



## 2015 The RSM Classic

(7th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

**St. Simons Island, GA  
Seaside Course (Host)  
Plantation Course**

**November 16-22, 2015  
Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,005  
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,058**

**Purse: \$5,700,000  
FedExCup Points: 500 (winner)**

### Third-Round Notes – Saturday, November 21, 2015

*Weather: Mostly cloudy. High of 71 degrees. Winds ENE 10-15 mph, gusting to 20 mph.*

54-hole cut: With 87 players making the 36-hole cut, a 54-hole cut took place Saturday with 74 players at 3-under 209 or better advancing to the final round.

#### Third-Round Leaderboard

Kevin Kisner	65-67-64—196 (-16)
Kevin Chappell	66-65-68—199 (-13)
Graeme McDowell	67-68-65—200 (-12)
Alex Cejka	67-67-67—201 (-11)

#### Kevin Kisner

First-round leader Kevin Kisner, a 31-year-old native and resident of Aiken, S.C., carded a third-round 6-under 64 to move back into the lead with 18 holes to play at The RSM Classic, three strokes ahead of second-round leader Kevin Chappell.

Kisner's 196 total through three rounds is the lowest 54-hole score at the RSM Classic (Note: The previous mark of 197 was set by Michael Thompson/2011, Davis Love III/2012 and Jim Furyk/2012 when only the par-70 Seaside Course was used).

Kisner is making his 109<sup>th</sup> TOUR start, with four runner-up finishes in his last 19 starts (2015 World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions, 2015 Greenbrier Classic, 2015 PLAYERS Championship, 2015 RBC Heritage).

Most runner-up finishes without a win since the start of the 2014-15 PGA TOUR Season: Kevin Kisner (4), Jason Bohn (4), Henrik Stenson (4).

Five of the first six winners during the 2015-16 Season have been first-time winners, with OHL Classic at Mayakoba champion Graeme McDowell the exception.

A win on Sunday for Kisner would come at the age of 31 years, 9 months and 7 days.

Kisner's last seven rounds (126 holes) on TOUR – Birdies or better (38), Bogeys (5), Score to par (-34).

Kisner currently has a streak of 205 consecutive holes without a 3-putt, the current longest active streak on TOUR. His last 3-putt came at this year's Shriners Hospitals for Children Open on the 11<sup>th</sup> hole of the final round.

Last year, Kisner progressed every round (69-68-66-65) at The RSM Classic en route to T4 honors. Here's a look at his previous four starts at the RSM Classic (T4-2014, T20-2013, MC-2012, T26-2011).

Kisner's only other lead heading into the final round on the PGA TOUR came earlier this year at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions. He entered the final round tied with Russell Knox before a 2-under 70 left him two strokes behind Knox in second position.

Kisner "coached" the PGA TOUR players to a 7-6 victory over their wives Tuesday night in the annual PGA TOUR Wives Association Wiffle Ball Classic.

#### Third-Round Leader Notes

Through six events in the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win twice (Justin Thomas, CIMB Classic; Russell Knox, WGC-HSBC Champions).

Chris Kirk (2013) and Ben Crane (2010) are the only players to carry the 54-hole lead on to victory at this event.

A year ago, Andrew Svoboda and Will MacKenzie shared the 54-hole lead at 12-under, while eventual champion Robert Streb was T12 and five strokes back.

### **Kevin Chappell**

Second-round leader Kevin Chappell followed rounds of 66-65 with a 3-under 68 Saturday to fall into second place, three behind Kisner. A win on Sunday for Chappell would come at the age of 29 years, 4 months and 14 days.

Chappell is making his fourth start at The RSM Classic, including a T8 finish last season. Going back to last year's rounds of 67-67-70-65, Chappell is now 24-under for his last seven rounds at Sea Island Resort.

Chappell has improved his performance at The RSM Classic each year (T43-2012, T32-2013, T8-2014).

Chappell has held steady in the FedExCup each of the last three seasons, finishing between 45<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> each year (52<sup>nd</sup>, 2014-15; 55<sup>th</sup>, 2013-14, 45<sup>th</sup>, 2013).

Chappell is making his 144<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR start. Last season, he posted a career-best 11 top-25 finishes. He has finished runner-up twice (Solo 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2013 Memorial Tournament; T2 at 2011 Valero Texas Open).

### **Graeme McDowell**

Last week's OHL Classic at Mayakoba Champion Graeme McDowell shot 5-under 65 Saturday to move from T9 to solo third. The 2010 U.S. Open champion is now 30-under in seven rounds on TOUR during the 2015-16 Season.

McDowell was given a one-stroke penalty when he picked up his ball on the first hole Saturday thinking lift, clean and place was being used, but he still managed to make par. McDowell had played nine out of his last 10 rounds entering the third round of The RSM Classic having used preferred lies.

The last player to win in back-to-back events is Billy Horschel at the 2014 BMW Championship and 2014 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola. The last player to win in back-to-back starts is Jason Day at the PGA Championship and The Barclays in 2015.

McDowell posted rounds of 70-71 to miss the cut in his only other start at The RSM Classic (2011). A win on Sunday for McDowell would come at the age of 36 years, 3 months and 23 days.

### **Additional Player Notes**

Alex Cejka (solo fourth) is making his fourth start at The RSM Classic and will complete 72 holes for the first time. Cejka has missed the cut twice and finished T86 after missing the 54-hole cut in 2012.

Tournament host Davis Love III, making his 720<sup>th</sup> TOUR start, will enter the final round at T62.

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

All five of the past champions of The RSM Classic are in the field this week:

Robert Streb (2014) 70-66-69—205 (T20)  
Chris Kirk (2013) 68-71-69—208 (T53)  
Heath Slocum (2010) 70-71 (MC)  
Ben Crane (2011) 71-72 (MC)  
Tommy Gainey (2012) 72-74 (MC)

"Team RSM" Members: Davis Love III (T62), Zach Johnson (MDF), Chris DiMarco (MC).

### **Bogey-free rounds:**

R1: Tom Hoge (64), Freddie Jacobson (65), Kevin Kisner (65), Jason Gore (65), Rob Oppenheim (65), Chad Campbell (66), Russell Henley (66), Zac Blair (66), Derek Fathauer (67), Justin Thomas (67), Scott Brown (67), Brendon de Jonge (67), Jason Dufner (67), K.J. Choi (68), Brett Stegmaier (68), Ricky Barnes (68), Brian Stuard (68), Chris Kirk (68), Tim Herron (69), Kelly Kraft (70)

R2: Tim Wilkinson (65), Boo Weekley (66), Michael Kim (67), Ricky Barnes (67), Robert Streb (66), Tyler Aldridge (67) Robert Allenby (69)

R3: Graeme McDowell (65), D.A. Points (65), Jason Dufner (66), Jeff Overton (66), Smylie Kaufman (66), Jhonattan Vegas (66), Jamie Lovemark (67), Brett Stegmaier (68), Cameron Percy (69)

### **Third-round Scoring Averages**

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
Seaside	34.437	34.425	68.862	69.351