



## 2015 Travelers Championship

(The 33<sup>rd</sup> of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Cromwell, Conn.  
TPC River Highlands

June 22-28, 2015  
Par/Yardage: 35-35—70/6,841

FedExCup Points: 500 to the winner  
Purse: \$6,400,000 (\$1,152,000)

### Third-Round Notes – Saturday, June 27, 2015

*Weather: Cloudy skies, with an afternoon high 73. Light rain in afternoon. Winds SE 8-15 mph.*

#### Third-Round Leaderboard

Brian Harman	66-65-65—196 (-14)
Graham DeLaet	67-66-64—197 (-13)
Bubba Watson	62-67-68—197 (-13)

Due to expected weather on Sunday morning, final-round tee times will be moved later in the morning, approximately 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET with threesomes off Nos. 1 and 10 tees.

#### **Brian Harman**

Brian Harman birdied the final hole of the day (No. 18) to take a one-stroke lead heading into the final round. He carded his second consecutive round of 5-under 65, going bogey free with five birdies on the day.

Going into the day, Harman had hit 25 of 28 fairways through 36 holes. He hit just nine of 14 in the third round, but leads the field in Strokes Gained: Tee To Green (9.031).

This marks just the second time Harman has led after 54 holes. He previously held the solo lead going into the final round of his lone PGA TOUR win, the 2014 John Deere Classic.

Harman has led/co-led three times in his career

- First round, 2014 John Deere Classic (T1)
- First round, 2014 McGladrey Classic (T1)
- Third round, 2014 John Deere Classic (1<sup>st</sup>)

Harman is making his 21<sup>st</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season where he has five top-25 showings, including a T8 finish at THE PLAYERS Championship and a T10 at the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial.

Harman has made the cut in all four previous starts at the Travelers Championship (2004, 2012-2014), with a T24 finish in 2012 his best showing at TPC River Highlands.

Playing in his 116<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR event, Harman is in search of his second victory.

#### Second-Round Leader Stats

Dating to 2000, the third-round leader/co-leader at the Travelers Championship has gone on to win four times: Stewart Cink (2008), J.J. Henry (2006), Peter Jacobsen (2003) and Phil Mickelson (2001).

The best opening 54-hole score at the Travelers Championship since moving to TPC River Highlands in 1991 is 17-under 193 by Mark Calcavecchia in 2000 (finished second).

The largest 54-hole lead is four shots by Sam Snead (1955), Bob Murphy (1970), and Tim Morris (1982).

The largest come-from-behind win is seven strokes by Brad Faxon in 2005. Marc Leishman came back from six strokes to win in 2012.

Only two players have won the tournament in wire-to-wire fashion – Gene Littler in 1959 and Tim Morris in 1982. A total of 10 players have won the tournament after holding at least a share of the lead after each round.

Through 31 stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR this season, 12 third-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win. Most recently, Jordan Spieth achieved this feat at the U.S. Open.

### **Graham DeLaet**

Graham DeLaet started the day four shots off the lead, but after a 6-under 64, sits in a two-way tie for second heading into the final round. His round was highlighted by five birdies and an eagle on No. 15

In his 123<sup>rd</sup> PGA TOUR start, DeLaet is still in search of his maiden PGA TOUR victory. He has three runner-ups: 2014 Farmers Insurance Open, 2014 Waste Management Phoenix Open and 2013 Barclays.

DeLaet looks to become the 18<sup>th</sup> player to make the Travelers Championship his first TOUR title. Six of the last nine winners of the Travelers Championship have been first-time TOUR champions: J.J. Henry (2006), Hunter Mahan (2007), Bubba Watson (2010), Freddie Jacobson (2011), Marc Leishman (2012) and Ken Duke (2013).

The only other time DeLaet has led/co-led after 54 holes on the PGA TOUR was at the 2013 Travelers Championship. He went on to finish third. In addition, he has only ever been at the top of the leaderboard either solo or with a share of the lead two other times, both in 2012 (Sony Open in Hawaii/R1, BMW Championship/R1).

This marks DeLaet's 18<sup>th</sup> start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season where he has two top 10s including the Waste Management Phoenix Open (T7) and Northern Trust Open (T8). DeLaet did not compete in the U.S. Open and he finished T26 in his last start at the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide.

DeLaet is making his sixth consecutive start at the Travelers Championship where his best performance is a third-place finish in 2013. He only has one missed cut, which came in 2011.

Today's 6-under 64 is DeLaet's lowest score in 21 rounds at TPC River Highlands. He carded a 65 on two occasions, during the first and third round of the 2013 event where he finished third.

