



# 2016 Travelers Championship

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

Cromwell, Conn.

August 1-7, 2016

FedExCup Points: 500 to the winner
Par/Yardage: 35-35—70/6,841

Purse: \$6,600,000 (\$1,188,000)

Third-Round Notes - Saturday, August 6, 2016

Weather: Mostly cloudy with a brief sprinkle. High of 85. Wind WSW 10-15 mph.

### **Third-Round Leaderboard**

Daniel Berger 66-67-62—195 (-15) Russell Knox 67-67-64—198 (-12) Tyrone Van Aswegen 67-66-65—198 (-12) Russell Henley 68-65-65—198 (-12) Patrick Rodgers 68-66-66—200 (-10)

#### **Daniel Berger**

With rounds of 66-67-62, Daniel Berger carries a three-stroke lead over Russell Knox, Tyrone Van Aswegen and Russell Henley into the final round of the Travelers Championship. The final threesome Saturday included Berger, Van Aswegen and Henley – with all three closing with 5-under 30 on the back nine.

His previous-best round on TOUR was 64, set on four occasions and most recently during the second round of the 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Berger's 62 falls one shy of the lowest third round score at the Travelers Championship: 61, set by Dana Quigley (1982), Kirk Triplett (2000) and Phil Mickelson (2001).

Berger's three-stroke lead is one shy of the largest 54-hole lead in Travelers Championship history: Sam Snead (1955), Bob Murphy (1970), and Tim Morris (1982).

Berger is hoping to become the fifth multiple winner this season (Jason Day, Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson, Adam Scott), having notched his first win on the PGA TOUR at this year's FedEx St. Jude Classic.

A win on Sunday would come in Berger's 54th PGA TOUR start at the age of 23 years and four months.

Berger would become the fourth straight American winner of the Travelers Championship and 16<sup>th</sup> out of the last 18.

This marks Berger's second 54-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR, having gone on to win the 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

After hitting his opening tee shot in the first round of the World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational, Berger withdrew due to a strained shoulder. He returned to competition at last week's PGA Championship (T73).

Berger is hoping to become the first player to win the Travelers Championship in his first start since Phil Blackmar (1985).

This week marks the 22<sup>nd</sup> start of the season for Berger, where he has four top-10s, including a T10 in his first Masters appearance.

Strokes Gained	Rank	Stat
Off the Tee	8	+2.691
Tee to Green	1	+9.071
Approach the Green	1	+5.551
Around the Green	T32	+0.828
Putting	8	+4.862
Total	1	+13.932

Berger claimed last year's PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year honors on the strength of six top-10 finishes, two of which were runner-up showings (The Honda Classic/P2, BMW Championship/2).

When Daniel Berger was named PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year for the 2014-15 Season, he became the fourth recipient who had not won a TOUR event in their rookie season. Each recipient went on to eventually win on the PGA TOUR, including 2009 Rookie of the Year Marc Leishman, who notched his first win at the 2012 Travelers Championship:

ROY Player First PGA TOUR win

2001 Charles Howell III won the 2002 Michelob Championship at Kingsmill

2009 Marc Leishman won the 2012 Travelers Championship

2010 Rickie Fowler won the 2012 Wells Fargo Championship

20014-15 Daniel Berger won the 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic

#### **Third-Round Leader Stats**

A year ago, Brian Harman stood at 14-under 196 through three rounds and one stroke clear of Graham DeLaet and eventual champion Bubba Watson.

The third-round leader/co-leader has won 17 of 36 stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR this season (72-hole events only). Most recently, Jimmy Walker achieved this feat at the PGA Championship.

Dating to 2000, the third-round leader/co-leader at the Travelers Championship has gone on to win five times: Freddie Jacobson (2011), Stewart Cink (2008), J.J. Henry (2006), Peter Jacobsen (2003) and Phil Mickelson (2001).

The largest 54-hole lead is four shots by Sam Snead (1955), Bob Murphy (1970), and Tim Morris (1982).

The largest come-from-behind win at the Travelers Championship is seven strokes by Brad Faxon in 2005. Marc Leishman came back from six stokes to win in 2012.

# **Russell Knox**

Russell Knox birdied his first three holes Saturday en route to a 6-under 64 (two shy of his career-best round on TOUR), leaving him three strokes behind Berger. He has posted three-consecutive birdies in all three rounds this week (Nos. 15-17/R1, Nos. 5-7/R2, Nos. 1-3/R3).

A win for Knox on Sunday would come in his 110<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR start at the age of 31 years, 1 month and 17 days. He won his first PGA TOUR title earlier this season at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions.

With a win on Sunday, the South African would end the American domination at the Travelers Championship. Since 1996, Freddie Jacobson (2011) and Marc Leishman (2012) are the only international winners of the Travelers Championship.

Knox is making his fifth start at the Travelers Championship (MC-2012, T13-2013, T61-2014, WD-2015).

Knox is seeking to post all four rounds in the 60s for the second time in five Travelers Championship starts (2013).

### Tyrone Van Aswegen

Tyrone Van Aswegen suffered his lone bogey of the week on the first hole Saturday on his way to a 5-under 65. He is hoping to join 2011 Travelers Championship winner Freddie Jacobson with the fewest bogeys by a winner (1) at this event.

