



2015 WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS-BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL

(The 40th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Akron, OH
Firestone Country Club
South Course

August 5-9, 2015
Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,400

FedExCup Pts: 550
Purse: \$9,250,000

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, August 8, 2015

Weather: Partly to mostly cloudy day with highs in low 80s with winds N at 5 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Justin Rose	67-71-63–201 (-9)
Jim Furyk	66-66-69–201 (-9)
Shane Lowry	70-66-67–203 (-7)
Steven Bowditch	73-69-63–205 (-5)
Ian Poulter	68-72-65–205 (-5)
Henrik Stenson	68-69-68–205 (-5)
Bubba Watson	70-66-69–205 (-5)

Justin Rose, 63 (9-under)

England's Justin Rose shot a bogey-free 7-under 63, matching Steven Bowditch's third-round score to tie for the lowest round of the week. His round included seven birdies and 109 feet, 10 inches of putts made, more than his first two rounds combined. He leads the field in scrambling this week, converting 12 of 14 attempts through three rounds.

This is the 11th time Rose has led or tied for the lead going into the final round, and he has converted three of them, most recently earlier this season at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

Rose's back-nine 31 ties David Lingmerth for the lowest back-nine total for the week; Lingmerth also shot 31 on the back nine in the third round. Rose is also leading the field in Strokes Gained: Tee To Green with the help of his driving; he is tied for first in Driving Accuracy and T13 in Driving Distance.

This would be Rose's eighth PGA TOUR victory and second World Golf Championships win to go with his win at the 2012 Cadillac Championship.

Rose entered the week 12th in the FedExCup.

Jim Furyk, 69 (9-under)

Jim Furyk shot a 1-under 69 and is tied for the lead with Justin Rose at 9-under, two shots clear of Shane Lowry.

With his shared two-shot lead, Furyk will take the lead/co-lead into a final round for the 25th time in his career. He has converted those leads to victory nine times, most recently at the 2010 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola. Since that 2010 win, he has been zero for nine at converting a 54-hole lead/co-lead for a win.

The last time Furyk led through 54 holes was earlier this year at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, where he entered the final round with a one-shot lead and finished T7.

Furyk is playing in his 16th Bridgestone Invitational, twice finishing runner-up – once in 2001 in a memorable playoff against Tiger Woods and later in 2012 when he led after each round and through the entire final round before a bogey on the final hole resulted in a second-place finish.

The oldest winner of a World Golf Championships is Vijay Singh when he won the 2008 Bridgestone Invitational (45 years, 5 months and 12 days). At 45 years, 2 months and 28 days, Furyk would be the second-oldest to win a World Golf Championships tournament.

As a lifelong Steelers fan, Furyk will be attending the Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony as a guest of Jerome Bettis in Canton, Ohio, on Saturday evening.

Furyk won for the 17th time in his PGA TOUR career earlier this year at the RBC Heritage. He is also the oldest player to win on the PGA TOUR this season, and has won in 13 of his 22 seasons on the PGA TOUR. An 18th victory for Furyk would tie him for 44th on the all-time wins list with Julius Boros, Nick Price, E.J. Harrison and Jim Ferrier.

Furyk entered the week 20th in the FedExCup.

Shane Lowry, 67 (7-under)

Shane Lowry followed up his second-round 66 (the second-lowest round of his PGA TOUR career) with a 3-under 67 and is in third place heading into the final round, his best position entering the final round on the PGA TOUR. Lowry's previous-best position through two rounds was T5 at this year's U.S. Open at Chambers Bay, where he eventually finished T9.

Lowry has earned \$728,517 on the PGA TOUR non-member money list in 2015. That amount would put him at 121 on the current PGA TOUR money list. If he can stay inside the equivalent of the top 125 through the Wyndham Championship, he would earn his PGA TOUR card for the 2015-16 season. His 339 non-member FedExCup points would put him at No. 145 on the current points list.

This is Lowry's third start at the Bridgestone Invitational, with his best finish coming in 2013 when he tied for 48th.

Lowry's previous-best position through three rounds was T5 at this year's U.S. Open at Chambers Bay, where he eventually finished T9.

Bubba Watson, 69 (5-under)

Bubba Watson shot a 1-under 69 and is T4, four shots off the lead.

Watson is looking for his second World Golf Championships win of the 2014-15 season, having already claimed the HSBC Champions in China late last year.

Watson is looking for his third win of the season, having claimed the Travelers Championship earlier this summer in addition to the HSBC Champions. It would be the first time in Watson's career to win three times in one season – he has won twice on three occasions, including this season.

Watson is second to Jordan Spieth in the FedExCup with 2,043 points to Spieth's 3,763. If he were to win this week (earning 550 FedExCup points), at next week's PGA Championship (600 points) and at the Wyndham Championship (500 points), he would have 3,693 FedExCup points, still shy of Spieth's current point total.

This is Watson's sixth start in the Bridgestone Invitational, his best finish a T19 in 2012.

Steven Bowditch, 63 (5-under)

Australian Steven Bowditch made eight birdies and one bogey in the third round to shoot a 7-under 63. It was the lowest round for Bowditch since he fired a first-round 62 at the AT&T Byron Nelson earlier this season, which he won.

This is Bowditch's second start at the Bridgestone invitational. He finished 44th last year in his only other start.

If Bowditch goes on to win, it will be his third PGA TOUR victory and second this season. Jason Day is the only Australian other than Bowditch to win this season.

Bowditch is 12th in the International Team Presidents Cup standings.

Miscellaneous notes

Graeme McDowell shot a 1-under 69 and is five shots off the lead heading into the final round. He is looking for his second top 10 of the season.

Ian Poulter opened his third round with three-straight birdies and shot a 5-under 65 and joins the group tied for fourth at 5 under.

Henrik Stenson shot a 2-under 68 and is T4, four shots back of the leaders.

David Lingmerth shot a 4-under 66 thanks to his 31 on the back nine, tying Justin Rose for the lowest nine-hole total on the back by any player this week. He is at 3-under and six shots back from the lead.

Bernd Wiesberger had the first bogey-free round of the week, carding a 4-under 66. There were no bogey-free rounds through the first two rounds, something that hadn't happened since the Open Championship in 2013 at Muirfield.

Jason Day's round was bogey free until he made a triple-bogey 8 on the par-5 16th. It is not the worst hole of his career, as he has recorded two 9s in his career (2008 Crowne Plaze Invitational, 14th hole, round 1; 2012 Deutsche Bank Championship, 12th hole, round 3). He was still able to shoot an even-par 70 in the third round, despite the triple bogey.

The top 10 on the leaderboard includes players from six different countries. The 25 countries represented in this year's World Golf Championship-Bridgestone Invitational are the most in tournament history. The previous best – 22 countries – occurred last year.

Jordan Spieth, who has a record-lead in the FedExCup standings and holds the No. 2 spot on the Official World Golf Rankings thanks to four wins this season, including two major championships, is at even par for the tournament.

England's Lee Westwood is making his 52nd start in a World Golf Championships event, the most of any player since the series began in 1999; he is currently T26.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: None

R2: None

R3: Bernd Wiesberger (66), Justin Rose (63)

Scoring average:

	Front nine	Back nine	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.519	35.844	71.364	---
R2:	35.793	35.195	70.988	71.174

R3: 35.195 35.377 70.572 70.975

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