The Canadian has four international victories: 2008 Desjardins Montreal Open, 2009 BMG Classic, 2009 ATB Financial Classic and 2009 Players Cup.

Today is Ruby DeLaet's (Graham's wife) birthday. The couple is expecting twins in early December.

On Tuesday, DeLaet won \$10,000 for his charity, the Graham & Ruby DeLaet Foundation. During Tuesday's practice round, PGA TOUR players and caddies were given a chance to hit at the famous Travelers floating umbrella on the hole known as The Umbrella at 15 ½, which is located between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> holes at TPC River Highlands. The hole is 71 yards long and the target is a 40-foot umbrella. The players are given one attempt at the umbrella, with the winner receiving \$10,000 from Travelers, to the charity of their choice.

### **Bubba Watson**

Bubba Watson recorded three birdies and one bogey to card a 68 and will begin the final round one back.

Watson collected his first career PGA TOUR victory at the 2010 Travelers Championship, where he was six shots off the lead after 54 holes.

Watson is making his ninth start in the Travelers Championship, and eighth consecutive. In addition to his 2010 win at TPC River Highlands, Watson has finished inside the top 10 in 2008 (T6), 2012 (T2) and 2013 (T4). His only missed cut came in his first start of 2006.

Watson now has 152 total birdies at TPC River Highlands, which is just two shy of his record for most total birdies in an event – 154 in nine starts at the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

Watson looks to become the seventh multiple winner of the Travelers Championship: Stewart Cink (2008, 1997), Peter Jacobsen (2003, 1984), Phil Mickelson (2001-02), Paul Azinger (1989, 1987), Billy Casper (1973, 1968, 1965, 1963), Arnold Palmer (1960, 1956).

Watson is seeking his eighth career win on the PGA TOUR in his 223<sup>rd</sup> start on TOUR.

In addition to his win at the WGC-HSBC Champions earlier in the season, additional top-five finishes have come at the Waste Management Phoenix Open (T2) and WGC-Cadillac Championship (3<sup>rd</sup>).

Watson, who won earlier this year at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions, looks to become the fourth multiple winner this season: Jordan Spieth (Valspar Championship, Masters Tournament, U.S. Open), Rory McIlroy

(World Golf Championships-Dell Match Play, Wells Fargo Championship) and Jimmy Walker (Sony Open in Hawaii, Valero Texas Open).

### **Patrick Rodgers**

After making birdie on his final hole on Friday to make the cut on the number, Patrick Rodgers fired a career-low 7-under 63 in the third round to jump 51 spots on the leaderboard.

This marks Rodgers' 21<sup>st</sup> PGA TOUR start and 11<sup>th</sup> of the 2014-15 season.

Rodgers made his first PGA TOUR start at the 2010 Travelers Championship as an amateur (MC). He made his professional debut at the 2014 Travelers Championship (T46).

Rodgers is playing on Special Temporary Membership, allowing him to accept unlimited sponsor exemptions for the remainder of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season in his attempt to earn his 2015-16 TOUR card. Rodgers also sits at No. 9 on the current Web.com Tour money list after a win earlier this season at the Colombia Championship Presented by Claro.

Earlier this year, Rodgers finished T2 at the Wells Fargo Championship.

Rodgers, an Indiana native, played collegiately at Stanford University for three years, winning 11 titles, tying the record set by Tiger Woods. In 2014, he won men's collegiate golf top honors – the Jack Nicklaus Award, Ben Hogan Award and Haskins Award.

Rodgers' previous low scores on the PGA TOUR were 5-under 65 in the first round of the 2014 Greenbrier Classic (as a professional) and 6-under 65 in the third round of the 2013 John Deere Classic (as an amateur).

### **Open Qualifying Series**

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 in July. 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, that 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.

Apart from the OQS, the first five PGA TOUR members and any PGA TOUR members tying for fifth place, not exempt in the top 20 of the PGA TOUR FedExCup Points List for 2015 upon completion of the Travelers Championship earn a berth into The Open Championship.

There are 23 players in the Travelers Championship field who are already exempt for the 144<sup>th</sup> Open at St Andrews:

Jonas Blixt	Sergio Garcia	Kevin Na
Keegan Bradley	Branden Grace	Louis Oosthuizen
Paul Casey	Padraig Harrington	Patrick Reed
Greg Chalmers	Morgan Hoffmann	Brandt Snedeker
Stewart Cink	Billy Horschel	Brendon Todd
Ben Curtis	Zach Johnson	Bubba Watson
Ernie Els	Marc Leishman	Gary Woodland
Matt Every	Hunter Mahan	

### **Miscellaneous Stats**

Coming off three consecutive top 10s at the U.S. Open (8), AT&T Byron Nelson (T6) and Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, Brandt Snedeker carded a 7-under 63 in the third round, matching his low round at TPC River Highlands, a 63 in the second round of the 2011 event. In last year's final round, Snedeker carded a 64 to finish the tournament at 10-under 270.

