



2016 RBC Heritage

(The 23rd of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Hilton Head Island, SC April 11-17, 2016
Harbour Town Golf Links

Purse: \$5,900,000 (\$1,062,000 to the winner)
Par/Yards: 36-35—71/7,099

First-Round Notes – Thursday, April 14, 2016

Weather

Mostly cloudy and windy. High of 64. Winds NE 15-20 mph, gusting to 30 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Luke Donald	66 (-5)
Branden Grace	66 (-5)
Matt Kuchar	67 (-4)
David Lingmerth	67 (-4)
Tony Finau	67 (-4)
Jason Day	67 (-4)

Luke Donald

England's Luke Donald opened the 2016 RBC Heritage with a 5-under 66 to share the first-round lead with South African Branden Grace. Twenty-six of Donald's last 28 rounds at Harbour Town Golf Links have been at even-par or better.

There have been 10 international winners of the RBC Heritage: Graeme McDowell (2013), Carl Pettersson (2012), Aaron Baddeley (2006), Peter Lonard (2005), Jose Coceres (2001), Nick Price (1997), Greg Norman (1988), Bernhard Langer (1985), Nick Faldo (1984) and Graham Marsh (1977).

R1 at a glance: 10 of 14 fairways, 14 of 18 greens, 1 of 1 sand save, 27 putts.

Donald is making his 11th start at the RBC Heritage, with five top-3 finishes (2nd-2014, T3-2013, 2nd-2011, T3-2010, T2-2009).

Donald's last start on TOUR led to a T26 finish at the Puerto Rico Open. This year marks the first time since a T3 in his inaugural appearance at the 2005 Masters Tournament that Donald has missed the season's first Major Championship.

Donald is in search of his first top-10 finish since the 2015 Travelers Championship (T7).

This marks the seventh time Donald has held at least a share of the opening-round lead, with his only win coming at the 2011 Children's Miracle Network Classic (also his most recent first-round lead/co-lead prior to Thursday).

Branden Grace

Making just his second start at the RBC Heritage (T7-2015), Branden Grace posted a 5-under 66 to equal his best round at Harbour Town Golf Links (R3/2015).

R1 at a glance: 7 of 14 fairways, 10 of 18 greens, 24 putts.

Grace is in search of his first PGA TOUR title in his 51st start on TOUR. A third-place finish at the 2015 PGA Championship marks his best finish on TOUR.

Grace is coming off of a missed cut at last week's Masters Tournament with rounds of 75-77.

This marks the second time Grace has held at least a share of the opening-round lead, going on to finish T5 at the 2015 World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions.

First-Round Leader Notes

The last first-round leader to go on to win the RBC Heritage was Matt Kuchar in 2014. Prior to that, Peter Lonard last performed the feat in 2005.

There have been four first-round leaders/co-leaders that have gone on to win in 21 stroke-play events this season: Kevin Kisner (The RSM Classic), Jason Dufner (CareerBuilder Challenge), Hideki Matsuyama (Waste Management Phoenix Open), Jason Day (Arnold Palmer Invitational).

The lowest first-round score at the RBC Heritage is 62, set by Peter Lonard (2005) and Davis Love III (2002).

The first-round leading score has been 5-under 66 each of the last three years at the RBC Heritage. In 2015, Graeme McDowell and Matt Every shared the first-round lead at 66, while eventual champion Jim Furyk opened with a 71.

Jason Day

World No. 1 and RBC Golf Ambassador Jason Day opened Thursday with a 4-under 67 in his fifth RBC Heritage start (T30-2013, T9-2011, T22-2010, MC-2008). Day's only bogey Thursday came on the par-4 18th hole, where he had to take a penalty for an unplayable lie in the greenside bunker.

Day is seeking his third win of the season (Arnold Palmer Invitational, WGC-Dell Match Play).

Day is the first player ranked No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking to play the RBC Heritage since Luke Donald in 2012.

Day's caddie/coach, Colin Swatton, is a resident of Berkeley Hall in nearby Bluffton, S.C.

