



2016 Northern Trust Open

(14th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Pacific Palisades, CA Riviera Country Club February 18-21, 2016

Purse: \$6,800,000 (\$1,224,000) Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,349

First-Round Notes - Thursday, February 18, 2016

Weather: Early showers gave way to partly cloudy conditions in the morning before sunshine and mid-60 temperatures in the afternoon. Wind W/SW 8-16 mph. First-round play was suspended at 5:46 p.m. due to darkness with 14 players yet to finish their round. Those players returned to complete the opening round at 7:30 a.m. PT and the round was completed at 8:12 a.m..

First-Round Leaderboard

Camilo Villegas	63 (-8)
Chez Reavie	66 (-5)
Bubba Watson	66 (-5)
Luke List	66 (-5)
Ricky Barnes	67 (-4)
Rory McIlroy	67 (-4)
Howell III	67 (-4)
Charlie Danielson*	67 (-4)
Shawn Stefani	67 (-4)
Justin Leonard	67 (-4)
Ben Crane	67 (-4)
*	

^{*}playing as an amateur

Camilo Villegas, 8-under-par, 63, 1st – After missing the cut in his last four starts, Camilo Villegas got rolling on Thursday with an opening-round 63 to finish with a three-stroke lead. The four-time winner is looking for his first top-10 finish since his victory at the Wyndham Championship in 2014. The 63 is Villegas' lowest round on TOUR since a 63 to open the 2014 Sony Open in Hawaii.

The score of 63 also matches the lowest opening round in tournament history.

First-round 63s at the Northern Trust Open:

Charles Sifford Rancho Park GC, 1969
Terry Mauney Riviera CC, 1982
Lanny Wadkins Riviera CC, 1985
Michael Allen Riviera CC, 1990
Padraig Harrington Riviera CC, 2007
Phil Mickelson Riviera CC, 2009

Phil Mickelson Riviera CC, 2009 Camilo Villegas Riviera CC, 2016

This marks the 11th time that Villegas has led or shared the lead following the first round on the PGA TOUR and the first since The Barclays in 2015 where he finished T20. The Colombian has converted two of his previous first-round leads into victories at the 2014 Wyndam Championship and the 2008 BMW Championship.

Villegas reached the 9th tee (his 18th hole) at 9-under-par needing a birdie to match the course record. After a wayward approach, he was unable to get up and down and settled for bogey on his final hole.

Villegas first-round key statistics

Driving Accuracy 9 of 14
Driving Distance 279
Greens in Regulation 14 of 18

Putts 25

Bubba Watson, 5-under-par 66, T2 – Playing in the Northern Trust Open for the 10th consecutive year, 2014 champion Bubba Watson recorded his lowest first-round score ever at the tournament with an opening 5-under-par 66 and is in a three-way tie for second with Chez Reavie and Luke List. Watson had only shot in the 60s (69) on one other occasion in the first round at Riviera Country Club in 2009.

In 2014, Watson shot matching weekend rounds of 64 and went bogey-free to win by two shots over Dustin Johnson. Watson came from four shots back on the final day to claim the victory. Watson (70-71-64-64) was the only player in the field to go bogey-free on the weekend at The Riviera Country Club. The win was the fifth of Watson's PGA TOUR career at the time. He finished T14 in his title defense last year. He went on to capture his second Masters Tournament just two months later.

This is Watson's fifth start of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR season. His best finish (T10) came at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions. He won the Hero World Challenge, not an official TOUR event, in December.

Watson won twice last season at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions and the Travelers Championship while finishing 5th in the FedExCup for the second consecutive year.

Multiple winners of the Northern Trust Open

Four-Time Winners: MacDonald Smith (1928, 1929, 1932, 1934), Lloyd Mangrum (1949, 1951, 1953, 1956)

Three-Time Winners: Ben Hogan (1942, 1947, 1948), Arnold Palmer (1963, 1966, 1967)

Two-Time Winners: Harry Cooper (1926, 1937), Sam Snead (1945, 1950), Paul Harney (1964, 1965), Billy Casper (1968, 1970), Gil Morgan (1978, 1983), Lanny Wadkins (1979, 1985), Tom Watson (1980, 1982), Fred Couples (1990, 1992), Corey Pavin (1994, 1995), Mike Weir (2003, 2004), Phil Mickelson (2008, 2009)

Chez Reavie, 5-under-par 66, T2 – Chez Reavie is tied second following a bogey-free 5-under-par one a week after holding the first-round lead at Pebble Beach Pro-Am where he finished T26 after an opening-round 63. A former RBC Canadian Open winner, Reavie returned to the PGA TOUR in 2015-16 after winning the Small Business Connection at River Run during the 2015 Web.com Tour Finals where he was the leading money-winner over the four events. Reavie played in 19 events last year on the PGA TOUR on a medical extension, due to a wrist injury that required surgery in 2014 that limited him to just two events during the 2013-14 season.