New England's Keegan Bradley carded his fifth over-par score in 15 rounds at TPC River Highlands with a 1-over 71. Bradley, who has never had a top-10 finish here, will begin the final round eight strokes off the lead.

Sergio Garcia (T8), who finished T2 at the 2014 Travelers Championship, carded a 4-under 66 in the third round and is only five strokes off pace.

Chris Stroud is making his ninth-consecutive start at the Travelers Championship where he has three top 25s, including a runner-up finish in 2013. In 32 total rounds at TPC River Highlands (he withdrew after the first round in 2007), he has 26 rounds in the 60s.

With its commitment to bring top young players to Connecticut each year, top players like Webb Simpson, Rickie Fowler, Ryo Ishikawa, Kyle Stanley, Morgan Hoffmann, Patrick Cantlay, Patrick Rodgers and more have been granted exemptions by the tournament and made their professional debut in Hartford. Jon Rahm, one of two amateurs given a sponsor exemption this year, posted rounds of 68-69-69 and sits at T49. Rahm, a junior at ASU, made his first PGA TOUR start earlier this season at the Waste Management Phoenix Open where he became the first amateur to finish in the top five of a PGA TOUR event since Chris Wood finished fifth at the 2008 Open Championship.

A total of 17 players have picked up their first TOUR win at the Travelers Championship: Ken Duke (2013), Marc Leishman (2012), Freddie Jacobson (2011), Bubba Watson (2010), Hunter Mahan (2007), J.J. Henry (2006), Brent Geiberger (1999), Olin Browne (1998), Stewart Cink (1997), Billy Ray Brown (1991), Mark Brooks (1988), Mac O'Grady (1986), Phil Blackmar (1985), Tim Norris (1982), Don Bies (1975), Charles Sifford (1967) and Bob Toski (1953).

Five of the past 11 outcomes at TPC River Highlands have been decided through a playoff (2013/Ken Duke, 2010/Bubba Watson, 2007/Hunter Mahan, 2005/Brad Faxon and 2004/Woody Austin).

Patrick Cantlay's 60 in the second round in 2011 as an amateur set the TPC River Highlands course record and equaled the Travelers Championship low 18-hole score (Tommy Bolt, 1954, Wethersfield CC). Prior to Cantlay's 60 in 2011, the course record at TPC River Highlands was 61, shared by Kirk Triplett (R3, 2000), Phil Mickelson (R3, 2001), Scott Verplank (R4, 2001), Brad Faxon (R4, 2005) and Kenny Perry (R1, 2009).

Seven players who finished inside the top 15 at the U.S. Open are competing in this week's Travelers Championship: Louis Oosthuizen, T2 (MC), Branden Grace, T4 (MC), Cameron Smith, T4 (T49), Brandt Snedeker, 8<sup>th</sup> (T4), Tony Finau, T14 (T25), Patrick Reed, T14 (MC) and Andres Romero, T14 (MC).

Seven past champions of the Travelers Championship are in the field: Kevin Streelman, 2014 (MC), Ken Duke, 2013 (T34), Marc Leishman, 2012 (T40), Bubba Watson, 2010 (T2), Stewart Cink, 1997, 2008 (MC), Hunter Mahan, 2007 (MC) and J.J. Henry, 2006 (T62).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Brian Stuard (64), Tom Gillis (65), Jason Gore (65), Jhonattan Vegas (66), Jim Herman (67), David Lingmerth (68), Mark Hubbard (68), Gonzalo Fdez-Castano (68), Chad Campbell (68) and J.J. Henry (68).

R2: Steven Bowditch (68), Graham DeLaet (66), Spencer Levin (68), Lee McCoy (66), Chez Reavie (65), Jim Renner (68), Nick Watney (64) and Bubba Watson (67).

R3: Steve Alker (68), Brice Garnett (66), Brian Harman (65), Zach Johnson (64), Patrick Rodgers (63) and Brandt Snedeker (63).

Scoring Averages at the par-70 TPC River Highlands:

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	34.782	34.301	69.083	---
R2:	35.122	34.929	70.051	69.565
R3:	34.153	34.264	68.417	69.351

The par-4 fourth hole has played the toughest through three rounds, yielding a 4.180 average. The par-5 13<sup>th</sup> hole is playing the easiest with a 4.721 average.

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