Team RBC Leaderboard

Jim Furyk became the third consecutive RBC Golf Ambassador to win the RBC Heritage (2013/Graeme McDowell and 2014/Matt Kuchar). RBC began sponsoring this event in 2012. In the two years preceding their sponsorship, current RBC Ambassadors Furyk (2010) and Brandt Snedeker (2011) won in Hilton Head. To further enhance the connection, Carl Pettersson, who won the RBC Heritage in 2012, also won the RBC Canadian Open in 2010.

Round 1 Scores

Jason Day	67 (-4)
Graham DeLaet	69 (-2)
Adam Hadwin	71 (E)
Ryan Palmer	71 (E)
Ernie Els	72 (+1)
David Hearn	72 (+1)
Brandt Snedeker	73 (+2)
Nick Taylor	73 (+2)
Graeme McDowell	74 (+3)
Mike Weir	78 (+7)

RBC Heritage and the Masters Tournament

This year's field includes three former Masters Tournament champions: Vijay Singh (even-par 71), Zach Johnson (even-par 71), Mike Weir (7-over 78).

Six players who finished inside the top 20 at last week's Masters Tournament teed it up Thursday at the RBC Heritage. Here's how they stand after round one: Jason Day (T3), Matthew Fitzpatrick (T58), Danny Lee (T58), Brandt Snedeker (T86), Billy Horschel (T104), Paul Casey (T114).

Since the RBC Heritage moved into its slot after the Masters in 1983 (2011 the exception when it was played two weeks after the Masters), just six players have won the event without having competed in the Masters the week before: Carl Pettersson (2012), Brian Gay (2009), Boo Weekley (2007), Aaron Baddeley (2006), Bob Tway (1995) and Davis Love III (1987).

Additional Player Notes

While competing for Southern Methodist University in 2015, Bryson DeChambeau became just the fifth golfer in history to win both the U.S. Amateur Championship and NCAA Division I golf championship in the same season. One week after making his final amateur start with a T21 finish at the Masters Tournament, DeChambeau made his PGA TOUR professional debut Thursday at the RBC Heritage with an opening-round 1-under 70 (T25).

Kevin Kisner, who lost to Jim Furyk in a playoff at the 2015 RBC Heritage, carded an opening-round 1-over 72 (T58). He is seeking to become the first South Carolinian to win the RBC Heritage.

Current U.S. Ryder Cup captain and five-time RBC Heritage winner Davis Love III (1987, 1991, 1992, 1998, 2003) did not miss a start at the RBC Heritage between 1986-2011 (26 starts). He has since teed it up just once in the last four years (MC/2014). Making his 28th start at the event this week, he opened Thursday with a 2-over 73 (T86).

Jason Bohn posted a 3-over 74 Thursday in his first start since withdrawing from The Honda Classic in February with chest pains. After being rushed to the hospital, doctors determined Bohn had suffered a major heart attack, with 90 percent blockage in one of his main arteries. This week marks Bohn's 11th start at the RBC Heritage, with a sixth-place finish in 2008 his lone top-10 finish.

Miscellaneous Notes

Multiple winners of the RBC Heritage: Davis Love III (5), Hale Irwin (3), Johnny Miller (2), Hubert Green (2), Tom Watson (2), Fuzzy Zoeller (2), Payne Stewart (2), Stewart Cink (2) and Boo Weekley (2).

Players who have made the RBC Heritage their first PGA TOUR victory include Hale Irwin (1971), Graham Marsh (1977), Doug Tewell (1980), Nick Faldo (1984), Davis Love III (1987), Glen Day (1999), Jose Coceres (2001), Peter Lonard (2005), Aaron Baddeley (2006) and Boo Weekley (2007).

Past RBC Heritage champions in the field

Matt Kuchar	67 (-4)
Boo Weekley	70 (-1)
Aaron Baddeley	71 (E)
Carl Pettersson	71 (E)
Stewart Cink	73 (+2)
Brian Gay	73 (+2)
Justin Leonard	73 (+2)
Davis Love III	73 (+2)
Brandt Snedeker	73 (+2)
Graeme McDowell	74 (+3)

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Matt Kuchar (67), Scott Pinckney (68)

Scoring Averages:	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total (71)	Cumulative
First round	35.697	36.152	71.848	---

Morning scoring average (71.77) vs. afternoon scoring average (71.92).

Mike Weir opened with a 7-over 78 and withdrew following the first round.