



2017 DEAN & DELUCA Invitational
(The 28th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Fort Worth, Texas
Colonial Country Club

May 25-28, 2017
Par/Yardage: 35-35—70/7,209

FedExCup Points: 500
Purse: \$6,900,000 (\$1,242,000)

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, May 27, 2017

Weather: Partly cloudy and hot. High of 96. Wind SSW 15-20 mph, gusting to 25 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Webb Simpson	68-66-67—201 (-9)
Paul Casey	69-66-68—203 (-7)
Danny Lee	70-64-69—203 (-7)
Stewart Cink	68-70-66—204 (-6)
Kevin Kisner	67-67-70—204 (-6)

Webb Simpson

One day after closing with three straight birdies for a 4-under 66, second-round co-leader Webb Simpson posted a 3-under 67 Saturday to move out of a four-way tie and into sole possession of the lead at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational. He'll carry a two-stroke advantage into the final round over Paul Casey and Danny Lee.

Simpson's third-round stats: 12 of 14 fairways, 14 of 18 greens, 4 of 4 scrambling, 29 putts.

Simpson has played the Horrible Horseshoe (Nos. 3-5 and traditionally Colonial's toughest stretch) at 1-under this week. He has eight pars and one birdie (No. 4 in round one).

A win for Simpson Sunday would come in his 224th PGA TOUR start at the age of 31 years, 9 months and 20 days.

Simpson has won four times on TOUR (2011 – Wyndham Championship, Dell Technologies Championship; 2012 – U.S. Open; 2013 – Shriners Hospitals for Children Open).

Simpson is making his fourth start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, having missed the cut in his first two appearances (2009 and 2010) before a breakthrough in 2016 (T3).

Simpson is currently No. 37 in the FedExCup standings. He has made an appearance in the FedExCup Playoffs eight straight years since becoming a member in 2009. His best finish came in 2011, finishing second to Bill Haas by just 15 points.

Simpson has led/co-led after the third round five previous times in his PGA TOUR career, winning twice: 2011 Zurich Classic of New Orleans (T2), 2011 Wyndham Championship (won), 2012 Wells Fargo Championship (4), 2012 Greenbrier Classic (T7), 2013 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (won).

Third-Round Leader Stats

In the previous 69 playings of the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win 35 times, with Jordan Spieth performing the feat last (2016). Spieth snapped a streak of seven consecutive champions who have won in come-from-behind fashion: Steve Stricker (2009), Zach Johnson (2010), David Toms (2011), Zach Johnson (2012), Boo Weekley (2013), Adam Scott (2014) and Chris Kirk (2015).

In 2016, Spieth (at 12-under 198) held a one-stroke lead after 54 holes over Ryan Palmer and Webb Simpson.

The third-round leader/co-leader has won 10 of 27 stroke-play events this season, most recently Kevin Chappell at the Valero Texas Open.

Paul Casey

Englishmen Paul Casey, one of four co-leaders at the beginning of the day, made four birdies and two bogeys en route to a 2-under 68. His round was highlighted by a 23'2" birdie putt on the final hole. Casey will enter the final round trailing Webb Simpson by two strokes.

Casey is making his fifth start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational this week and looks to improve on his best performance, a solo fifth, in 2009.

In 14 starts this season, Casey has recorded nine top-25s with his best showing coming at the Safeway Open (T3). He is currently No. 27 in the FedExCup standings, seeking to improve on his career-best fifth-place finish a year ago.

At the 2009 Shell Houston Open, Casey defeated J.B. Holmes in a playoff for his only PGA TOUR win. After 54 holes, he was in a six-way tie for the lead and carded a final-round 72 to force overtime.

Casey's final-round scoring average at Colonial CC is 67.00. In six attempts, he has never carded a round over par on the weekend in Fort Worth.

Danny Lee

South Korean Danny Lee birdied No. 18 for the second consecutive day, good for a 1-under 69. He'll enter the final round tied for second with Paul Casey and trailing Webb Simpson by two strokes.