A win Sunday would come in Van Aswegen's 73rd TOUR start at the age of 34 years, seven months and one day.

A total of 17 players have picked up their first TOUR win at the Travelers Championship: Ken Duke (2013), Marc Leishman (2012), Fredrik 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).

Van Aswegen is in search of his first win on the PGA TOUR. Six of the last 10 winners of the Travelers Championship have been first-time TOUR champions: J.J. Henry (2006), Hunter Mahan (2007), Bubba Watson (2010), Freddie Jacobson (2011), Marc Leishman (2012) and Ken Duke (2013).

Van Aswegen is making his third start in the Travelers Championship following a T26 in 2014 and T60 in 2015. His 65 Saturday marks his lowest score in 11 rounds at TPC River Highlands, topping his previous-best score of 66 from the second round this week.

Van Aswegen's lone top-10 in the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season came in his first start at the Frys.com Open last fall (T3). He is currently No. 114 in the FedExCup, with the top 125 advancing to The Barclays later this month.

With a win this week, Van Aswegen would join Emiliano Grillo (Frys.com Open), Smylie Kaufman (Shriners Hospitals for Children Open) and Peter Malnati (Sanderson Farms Championship) as 2015 Web.com Tour graduates to win on the PGA TOUR in 2015-16.

### **Russell Henley**

In his first appearance at the Travelers Championship, second-round co-leader Russell Henley owns rounds of 68-65-65 and is tied for second place through three rounds, three strokes behind leader Daniel Berger.

Henley is making his 22<sup>nd</sup> start of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season where he has four top-10s, most recently a T7 at the FedEx St. Jude Classic. He is currently No. 87 in the FedExCup standings.

Henley has two PGA TOUR victories: 2013 Sony Open in Hawaii and 2014 Honda Classic. A win Sunday would come in his 101st PGA TOUR start at the age of 27 years, 3 months and 26 days.

#### **Ernie Els**

Ernie Els (T60) aced the par-3 16<sup>th</sup> hole with a 7-iron from 176 yards. It marked his fourth hole-in-one on the PGA TOUR, but first since the 2004 Open Championship at Royal Troon (No. 8/R1).

Els' ace is the 40th at the Travelers Championship and the 27th 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 William H. from Redwood Valley, Calif. 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 <a href="https://www.pgatour.com/quickenloans">www.pgatour.com/quickenloans</a>.

# **Additional player notes**

Brooks Koepka (shot 64 in the third round and is T6) captured his lone TOUR victory at the 2015 Waste Management Phoenix Open. He has flirted with victory several times this season, most recently finishing T4 at last week's PGA Championship. Koepka has additional top-five finishes this season at the AT&T Byron Nelson (P2), FedEx St. Jude Classic (T2), Hyundai Tournament of Champions (T3) and World Golf Championships-Dell Match Play (T5)

In his Travelers Championship debut last year, Paul Casey was 11-under through 54 holes before firing a final-round 65 to get in the playoff with eventual champion Bubba Watson. Casey is currently 9-under after rounds of 68-67-66.

Daniel Summerhays (T8) is seeking his third top-10 finish of the season, with both of his top-10s coming in his last five starts (T8-U.S. Open, 3-PGA Championship). Having entered the week ranked No. 39 in the FedExCup, Summerhays is hoping to avoid the disappointment of last year's near miss of advancing to the TOUR Championship by Coca-Cola, finishing No. 31 in the FedExCup.

First-round co-leader Jerry Kelly, a Madison, Wis., native, who went to college at nearby University of Hartford, carded a third-round 69 to move to T11. 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.

With his 2-under 68 Saturday, 33 out of Bubba Watson's last 35 rounds at the Travelers Championship have been at par-or-better. He 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 Watson within one victory of four-time Travelers champion Billy Casper. Watson enters the final round T22, 10 strokes behind Daniel Berger.

## **Miscellaneous Stats**

All six players who will compete in next week's Olympics made the cut this week. Here's where they stand through three rounds: Padraig Harrington (T15), Patrick Reed (T22), Bubba Watson (T22), Alex Cejka (T33), Soren Kjeldsen (T33), Matt Kuchar (T49).

Seven past champions of the Travelers Championship are in the field: Marc Leishman (T15), Bubba Watson (T22), Hunter Mahan (73), Freddie Jacobson (MC), J.J. Henry (MC), Kevin Streelman (MC), Ken Duke (MC).

# Bogey-free rounds:

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

R2: Blayne Barber (64), Russell Henley (65), Brian Stuard (65) Tyrone Van Aswegen (66), Jason Kokrak (66), Scott Pinckney (67), Jim Furyk (66), Paul Casey (67), Chad Collins (68), John Senden (68), J.J. Henry (69).

R3: Francesco Molinari (65), Bryce Molder (66), Aaron Baddeley (67), Cameron Percy (67), David Toms (70)

# Scoring Averages at the par-70 TPC River Highlands:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.244	34.833	70.077	
R2:	34.910	35.301	70.212	70.144
R3:	34.521	34.123	68.644	69.860

The par-4 fourth hole played the toughest during the third round, yielding a 4.274 average. The par-4 15<sup>th</sup> was the easiest with a 3.493 average.

All 73 players played the par-3 eighth hole at par or better Saturday.

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