



2016 The Honda Classic

(The 15th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Feb. 25 – 28, 2016

Purse: \$6,100,000 (\$1,098,000/winner)

PGA National (Champion Course)

Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,140

Second-Round Notes – Friday, February 26, 2016

Weather: Sunny, with a high of 70 degrees. Winds NW 12-22 mph.

Second-Round Leaderboard

Rickie Fowler	66-66—132 (-8)
Jimmy Walker	67-66—133 (-7)
Sergio Garcia	65-69—134 (-6)
Adam Scott	70-65—135 (-5)

36-hole Cut

The cut came at 3-over 143 with 77 players advancing to the weekend out of 144 professionals.

Rickie Fowler

For the second consecutive day, Rickie Fowler recorded a bogey-free 66. This marks the first time in his career he's been bogey free for the first 36 holes.

Fowler is the first player to go bogey free for the first 36 holes at The Honda Classic since it's been played at PGA National (2007).

In 20 rounds in the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season, Fowler only has two over-par rounds: R1/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (T25) and R1/Farmers Insurance Open (MC).

This marks the fourth time Fowler has led or co-led through 36 holes. On all three previous occasions, he went on to finish runner-up (2009 Safeway Open, 2010 Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide, and 2011 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational).

Today marked the 21st round Fowler was grouped with Sergio Garcia. Through those 21 rounds, Fowler recorded a scoring average of 69.38 against Garcia's 70.05.

Fowler took just 26 putts in the second round, four fewer than round one, and increased distance of putts made by 46 feet (85'1").

Fowler, a Jupiter, Fla., resident is making his seventh consecutive start at The Honda Classic, with his best finish being T7 in 2012.

In five starts on the PGA TOUR this season, Fowler's top finishes include a fifth-place finish at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions and playoff loss at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Fowler won the ABU Dhabi Golf Championship in January.

Fowler claimed his second and third PGA TOUR titles in 2015 at THE PLAYERS Championship and Deutsche Bank Championship, en route to a fourth-place finish in the FedExCup standings.

Fowler is currently a career-best No. 5 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Second-Round Lead Notes

Since moving to PGA National in 2007, the only winners of the event to have held a 36-hole lead/co-lead were Y.E. Yang in 2009, Camilo Villegas in 2010 and Pdraig Harrington in 2015.

Through 14 events on the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, four players have parlayed that position into a win. Most recently, Jason Dufner achieved this feat at the CareerBuilder Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation.

After 36 holes last year, Padraig Harrington led by 1 at 133 (-7).

Jimmy Walker

This is Jimmy Walker's first start at The Honda Classic since 2012. He has yet to finish in the top 25 in seven starts, with his best showing a T31 in 2006. Today's 66 matches his career-low round at The Honda Classic (2010/R2/66).

A five-time PGA TOUR winner, all five of Walker's wins have come in the last two seasons: 2014: Safeway Open, Sony Open in Hawaii, AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. 2015: Sony Open in Hawaii, Valero Texas Open.

Walker is making his seventh start of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season where he owns two top-10s: Hyundai Tournament of Champions (T10) and Farmers Insurance Open (T4).

Walker recorded the worst fourth-round score of his career at the 2012 Honda Classic, closing with an 81 (+11) with three double bogeys on his card, including the 18th. Today marked just the first time Walker has eagled the par-5 18th.

Since the beginning of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season, Walker has missed just four cuts, including last week's Northern Trust Open.

Earlier this season, Walker held a one-shot lead after 10 holes when final-round play was called for the day during the Farmers Insurance Open final round. He returned Monday, but made four bogeys over his remaining eight holes to post a 77 and finish T4.

Sergio Garcia

For the second consecutive day, Sergio Garcia hit 13/18 greens in regulation (26/36).

Garcia is making his sixth start in The Honda Classic, with a T8 in 2014 his only top-10 finish. This marks the first time he has opened with consecutive rounds in the 60s.

Garcia, an eight-time winner on the PGA TOUR, is in search of his first win since the 2012 Wyndham Championship. Garcia came close to the winner's circle last year in Florida at THE PLAYERS Championship. In a three-hole aggregate playoff with Kevin Kisner and Rickie Fowler, he ended up sharing second with Kisner.

In his only start on the European Tour this season, Garcia finished T7 at the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters.

Garcia has yet to make a bogey on the back nine of the Champion Course this week.

Adam Scott

After an opening even-par 70, Adam Scott recorded a bogey-free 5-under 65 in his fifth start at The Honda Classic. Today's round was his second lowest in tournament history, having previously recorded a 62 in the final round of the 2003 event at Mirasol.

Scott has yet to record a top-10 at The Honda Classic, but he finished T12 in 2014 and T11 in his tournament debut in 2001.

