

# **2014 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open** (The 2<sup>nd</sup> of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Las Vegas, Nevada TPC Summerlin

October 16-19, 2014

Purse: \$6,200,000 Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,255

Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

# COMPLETED First-Round Notes - Friday, October 17, 2014

Weather: Sunny, with a high temperature of 84. Winds SE 5-10 mph.

The first round was suspended due to darkness at 6:20 p.m. Thursday, with the three players left on the course completing the first round at 7:59 a.m. Friday. The second round began as scheduled at 6:50 a.m.

#### First-Round Leaderboard

Stewart Cink	64 (-7)
Martin Laird	64 (-7)
Russell Knox	65 (-6)

#### **Stewart Cink**

Stewart Cink opened the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open with a bogey-free 7-under 64, one shy of his career-low round. He has posted 63 four times previously, most recently at the 2014 Humana Challenge. Cink was even par through seven holes, but added seven birdies on his final 11 holes at TPC Summerlin.

Round at a glance: 6/14 fairways in regulation, 17/18 greens in regulation, 28 putts.

Cink is making his 473<sup>rd</sup> TOUR start, with the last of his six victories coming at the 2009 Open Championship. This week marks his 10<sup>th</sup> start at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, with a T3 in 2000 his best finish. His low round at the event is 64, set in today's first round and in the final round of 1998.

Cink recently finished No. 80 in the FedExCup, marking the seventh time in the eight-year history of the FedExCup he has finished inside the top 100 (finished No. 139 in 2012).

This marks the 10<sup>th</sup> time Cink has held the first-round lead/co-lead, with the 2004 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational his lone win in those events. Prior to Thursday, his most recent first-round lead/co-lead came at the 2014 Farmers Insurance Open (T28).

## **Martin Laird**

Martin Laird matched Stewart Cink with a 7-under 64, his 15<sup>th</sup> round in the 60s out of 19 overall at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. He opened with a 63 en route to winning the 2009 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

Round at a glance: 7/14 fairways in regulation, 18/18 greens in regulation, 30 putts.

Laird is making his sixth start at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, with a win in 2009 and T2 finish in 2010 the best of his four made cuts.

Laird is making his 168<sup>th</sup> TOUR start, with victories at the 2013 Valero Texas Open, 2011 Arnold Palmer Invitational and 2009 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. Most recently, he finished No. 127 in the FedExCup.

Laird's career-best round on the PGA TOUR is 62, set on two occasions and most recently during the second round of the 2010 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (finished T2).

This marks the fourth time Laird has held the first-round lead/co-lead (all shares of the lead): 2008 Wyndham Championship (finished T4), 2011 Northern Trust Open (T25), 2012 PLAYERS Championship (T2), 2014 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (TBD).

#### **First-Round Notes**

Since the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open became a 72-hole event in 2004, Ryan Moore (2012) is the only first-round leader/co-leader who has carried that lead on to victory. He opened that year with a 10-under 61 and a one-stroke lead over Brendon de Jonge.

Last year, J.J. Henry opened this event with an 11-under 60 en route to T15 honors. This year he opened with an even-par 71 in round one.

A week ago, Sang-Moon Bae opened the Frys.com Open with a 6-under 66 to share the 18-hole lead with Andres Gonzales. He added rounds of 69-65-73 to become the season's first winner.

#### Russell Knox

Russell Knox posted a 6-under 65 to sit one shot behind fellow Scottish counterpart Martin Laird and Stewart Cink. In 62 PGA TOUR starts, his best finish was a playoff loss to Russell Henley at the 2014 Honda Classic. This week marks his third start at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (T13 in 2012 his best finish).

Knox has just two rounds in the 70s in three starts at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, both coming in the final round (73 in 2013 and 72 in 2012). The remainder of his scores at TPC Summerlin have been in the 60s.

## **Andres Romero**

During a first round 4-under 67, Andres Romero recorded a hole-in-one with on the par-3 17<sup>th</sup> hole with a 7-iron from 203 yards. As the Official Mortgage Sponsor of the PGA TOUR, Quicken Loans will award one year's worth of mortgage payments to Shirley Cartwright (Greenfield, OH) to commemorate Romero's 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 for the remainder of the 2014 calendar year. Throughout the sweepstakes, and regardless of how many hole-in-ones are made, Quicken Loans will also randomly select a total of 60 entrants to receive a monthly mortgage payment on their home.

A year ago, Romero opened the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open with a 10-under 61, but followed with an 81 to miss the cut. This year marks his fifth start at the event, with a T7 in his inaugural start in 2009 his best outing.

#### **Additional Player Notes**

Defending champion Webb Simpson opened with a 2-under 69. The last repeat winner of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open was Jim Furyk (1998-99).

2014 FedExCup champion Billy Horschel opened with an even-par 71.

Sang-Moon Bae, winner of last week's Frys.com Open and current FedExCup leader, opened with an even-par 71.

Hideki Matsuyama opened with a 5-under 66 in his first start at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. He is just one week removed from finishing T3 for the second year in a row at the Frys.com Open.

Making his comeback from two bouts of myeloid leukemia, Jarrod Lyle (playing this week on a Sponsor's Exemption) opened with a 5-under 66. This season, Lyle has 20 events to earn \$283,825 to retain his TOUR playing privileges.

## Miscellaneous Notes

Seven past champions of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open are in this week's field:

Champion (Year)	R1 Score		
Martin Laird (2009)	64		
Jonathan Byrd (2010)	69		
Webb Simpson (2013)	69		
Ryan Moore (2012)	71		
George McNeill (2007)	71		
Stuart Appleby (2003)	74		
Kevin Na (2011)	WD (illness)		

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Stewart Cink (64), Martin Laird (64), Zack Sucher (67), Adam Hadwin (67), Nick Watney (68)

Jason Gore (ankle injury) and Kevin Na (illness) withdrew during the first round.

Scoring Averages at the par-71 TPC Summerlin:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	35.134	35.120	70.254	

Please visit pgatourmedia.com for further information.