Tiger Woods won the 1997 Masters (his fourth TOUR win) at the age of 21 years, 3 months and 14 days.

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

Jordan Spieth	2013 John Deere Classic	19 years, 11 months, 18 days
Jordan Spieth	2015 Valspar Championship	21 years, 7 months, 19 days
Jordan Spieth	2015 Masters	21 years, 8 months, 16 days
Jordan Spieth	2015 U.S. Open	21 years, 10 months, 25 days

With four wins and eight runner-up finishes, Spieth has the most first- and second-place finishes by a TOUR player before the age of 22 since 1970: Spieth (12), Tiger Woods (7), Sergio Garcia (6), Bobby Clampett (5), Rickie Fowler (3).

Spieth's 61 is the sixth 61 at TPC Deere Run: Scott Brown/R3/2014, Chez Reavie/R2/2013, Troy Matteson/R1/2012, Steve Stricker/R2/2009 and J.P. Hayes/R2/2002)

Third-Round Lead Notes

Since moving to TPC Deere Run in 2000, the third-round leader has held on for the win seven times, most recently Brian Harman in 2014.

The third-round leader has emerged victorious 12 of 33 times on the PGA TOUR this season. The last to do so was Spieth at the U.S. Open.

Danny Lee

At last week's Greenbrier Classic, Danny Lee earned his first win on TOUR in 98 starts at the age of 24 years, 11 months and 11 days. The last player to win in back-to-back weeks was Billy Horschel during the 2013-14 FedExCup Playoffs (BMW Championship and TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola).

Last players to win in back-to-back *starts*:

Billy Horschel	2015 BMW Championship & TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola
Rory McIlroy	2014 Open Championship & WGC-Bridgestone Invitational
Rory McIlroy	2014 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational & PGA Championship
Tiger Woods	2013 WGC-Cadillac Championship & Arnold Palmer Invitational
Rory McIlroy	2012 Deutsche Bank Championship & BMW Championship
Jonathan Byrd	2010 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open & 2011 Hyundai Tournament of Champions

Last players to win in back-to-back *weeks*:

Billy Horschel	2014 BMW Championship & TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola
Rory McIlroy	2014 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational & PGA Championship
Rory McIlroy	2012 Deutsche Bank Championship & BMW Championship
Tiger Woods	2009 Buick Open & WGC-Bridgestone Invitational

The last player to get his first two wins in back-to-back starts was Camilo Villegas in 2008: BMW Championship and TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola. The last player to get his first two wins in back-to-back starts was David Duval in 1997: Michelob Championship at Kingsmill and Children's Miracle Network Classic). *Duval went on to win the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola in his next start.*

Lee began today's round six strokes off the lead. Last week, he was T5 and one shot off the lead entering the final round at The Greenbrier Classic.

Lee's 9-under 62 matches his previous career-low round on TOUR, a 9-under 63 in the first round of the 2012 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Lee is a New Zealand resident, but was born in South Korea. He is currently No. 16 in the Presidents Cup International Standings.

The last John Deere Classic winner to have also won the week before was David Frost in 1993 (Canadian Open, John Deere Classic).

Lee earned his berth into the Open Championship at last week's Greenbrier Classic via the Open Qualifying Series.

Lee became the youngest ever winner of the U.S. Amateur Championship in 2008 at 18 years and 1 month. His age record was broken the following year by 17-year-old An Byeong-hun. The win catapulted him to No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking in August 2008, where he remained until turning professional in April 2009.

Zach Johnson

Zach Johnson's 5-under 66 in the third round extended his streak of consecutive rounds in the 60s at TPC Deere Run to 27 (totaling 119-under par). Not since the final round of 2008 (even-par 71) has Johnson posted a score in the 70s.

Johnson's round-by-round finishing position and score at the John Deere Classic en route to his victory in 2012: RD 1 (T39/68), RD 2 (T11/65), RD 3 (T3/66), RD4 (1/65).

Since 2004, Johnson has recorded 224 birdies at TPC Deere Run, the most of any tournament. He has 182 total birdies at Doral.

