



2015 RBC Canadian Open

(The 38th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Oakville, Ontario
Glen Abbey Golf Club

July 20 – 26, 2015
Par/Yardage: 35-37—72/7,253

FedExCup Points: 500 to the winner
Purse: \$5,800,000 (\$1,044,000)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, July 23, 2015

Weather: Sunny with a high of 80 degrees. Winds WNW 10-15 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Emiliano Grillo	64 (-8)
Brian Harman	65 (-7)
Vaughn Taylor	65 (-7)

Emiliano Grillo

In this week's RBC Canadian Open field by virtue of his top-10 finish at last week's Barbasol Championship (T10), Argentinian Emiliano Grillo opened with a bogey-free, 8-under 64.

Grillo, who is not a PGA TOUR member, made it into last week's field in Alabama on a Foreign Sponsor Exemption. He birdied his 72nd hole Sunday at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail (Grand National) to earn the top-10 finish.

Grillo is a member of PGA TOUR Latinoamerica and the European Tour. On PGA TOUR Latinoamerica, the 23-year-old won the 2014 Visa Open de Argentina. On the European Tour, four top-10 finishes in 2014 vaulted him to No. 44 on the European Tour Race to Dubai. On that Tour in 2015, he has collected a pair of top-5 finishes.

Grillo is making his sixth start on the PGA TOUR this week, and fourth of the season. In addition to last week's T10 finish at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail (Grand National), he lost on the first hole of sudden death to Alex Cejka at the Puerto Rico Open in March. As a result of that top-10 finish, he earned a spot into the following week's field at the Valspar Championship (MC). In his only other starts, he finished T42 and T29 at the 2012 and 2014 Puerto Rico Open, respectively.

Grillo comes into this week's Barbasol Championship with 138 non-member FedExCup points and \$282,000 in non-member money. Grillo needs the equivalent in FedExCup points or money of No. 125 (or better) after the Wyndham Championship to earn his card for the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season.

Argentine winners on the PGA TOUR: Roberto De Vincenzo, Jose Coceres, Angel Cabrera, Andres Romero and Fabian Gomez.

First-Round Leader Stats

The last two 18-hole leads at Glen Abbey GC were 9-under 63 in 2009 (Kevin Na, Camilo Villegas) and 7-under 65 in 2013 (Brendan Steele).

The last first-round leader of the RBC Canadian Open to hold on for the win was Scott Piercy in 2012 at Hamilton G&CC. Prior to that, it was Jim Furyk in 2006 at Hamilton G&CC.

The first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win five of 36 stroke-play events on TOUR this year, most recently Bubba Watson at the Travelers Championship.

In relation to par, the course record at Glen Abbey GC belongs to Greg Norman, who posted a 10-under 62 in round three of 1986. The lowest opening-round score of 9-under 63 at Glen Abbey GC belongs to Camilo Villegas and Kevin Na (2009/R1).

Vaughn Taylor

Much like Emiliano Grillo, Vaughn Taylor is in this week's field by virtue of his T10 finish at last week's Barbasol Championship. Also like Grillo, Taylor picked up where he left off in Alabama, posting a 7-under 65. He made birdie at

two of his first three holes and two of his last three holes en route to his 7-under 65. Taylor also had birdies at Nos. 10, 11 and 14. His lone bogey of the day came at the par-3 12th hole.

Beginning at the John Deere Classic two weeks ago (T44), Taylor is now a perfect 9-for-9 at rounds of par-or-better. Seven of the nine have been sub-par scores.

Taylor posted an 8-under 63 in round three at Grand National last week, setting him up for just his third top 10 since the 2010 PGA TOUR season. This is his ninth start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, 81st since 2011 and 282nd overall.

Taylor's journey this season has been an interesting one. Unsure which Tour to pursue at the beginning of the season, Web.com or PGA TOUR, he began his PGA TOUR campaign at the Sanderson Farms Championship through the Past Championship category. A T20 finish in Mississippi moved him high enough in the reshuffle to earn a spot into the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. His T10 finish there earned him a spot into the Northern Trust Open a week later. At Torrey Pines, he claimed a share of 22nd place, all the while moving up in the reshuffle. Two weeks before last week's Barbasol Championship, Taylor finished inside the top 20 at the FedEx St. Jude Classic (T18). He comes into this week's RBC Canadian Open No. 162 in FedExCup points.

Taylor maintains some Web.com Tour status by having finished 47th on that Tour's money list in 2014.

Taylor earned a spot into last week's Barbasol Championship field via the Past Champion category. His two victories on TOUR came at the 2004 and 2005 Barracuda Championship in Reno.

Taylor has made four of five cuts on the Web.com Tour this season.

Taylor is making his fourth start in the RBC Canadian Open, where he has never made a cut (2006, 2009 and 2011). In 2009 at Glen Abbey, he posted scores of 74-70.

Brian Harman

Making his third start in the RBC Canadian Open, and second at Glen Abbey Golf Club (2013/MC), Brian Harman made four-consecutive birdies on Nos. 17-2 in round one. He had additional birdies at Nos. 6, 7, 10 and 13. The only blemish on his card was a bogey at the par-4 14th.

