



2015 Wells Fargo Championship

(The 27th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Charlotte, N.C.
Quail Hollow Club

May 14-17, 2015
Par/Yardage: 36-36—72/7,562

FedExCup Points: 500
Purse: \$7,100,000 (\$1,278,000)

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, May 16, 2015

Weather: Partly cloudy, with a high of 85 degrees. Winds S/SW 7-12 mph.

54-hole cut: Because more than 78 players made the 36-hole cut (81), a 54-hole cut reduced the field to 73 players at even-par 216.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Rory McIlroy	70-67-61—198 (-18)
Webb Simpson	67-67-68—202 (-14)
Robert Streb	65-69-71—205 (-11)

Rory McIlroy

World No. 1 Rory McIlroy made nine birdies in a 10-hole stretch in round three to break the course record of 62, set by McIlroy (R4/2010) and Brendon de Jonge (R2/2014), and becomes his career-low on the PGA TOUR.

The previous record for lowest 54-hole score belonged to Jonathan Byrd, who was at 15-under 201 in 2011.

McIlroy has previously held a lead/co-lead after 54 holes eight times. Of them, six have resulted in victory. He finished T2 at the 2014 Honda Classic and 2014 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola.

McIlroy's five-straight on Nos. 12-16 ties the record for most consecutive birdies in a round in the event.

McIlroy's 61 supplants the tournament's previous-low, third-round score of 63 (Phil Mickelson/2014).

McIlroy's 11 birdies in round three breaks the tournament record for most in a single round. In the third round of 2006, Retief Goosen made 10.

The largest 54-hole lead in the Wells Fargo Championship belongs to Sergio Garcia, who led by six strokes in 2005 (T2).

McIlroy is in search of his second PGA TOUR win this season and 11th overall on TOUR: 2010 Wells Fargo Championship, 2011 U.S. Open, 2012 The Honda Classic, 2012 PGA Championship, 2012 Deutsche Bank Championship, 2012 BMW Championship, 2014 The Open Championship, 2014 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, 2014 PGA Championship, 2015 WGC-Cadillac Match Play.

The last blemish on McIlroy's card came at the par-3 17th hole in round one (double bogey), a span of 37 holes.

McIlroy is 11-under on the 12 par fives through 54 holes. His only par among them came at the seventh hole in round two.

McIlroy has now shot par-or-better in 16 of 21 rounds at Quail Hollow Club.

With today's 61, McIlroy extends his streak of par-or-better rounds on TOUR to 18, dating to round one of the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship (73).

In five previous starts at the Wells Fargo Championship, McIlroy has finished inside the top ten four times (1/2010, MC/2011, T2/2012, T10/2013 and T8 last year).

En route to his 2010 victory at the Wells Fargo Championship, McIlroy began the final round four strokes back. A Sunday 62 resulted in a four-stroke win over Phil Mickelson.

Mcllroy is making just his seventh start of the season on the PGA TOUR this week. In addition to his win at the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Match Play Championship two weeks ago, he also finished inside the top ten at the WGC-Cadillac Championship (T9), Masters (4th) and at last week's PLAYERS Championship (T8).

With his win last month at the WGC-Cadillac Match Play Championship, Mcllroy joined Tiger Woods (29) and Jack Nicklaus (17) as the only players to win 10 events prior to their 26th birthday on the PGA TOUR in the last 75 years.

This week's final round will mark the first time Mcllroy and Webb Simpson have been paired together in a final round and just the second time ever for a weekend round on the PGA TOUR (R3/2013 Deutsche Bank Championship).

Mcllroy's Round By The Numbers

Fairways in Reg.	8 of 14 (57.1%)
Greens in Reg.	15 of 18 (83.3%)
Total Putts	23

Third-Round Statistics

Only four third-round leaders of the Wells Fargo Championship have held on for the win; David Toms (2003), Jim Furyk (2006), Anthony Kim (2008) and J.B. Holmes (2014). The other 54-hole leaders averaged 73.77 in the final round, with none of them breaking par.

The largest come-from-behind win after 36 holes was in 2010, when Rory Mcllroy overcame a 10-stroke deficit.

Only eight of 25 third-round leaders on the PGA TOUR this season have been able to convert for the win in stroke-play events. Most recently, Justin Rose achieved the feat at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

Webb Simpson

Although Rory Mcllroy caught most of the attention in round three, Charlotte resident Webb Simpson kept himself closest to the 54-hole leader with a 4-under 68. Following birdies at Nos. 5, 7 and 13, Simpson eagled the par-5 15th hole to get to 4-under through three rounds on that par five. His lone bogey of the day came at the daunting, par-4 18th after finding the hazard off the tee.

Simpson had his most awry day off the tee in round three, finding just 50 percent of the fairways. He missed just one fairway in round two.

Simpson at the Wells Fargo Championship: 2009/MC, 2010/MC, 2011/T21, 2012/4th, 2013/T32 and T38 last year.

Simpson is making his 12th start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, having collected three top-10 finishes. His best among them is a T4 in defense of his fourth and most recent TOUR title at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

Simpson is coming off a T66 finish at last week's PLAYERS Championship.

Phil Mickelson

World Golf Hall of Fame Member Phil Mickelson was four-under-par on his day through 17 holes, before a costly triple-bogey seven resulted in an 8-under 208 total through 54 holes, 10 strokes off Rory Mcllroy's lead.

With his 1-under 71, Mickelson has now played 36 of 47 competitive rounds at Quail Hollow at par-or-better.

Miscellaneous Notes

Justin Thomas (-9) and Sean O'Hair (-6) each made two eagles in the third round. O'Hair eagled the par-4 eighth hole by chipping in after a pin-high tee shot and then the par-5 15th hole. Thomas eagled the fifth and seventh holes, both par fives. In doing so, they became the 28th and 29th players to card two eagles in one round on the PGA TOUR this season.

U.S. Open and Open Championship Qualifying

The top 60 in Official World Golf Ranking as of June 1 (Monday after AT&T Byron Nelson) and June 15 (Monday after FedEx St. Jude Classic) earn a spot into the U.S. Open. The top 50 in OWGR as of May 25 (Monday after Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial) earn a spot into the Open Championship field.

The three holes that make up the "Green Mile" (Nos. 16-18) were again among the most difficult in round three:

Hole	Rank	Stroke Average
No. 16	6	4.123
No. 17	1	3.333
No. 18	3	4.185

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Robert Streb (65), Billy Hurley III (67), Russell Knox (69).

R2 – Rory McIlroy (67), Jim Herman (69), Derek Ernst (69), Brian Stuard (70).

R3 – Rory McIlroy (61), Scott Pinckney (66), Gary Woodland (68).

Scoring Averages:

	Front	Back	Total	Cumulative
R1	36.115	36.109	72.224	---
R2	35.859	36.333	72.192	72.208
R3	35.321	35.840	71.160	71.684

The par-3 17th hole played the most difficult in the third round at 3.333. The par-5 15th was the easiest at 4.494.