



2016 Travelers Championship
(The 40th of 42 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Cromwell, Conn.
TPC River Highlands

August 1-7, 2016
Par/Yardage: 35-35—70/6,841

FedExCup Points: 500 to the winner
Purse: \$6,600,000 (\$1,188,000)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, August 4, 2016

Weather: There was a 15-minute fog delay at the start of the first round, pushing the first tee to 7:15 a.m. Sunny, with a high of 82 degrees. Wind SSE 6-12 mph.

This week marks the 19th event in the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season to be impacted by a weather delay.

First-Round Leaderboard

Vaughn Taylor	64 (-6)
Andrew Loupe	64 (-6)
Jerry Kelly	64 (-6)
Ben Martin	65 (-5)
Marc Leishman	65 (-5)
Jon Rahm	65 (-5)

Jerry Kelly

Playing in the afternoon wave, Jerry Kelly joined early starters Vaughn Taylor and Andrew Loupe with a 6-under 64 to share the first-round lead at the Travelers Championship. It marks an 11-stroke improvement over his opening-round 75 en route to missing the cut here in 2015.

A win on Sunday for Kelly, who turns 50 later this year on November 23, would come at the age of 49 years, 8 months and 15 days. The current oldest winner at the Travelers Championship is Peter Jacobson, winning in 2003 at the age of 49 years, 4 months and 23 days.

A win Sunday for Kelly would make him the TOUR's oldest winner since Davis Love III won the 2015 Wyndham Championship at the age of 51 years, 4 months and 10 days.

Kelly's 64 marks his best score in 57 rounds at the Travelers Championship.

Kelly's round was highlighted by an eagle on the par-4 15th hole, holing a 45' 7" putt on the drivable par-4.

Making his 19th start at the Travelers Championship, Kelly owns top-10 finishes in 2001 (T7) and 2005 (T4).

Kelly is making his 19th start of the 2015-16 Season, currently No. 138 in the FedExCup. His T9 at the Sony Open in Hawaii is his lone top-10 finish.

Kelly's T26 in his last start at the RBC Canadian Open snapped a streak of four straight missed cuts on TOUR.

This week marks the 603rd official PGA TOUR start for Kelly, with wins at the 2002 Sony Open in Hawaii, 2002 Western Open and 2009 Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

This week marks the fourth first-round lead/co-lead of Kelly's career, finishing third at the 2004 TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, T8 at the 2007 RBC Heritage and T42 at the 2016 CareerBuilder Challenge.

Vaughn Taylor

Vaughn Taylor parred his first eight holes Thursday before reeling off six birdies in his last 11 holes, including five in a row on Nos. 12-16. His bogey-free 64 leaves him in a tie for the first-round lead with Andrew Loupe and Jerry Kelly.

Taylor is making his 12th start at the Travelers Championship, with a T9 in 2010 his lone top-10 finish.

Taylor's 64 is his best score in 41 rounds at the Travelers Championship. He posted 65s on five occasions, most recently closing 65-65 to finish T11 in 2012.

After winning the Barracuda Championship in back-to-back seasons (2004-05), Taylor broke back into the winner's circle earlier this season with a victory at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. This week marks his 305th TOUR start.

Taylor's win at Pebble Beach represents his lone top-10 finish in 19 starts this season. He enters the Travelers Championship No. 60 in the FedExCup standings. His best finish in the FedExCup came in 2010 (35th).

Since closing with three rounds in the 60s to win at Pebble Beach, Thursday's 64 marks just the seventh score in the 60s out of Taylor's last 47 rounds on the PGA TOUR.

Taylor is hoping to become the fifth multiple winner this season: Jason Day, Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson, Adam Scott.

Taylor has previously held an 18-hole lead/co-lead six times, going on to win the 2005 Barracuda Championship. Most recently he shared the first-round lead at the 2012 RBC Heritage before finishing T13.

Andrew Loupe

Andrew Loupe carded seven birdies and a lone bogey (No. 16) en route to a 6-under 64 and share of the first-round lead with Vaughn Taylor and Jerry Kelly.

Loupe is seeking his first made cut in three starts at the Travelers Championship (2014, 2015).

Loupe's previous-best round at TPC River Highlands was a second-round even-par 70 last year.

Loupe is making his 24th start of the season, with a T3 at the CareerBuilder Challenge and T4 at the Wells Fargo Championship the best of his four top-10 finishes. Currently No. 108 in the FedExCup, Loupe is hoping to snap a streak of six consecutive missed cuts. His last weekend appearance on TOUR led to a T82 finish at the AT&T Byron Nelson in late May.

Loupe's T3 this year at the CareerBuilder Challenge represents his best finish in 61 PGA TOUR starts.

Loupe has held the lead-co-lead five times now on the PGA TOUR, with three coming this season: finished T27 at the 2014 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T4 at the 2014 Valero Texas Open, T49 at the 2016 Farmers Insurance Open and T4 at the 2016 Wells Fargo Championship.

