



2015 Hero World Challenge

Albany Golf Course
Albany, Bahamas

December 3-6, 2015
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,267

Purse: \$3,500,000

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, December 5, 2015

Weather: Cloudy. High of 83. Winds E 7-12 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Bubba Watson	67-67-63—197 (-19)
Paul Casey	66-70-63—199 (-17)
Chris Kirk	69-65-66—200 (-16)
Patrick Reed	69-65-66—200 (-16)

Bubba Watson holds 54-hole lead at Hero World Challenge

Bubba Watson fired a course-record 9-under 63 Saturday to move to 19-under 197, two strokes clear of Paul Casey (who equaled Watson's 63). By comparison, Watson's 63 falls one shy of his best round in a PGA TOUR event (62), set on four occasions and most recently during the first round en route to winning the 2015 Travelers Championship.

Watson is making his sixth start at the Hero World Challenge (T14/2010, T6/2011, T9/2012, T3/2013, T11/2014).

Bubba Watson has carried the lead/co-lead into the final round nine times on the PGA TOUR, going on to win the 2011 Zurich Classic of New Orleans and 2014 Masters Tournament.

Third-Round Leader Results at the Hero World Challenge

In 2014, eventual champion Jordan Spieth, at 20-under-par 196, led by a tournament-record seven strokes over Keegan Bradley and Henrik Stenson.

The 54-hole leader/co-leader has won the World Challenge just three times in the last 11 seasons (Tiger Woods/2007, Graeme McDowell/2012, Jordan Spieth/2014).

In the 16 previous playings of the event, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win six times (Tom Lehman/1999, Padraig Harrington/2002, Davis Love III/2003, Woods/2007, McDowell/2012, Spieth/2014).

Top four players and their Hero World Challenge history

Bubba Watson – 6th start (T14/2010, T6/2011, T9/2012, T3/2013, T11/2014)
 Paul Casey – 7th start (T5/2006, T11/2007, 11th/2008, T11/2009, 3rd/2010, 3rd/2011)
 Chris Kirk – 2nd start (16th/2014)
 Patrick Reed – 2nd start (T3/2014)

Jordan Spieth

Second-round co-leader Jordan Spieth posted a third-round 4-under 68, but fell out of the lead to T5 (four strokes behind Watson). Earlier this year, he capped off the 2014-15 PGA TOUR season by winning the FedExCup, with victories coming at the Valspar Championship, Masters Tournament, U.S. Open, John Deere Classic and TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola.

Spieth won the 2014 Hero World Challenge by a record 10 strokes over Henrik Stenson, becoming the first player to win the event in wire-to-wire fashion. His tournament-record 26-under 262 winning score shattered the previous record of 22-under 266 set by Tiger Woods in 2007. Spieth is attempting to join Woods (2006-07) as the only players to win the Hero World Challenge in back-to-back seasons.

Miscellaneous Notes

Past Hero World Challenge champions in the field: Jordan Spieth (T5), Zach Johnson (T8).

First-time participants: Brooks Koepka (7), J.B. Holmes (13), Anirban Lahiri (15).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Paul Casey/66, Jordan Spieth/67, Dustin Johnson/68
 R2 – Patrick Reed/65
 R3 – Paul Casey/63, Bubba Watson/63, Adam Scott/66, Zach Johnson/67, Hideki Matsuyama/70

Scoring average:

R1 – 68.666; R2 – 68.444; R3 – 67.945; Cumulative – 68.352

Toughest hole:

R1 – Toughest hole – par-4 4th (4.389); Easiest hole – par-5 15th (3.944)
 R2 – Toughest hole – par-4 18th (4.278); Easiest hole – par-5 6th (4.333)
 R3 – Toughest hole – par-4 18th (4.167); Easiest hole – par-5 15th (4.333)