Hudson Swafford

Hudson Swafford is in search of his maiden PGA TOUR victory. Twelve players have made The Honda Classic their first career TOUR title. Since 2000, five players have achieved the feat; Matt Kuchar (2002), Padraig Harrington (2005), Mark Wilson (2007), Y.E. Yang (2009) and Michael Thompson (2013). There have been six first-time winners on the PGA TOUR season, with all six occurring in the fall.

Swafford recorded one of four eagles on the par-5 18th in today's round, offsetting a bogey on the first hole. Swafford has posted one top-10 in 10 starts this season, a T9 at the Sony Open in Hawaii.

Swafford is one of six former Georgia Bulldogs in the field, representing the highest showing by a college. Two Georgia alums have already won this season: Kevin Kisner (The RSM Classic) and Bubba Watson (Northern Trust Open). Swafford's teammate Russell Henley won The Honda Classic in 2014.

Phil Mickelson

Phil Mickelson posted a 4-over 74 in the second round in his sixth start at The Honda Classic. It marks his highest round at PGA National.

With two bogeys and a double bogey on No. 14, Mickelson failed to record a birdie in the second round, despite hitting 15 greens in regulation. His last birdie-free round on TOUR was the first round of the 2015 World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship.

This marks Mickelson's fifth start of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season (CareerBuilder Challenge in partnership with the Clinton Foundation/T3, Farmers Insurance Open/MC, Waste Management Phoenix Open/T11 and AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am/2nd).

Rory Mcllroy

Rory Mcllroy posted back-to-back rounds of 2-over 72 to miss the cut. This is the second consecutive year the 2012 Honda Classic champion has missed the cut at PGA National.

In today's second round, Mcllroy recorded double bogeys on Nos. 5 and 15, the first time he's recorded two double bogeys in a round since the first round of the 2015 Honda Classic – when he double bogeyed the first and fifth hole.

Following a 4-over 75 in the final round of the Northern Trust Open last week, Mcllroy has recorded three consecutive over-par rounds on the PGA TOUR for the first time since last year's Honda Classic, when he also missed the cut after rounds of 73-74, then went on to record a 1-over 73 in the first round of the World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship.

Additional player notes

Defending champion Padraig Harrington followed his opening 73 with a 2-under 68 in the second round (T27). So far this season, Patrick Reed has recorded the best finish by a defending champion, finishing runner-up at the Hyundai Tournament of Champions. The only player to win The Honda Classic in consecutive years was Jack Nicklaus in 1977 and 1978.

2015 runner-up and reigning PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Daniel Berger missed the cut with rounds of 73-72.

John Senden is making his 12th start at The Honda Classic, where he has only one missed cut, but has failed to record a top-10 finish.

After opening with a 5-over 75 in the first round, PGA TOUR rookie Patton Kizzire rebounded with the tournament-low round of 6-under 64. While he has yet to record a win like his fellow rookies Emiliano Grillo and Smylie Kaufman, Kizzire leads the 2015-16 rookie class with three top-10s.

Miami's Erik Compton posted opening rounds of 68-74 (T41) in his sixth start in The Honda Classic. Today marks the 24th anniversary of his first heart transplant (2/26/1992).

Charles Howell III missed the cut to end his PGA TOUR lead of YTD Consecutive Cuts (10).

Hideki Matsuyama withdrew before the start of the second round due to an injury in his right hip flexor.

Miscellaneous Notes

Of the four players in the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking, only Rickie Fowler (No. 5) made the cut.

Player	OWGR	Score/Position
Rory Mcllroy	3	72-72—144 (+4)/MC
Rickie Fowler	5	66-66—132 (-8)/1 st
Patrick Reed	9	74-72—146 (+6)/MC
Branden Grace	10	73-74—147 (+7)/MC

The week of The Honda Classic offers the final opportunity to qualify for next week's World Golf Championships-Cadillac Championship at Trump National Doral. Players not previously eligible can qualify by being inside the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking (players inside the top 50 in the OWGR as of 2/22/16 cannot drop out) or the top 10 or the FedExCup standings following The Honda Classic.

Scoring Averages at the par-70 PGA National:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
Thursday	35.650	36.657	72.307	---
Friday	35.350	36.311	71.661	72.001

Scoring Averages (Early/Late)

Round:	Early	Late
Thursday	72.39	71.89
Friday	71.59	70.72

The par-4 14th hole played the toughest during the second round, yielding a 4.570 average, with the par-5 3rd hole (4.373) being the easiest.

Total balls in the water in the Bear Trap				
Hole	R1	R2	R3	R4
15	15	17		
16	11	7		
17	3	5		
Cumulative:	29	29		

"Bear Trap" averages –

R1: No. 15 (3.171/T7 toughest), No. 16 (4.157/T7 toughest), No. 17 (2.950/15th toughest)

R2: No. 15 (3/151/8th toughest), No. 16 (4.204/7th toughest), No. 17 (2.996/13th toughest)

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Rickie Fowler (66)

R2: Rickie Fowler (66) and Adam Scott (65)