Miscellaneous Notes

Shawn Stefani, Justin Thomas and Johnson Wagner – all T3 – are not exempt for next week's Open Championship.

Paired with fellow John Deere Classic winner Jordan Spieth in the third round, defending John Deere Classic champion Brian Harman recorded an even-par 71 and sits at T32.

University of Illinois alum and Quincy, Ill., native Luke Guthrie will enter the final round five shots off the lead.

The John Deere Classic has produced 20 first-time PGA TOUR winners over the years – seven of those have come at TPC Deere Run (Michael Clark/2000, David Gossett/2001, Mark Hensby/2004, Sean O'Hair/2005, John Senden/2006, Jordan Spieth/2013 and Brian Harman/2014).

Five of the last eight John Deere Classic champions are in the field: Brian Harman/2014 (T32), Jordan Spieth/2013 (1st), Zach Johnson/2012 (T6), Steve Stricker/2009-2011 (T26) and Jonathan Byrd/2007 (MC). Sean O'Hair (2005), John Senden (2006) and Kenny Perry (2008) are not in this year's field.

Now in its second year, The Open Qualifying Series (OQS) is an international qualifying series involving events on the world's leading golf tours for The Open Championship, which takes place at St Andrews next week. The OQS offers players the opportunity to qualify for golf's oldest major championship at events on the PGA TOUR, the European Tour, the PGA Tour of Australasia and the Japan Golf Tour. Players on the PGA TOUR have the chance to qualify at three events: Travelers Championship, The Greenbrier Classic and John Deere Classic. The top four players, not previously eligible, who finish among the top 12 (and ties) at the Travelers Championship and The Greenbrier Classic will earn entry into The Open Championship. The top player among the top five (and ties) at the John Deere Classic will also qualify. If there are ties for the final spot(s), qualifiers are determined by Official World Golf Ranking.

From 1980-89, 1997-98 and 2004 to the present, the John Deere Classic has preceded The Open Championship. The best finish by a John Deere Classic winner in The Open Championship was Zach Johnson in 2012 when he finished T9 at Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club.

Year	Player	Tournament Name	Open Championship Finish
2014	Brian Harman	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T26
2013	Jordan Spieth	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T44
2012	Zach Johnson	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T9
2011	Steve Stricker	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T12
2010	Steve Stricker	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T55
2009	Steve Stricker	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T52
2008	Kenny Perry	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	DNP
2007	Jonathan Byrd	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T23
2006	John Senden	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T35
2005	Sean O'Hair	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	T15
2004	Mark Hensby	<i>John Deere Classic</i>	DNP
1998	Steve Jones	<i>Quad City Classic</i>	T57
1997	David Toms	<i>Quad City Classic</i>	DNP
1980-89	*No winners competed in Open Championship during these years		

There are 18 players in this week's field scheduled to compete in next week's Open Championship at St. Andrews. Currently, 21 players are scheduled to take advantage of the charter flight to Edinburgh Sunday night.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Charles Howell III (64), Steven Alker (65), Spencer Levin (66), Will Wilcox (66), Zach Johnson (66), Alex Cejka (67), Brian Harman (67), Jhonattan Vegas (67), Adam Hadwin (68), Pat Perez (69), Roberto Castro (69) and Scott Brown (69).

R2: K.J. Choi (68), Max Homa (66), Mark Hubbard (67), Danny Lee (68), Andrew Loupe, Bryce Molder (65), Hudson Swafford (66) and Johnson Wagner (63).

R3: Jordan Spieth (61), Danny Lee (62), Zach Johnson (66), Vijay Singh (70), Tom Gillis (69), Johnson Wagner (68).

Scoring Averages at the par-71 TPC Deere Run:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	34.460	35.069	65.529	
R2:	34.371	35.532	69.903	69.716
R3:	34.493	35.864	70.357	69.839

The easiest hole in round three was the par-5 second hole, playing to an average of 4.507. The most difficult hole was the par-4 9th, with an average of 4.356.