In relation to par, Harman's 65 today is one stroke shy of his low for the year. In the final round of the Hyundai Tournament of Champions, he posted an 8-under 65 on the Plantation Course at Kapalua (par 73).

Harman comes to this week's RBC Canadian Open on the heels of a missed cut at 1st week's Open Championship. Three weeks ago, Harman claimed his best finish of the season, solo-third, at the Travelers Championship. In May, Harman finished T8 at THE PLAYERS Championship.

Harman, who joined the PGA TOUR in 2012, is in search of his second career win on TOUR (2014 John Deere Classic).

Ryan Ruffels

Playing on a sponsor exemption, 17-year-old amateur Ryan Ruffels made five birdies, an eagle (No. 2) and a bogey (No. 4) en route to a 6-under 66.

Ruffels is making his first-ever start on the PGA TOUR this week.

So far this season, two amateurs have finished inside the top five in a PGA TOUR event. At the Waste Management Phoenix Open, Jon Rahm (T5) became the first amateur to finish in the top 5 of a PGA TOUR event since Chris Wood (5th) at the 2008 Open Championship and Justin Rose (T4) at the 1998 Open Championship. At last week's Barbasol Championship, rising Auburn University junior Robby Shelton finished T3.

Shelton's T3 finish is the best by an amateur since Phil Mickelson won the 1991 Northern Telecom Open.

Because of his amateur status, a top-10 finish for Ruffels this week would not earn him a spot into the next PGA TOUR event.

Ruffels was born in Florida, but moved with his family to Australia at a young age for his father to pursue his career as a professional tennis player. It was in Australia where his passion for the game of golf really took shape. In 2014, he won the Australian Boys' Amateur, which he followed with a team championship victory a week later, representing Victoria.

Miscellaneous

In defense of his RBC Canadian Open title (Royal Montreal Golf Club), Tim Clark opened with an even-par 72. Clark is making his fifth start in the RBC Canadian Open, but first at Glen Abbey Golf Club.

2006-2007 RBC Canadian Open champion Jim Furyk opened with a 4-under 68, as did Hunter Mahan, Matt Kuchar, Jason Day and Bubba Watson.

Eric Axley overcame a double bogey at No. 1 (his 10th hole) with three eagles in round one. Axley made three at the par-5 16th and 18th holes, before holing his second shot at the second hole with a wedge from 117 yards. Axley posted a 5-under 67 in round one. The only other player with three eagles in one round this season is Dustin Johnson (Masters Tournament).

During today's first round of the RBC Canadian Open, Erik Compton (66) aced the seventh hole with a pitching wedge from 141 yards. As the Official Mortgage Sponsor of the PGA TOUR, Quicken Loans will award one year's worth of mortgage payments to Valerie from Seatac, Wash. 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. Participants in the 2014 Sweepstakes must re-register to be eligible in 2015.

Compton's ace today marks the first of his career. Fitting for it to come in Canada, as Compton is a three-time winner on the Canadian Tour. In 2004, he won twice en route to winning the Order of Merit. His third win came in 2005.

There are 15 Canadians in this week's field: Austin Connelly (73), Corey Connors (77), Graham DeLaet (72), Brad Fritsch (75), Adam Hadwin (74), Blair Hamilton (71), David Hearn (69), Richard Jung (72), Taylor Pendrith (74), Garrett Rank (81), Justin Shin (74), Roger Sloan (70), Adam Svenson (69), Nick Taylor (70) and Billy Walsh (73).

The last Canadian to win the RBC Canadian Open was Pat Fletcher in 1954. This is the 60-year anniversary of that win. In 2004, Mike Weir lost in a playoff to Vijay Singh in the 50-year anniversary of Fletcher's win. After his playing days, Fletcher was the Head Professional at Royal Montreal Golf Club.

Seventeen players have won the RBC Canadian Open in their debut. The last player to accomplish the feat was Chez Reavie in 2008.

Since 2000, just three of the 12 different winners of the RBC Canadian Open have made the title their first on the PGA TOUR – Nathan Green (2009), Chez Reavie (2008) and John Rollins (2002).

Since its 1904 inception, only 17 players have won the RBC Canadian Open more than once. Six players have successfully defended an RBC Canadian Open title. The only player to achieve the feat since 1951 is Jim Furyk (2006-2007).

This marks the 27th time the RBC Canadian Open has been contested at Glen Abbey GC and first since 2013 (Brandt Snedeker). Other past champions at Glen Abbey since 2000 include; Vijay Singh (2004) and Tiger Woods (2000).

There are seven past RBC Canadian Open champions in the field: Tim Clark/2014 (72), Scott Piercy/2012 (70), Sean O'Hair/2011 (76), Chez Reavie/2008 (69), Jim Furyk/2006, 2007 (68), Vijay Singh/2004 (75) and Scott Verplank/2001 (72).

Robert Allenby withdrew following his first round.

In round one, the par-5 16th ranked as the easiest hole with an average of 4.417, while the par-4 14th played as the toughest with a 4.282 scoring average.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Ricky Barnes (68), Martin Flores (68) and Chad Collins (70).

Scoring Averages at the par-72 Glen Abbey GC:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.006	36.123	71.129	--