Reavie, 70th in the FedExCup standings, is playing in his ninth event of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season. His best finish to date is T17 at both the Frys.com Open and CareerBuilder Challenge presented by the Clinton Foundation. This is Reavie's sixth career start at the Northern Trust Open. In five previous attempts he has four missed cuts and a 78th-place finish.

Rory McIlroy, **4-under-par**, **67**, **T5** – Playing at The Riviera Country Club for the first time in his career, Rory McIlroy is four shots off the lead in his Northern Trust Open debut. Starting on the 10th hole on Thursday, the four-time major champion recorded three birdies and one bogey going out with two birdies on his final nine holes.

This is McIlroy's third start of the 2015-16 season after finishing T26 at the Frys.Com Open and T11 at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions despite battling food poisoning. In what became a bit of a roller-coaster season, managed seven top-10 finishes in just 12 PGA TOUR starts for the 2014-15 season, highlighted by two victories at the World Golf Championships-Dell Match Play and the Wells Fargo Championship. An ankle injury while playing soccer prevented him from defending his 2014 titles at The Open Championship and World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational. As a preventative measure, he also did not compete in The Barclays, the first event of the FedExCup Playoffs. During the Playoffs, he swapped the World's No. 1 spot several times with Jordan Spieth and Jason Day before ending the season ranked third in the Official World Golf Ranking and 15th in the FedExCup standings.

Charlie Danielson – 4-under-par, 67 – T5 – In his first round on the PGA TOUR, amateur Charlie Danielson made seven birdies and three bogeys to finish the first round at 4-under-par. Danielson, a senior at the University of Illinois, shot a bogey-free 3-under 68 as part of Monday's Northern Trust Open Collegiate Showcase presented by Sands Cares, the low score of the 14 collegians in the field, earning him an exemption into the tournament.

In just the second iteration of the Northern Trust Open Collegiate Showcase presented by Sands Cares, top PGA TOUR pros played alongside 14 standout collegiate golfers from across the country and two amateurs, representing their respective universities. The professional and the two amateurs (not the collegian) teamed up in a best-ball competition and competed for the Collegiate Showcase Trophy and a donation of \$50,000 to the university's golf program. That portion of the competition was won by the University of Texas, represented by PGA TOUR player Jordan Spieth, with a score of 10-under 61.

Danielson, playing with former University of Illinois star Scott Langley on Monday, finished three strokes ahead of Will Zalatoris from Wake Forest, last year's winner of the Northern Trust Open Collegiate Showcase presented by Sands Cares, and Jonathan Garrick from UCLA and will be making his first start in a PGA TOUR event.

Danielson is a two-time All Big-Ten First Team selection (2014, 2015). He reached the round of 16 at the 2013 U.S. Amateur at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass. Danielson is also a three-time PING All-American and won the 2014 Les Bolstad Award for having the lowest season stroke average in the Big Ten. In the fall, he finished in the top 10 in all three of Illinois' tournaments, including two top-5 finishes, and he led the team in stroke average.

Luke List, 5-under-par, 66, T2– Luke List matched his career-low round with a 66 and is tied three shots behind Villegas at 5-under-par playing for the first time in the Northern Trust Open. After finishing fourth on the Web.Com Tour money list in 2012, he advanced to the PGA TOUR in 2013 but lost his status. At the Web.com Tour finals in 2015, he finished 22nd to again advance to the 2015-16 PGA TOUR season. He posted his career-best PGA TOUR finish with a T6 at the 2016 CareerBuilder Challenge.

List is a Seattle, Wash. native who was runner-up to Ryan Moore at the 2004 U.S. Amateur Championship. He finished T33 at the 2005 Masters and recorded an ace during the Par 3 Contest held on Wednesday. He won the Jones Cup Invitational in 2005. After graduating from Vanderbuilt University in 2007 he turned professional, winning his first title at the 2012 South Georgia Classic on the Web.com Tour.

Additional notes:

No. 1-ranked Jordan Spieth shot one of the worst rounds of his career with an 8-over-par 79. The round included eight bogeys and one double bogey.

Jordan Spieth's 307 career rounds on the PGA TOUR:

30 Rounds No Bogeys+
231 Rounds 1-4 Bogeys+
40 Rounds 5-7 Bogeys+
6 Rounds 8 or more Bogeys+

2014 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola 3 80 11	s or worse
2013 the Memorial Tournament 3 82 10	
2015 Northern Trust Open 1 79 9	
2015 Deutsche Bank Championship 1 75 8	
2014 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am 3 78 8	
2011 HP Byron Nelson Championship 4 77 8	

Jordan Spieth high scores on the PGA TOUR

Year	Tournament	Round	Score
2013	The Memorial Tournament	3	82
2014	TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola	3	80
2015	Northern Trust Open	1	79
2014	World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship	2	79
2014	AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am	3	78

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Chez Reavie (66), Luke List (66), Shawn Stefani (67), Ben Crane (67)

Scoring Averages:

Front 9 Back 9 Total Cumulative 34.784 36.631 71.415