Loupe is hoping to become the 18th player to pick up his first TOUR win at the Travelers Championship: Ken Duke (2013), Marc Leishman (2012), Freddie Jacobson (2011), Bubba Watson (2010), Hunter Mahan (2007), J.J. Henry (2006), Brent Geiberger (1999), Olin Browne (1998), Stewart Cink (1997), Billy Ray Brown (1991), Mark Brooks (1988), Mac O'Grady (1986), Phil Blackmar (1985), Tim Norris (1982), Don Bies (1975), Charles Sifford (1967) and Bob Toski (1953).

Six out of the last 10 winners of the Travelers Championship have been first-time TOUR winners: J.J. Henry (2006), Hunter Mahan (2007), Bubba Watson (2010), Fredrik Jacobson (2011), Marc Leishman (2012) and Ken Duke (2013).

First-Round Leader Stats

Dating to 2000, the first-round leader/co-leader at the Travelers Championship has gone on to win five times: Bubba Watson/2015, Kenny Perry/2009, Hunter Mahan/2007, Peter Jacobsen/2003, Notah Begay III/2000.

Only two players have won the tournament in wire-to-wire fashion – Gene Littler in 1959 and Tim Morris in 1982. A total of 10 players have won the tournament after holding at least a share of the lead after each round.

The first-round leader/co-leader has won nine of 37 stroke-play events this season, most recently Jimmy Walker at the PGA Championship.

Bubba Watson

Two-time Travelers Championship winner (2010, 2015) Bubba Watson opened with a 3-under 67, marking his ninth consecutive opening round in the 60s at the Travelers Championship. His only opening round that wasn't in the 60s came in his inaugural start in 2006 (73).

With his 67 Thursday, 31 out of Watson's last 33 rounds at the Travelers Championship have been at par-or-better.

Watson is seeking to become the first player to successfully defend his title at the Travelers Championship since Phil Mickelson in 2001-02. Another win would move him within one victory of four-time Travelers champion Billy Casper.

Si Woo Kim

Si Woo Kim aced the par-3 fifth hole Thursday with a 4-iron from 217 yards, marking the 39th ace at the Travelers Championship and seventh on No. 5 in tournament history. He went on to record a 1-under 69.

Kim's ace is his first on the PGA TOUR. It is the 26th of the PGA TOUR Season.

As the Official Mortgage Sponsor of the PGA TOUR, Quicken Loans will award one year's worth of mortgage payments to Carol B. from Houston, Texas to commemorate the ace.

The Quicken Loans' Hole-In-One Sweepstakes awards one year's worth of mortgage payments to a randomly selected participant for every ace during official PGA TOUR events from the Waste Management Phoenix Open through the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola. Fans can enter the sweepstakes by visiting www.pgatour.com/quickenloans.

Jon Rahm

Jon Rahm (T4) continued his excellent play of late with an opening-round 5-under 65. In his only other Travelers Championship start, Rahm fired rounds of 68-69-69-72 to finish T64 as an amateur in 2015.

With a T3 performance in his professional debut at the 2016 Quicken Loans National and second-place finish at the RBC Canadian Open, Rahm earned enough non-member FedExCup points to take up Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR. He is hoping to earn a victory in the closing stretch of the season in order to become a full-fledged PGA TOUR member, which would get him into the FedExCup Playoffs.

Miscellaneous Stats

With its commitment to bring top young players to Connecticut each year, former up-and-coming players like Webb Simpson, Rickie Fowler, Ryo Ishikawa, Kyle Stanley, Morgan Hoffmann, Patrick Cantlay, Patrick Rodgers and Jon Rahm have been granted exemptions by the tournament and made their professional debut in Hartford. This year, the exemption went to Jordan Niebrugge (69) and Lee McCoy (76).

Six players who will compete in next week's Olympics are in the Travelers Championship field. Here's how they began Thursday: Bubba Watson (67), Alex Cejka (68), Soren Kjeldsen (68), Matt Kuchar (69), Patrick Reed (70), Padraig Harrington (70).

Seven past champions of the Travelers Championship are in the field: Marc Leishman (65), Bubba Watson (67), Hunter Mahan (68), Freddie Jacobson (69), J.J. Henry (71), Kevin Streelman (71), Ken Duke (73).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Vaughn Taylor (64), Tyrone Van Aswegen (67), Rory Sabbatini (67), Bubba Watson (67), Chad Campbell (68), Alex Cejka (68), Abraham Ancer (68).

Scoring Averages at the par-70 TPC River Highlands:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.244	34.833	70.077	---

The par-4 fourth hole played the toughest during the first round, yielding a 4.237 average. The par-4 15th was the easiest with a 3.712 average.

Morning scoring average: 69.68

Afternoon scoring average: 70.47

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