Lee, a 26-year-old resident of Irving, Texas, is making his fifth appearance at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational where he has competed on the weekend each time. His best showing in Fort Worth came in 2015 (T10).

Lee's week has been highlighted by a second-round 64, his lowest round in 19 trips around Colonial CC.

In 19 starts this season, Lee has made 11 cuts and posted one top-10 (T5 – AT&T Byron Nelson). He entered the week No. 103 in the FedExCup standings.

Lee, who is making his 155th PGA TOUR start this week, posted his lone PGA TOUR win came at the Greenbrier Classic (2015), where he trailed four co-leaders by one stroke with 18 holes to play.

Stewart Cink

Following rounds of 68-70-66, Stewart Cink will enter the final round in a tie for fourth with Kevin Kisner and trailing Webb Simpson by three strokes. He is making his 17th start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, with top-10 finishes in 2000 (T2) and 2006 (T4). He made his first 14 cuts at Colonial before missing the cut in his last two appearances before this week (2013, 2016).

A victory for Cink would come in his 531st PGA TOUR start at the age of 44 years and seven months.

Cink is seeking his seventh PGA TOUR victory, but first since winning the 2009 Open Championship. This week represents his 179th start since winning at Turnberry in a playoff over Tom Watson.

Cink's PGA TOUR wins: 1997 Travelers Championship, 2000 RBC Heritage, 2004 RBC Heritage, 2004 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational, 2008 Travelers Championship, 2009 Open Championship.

Cink currently sits No. 76 in the FedExCup standings. Including this week, he has made the cut in 13 of 17 starts, with his best finish coming at The RSM Classic (T10).

During the first 10 years of the FedExCup, Cink has missed the Playoffs just twice (2012 and 2016). He enjoyed his best finish in 2008, finishing 20th (the middle of three-consecutive trips to the TOUR Championship).

Kevin Kisner

Kevin Kisner followed up matching rounds of 3-under 67 the first two days with a third-round even-par 70 and will enter the final round trailing Webb Simpson by three strokes.

After missing the cut in his first appearance (2014) at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, Kisner has recorded a T5 (2015) and a T10 (2016), respectively.

A few weeks ago, Kisner paired up with fellow South Carolinian Scott Brown at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans and lost in a playoff to the duo of Cameron Smith and Jonas Blixt. Kisner has recorded two runner-up performances this season and is currently No. 17 in the FedExCup standings.

Kisner is in search of his second PGA TOUR victory, having won The RSM Classic in 2016.

Jon Rahm

Two-time Hogan Award winner (given annually onsite Monday of the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational) Jon Rahm posted a third-round even-par 70 and will enter the final round trailing tournament-leader Webb Simpson by four strokes.

Rahm currently sits No. 4 in the FedExCup standings, with six top-10 finishes in 13 prior starts this season. In addition to his win at the Farmers Insurance Open, he collected a runner-up finish at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play Championship and T3 at the WGC-Mexico Championship.

Rahm trailed by three strokes after 54 holes of the Farmers Insurance Open in February and carded a final-round 65 for a three-stroke victory.

Rahm is looking to join fellow Spaniard Sergio Garcia on the list of players to win the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational in their first appearance.

Sean O'Hair

Sean O'Hair (T6) turned in a third-round even-par 70, which included a double bogey on the par-4 14th hole.

O'Hair is seeking his fifth PGA TOUR victory in his 323rd start: 2005 John Deere Classic, 2008 Valspar Championship, 2009 Wells Fargo Championship, 2011 RBC Canadian Open. He is making his 145th TOUR start since his last win.

O'Hair is making his ninth start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, with a T16 finish in 2011 his best outing. Of his six made cuts at Colonial, he has never failed to record a round of par-or-better during the third round.

O'Hair returned to the 30-player TOUR Championship a year ago, finishing No. 27 in the final FedExCup standings. It marked the eighth time in 10 years that he has advanced to the Playoff Finale.

Sergio Garcia

2017 Masters Tournament champion Sergio Garcia is currently T8 (five behind Webb Simpson) after a third-round 1-over 71. He is making his eighth career start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational, but first since finishing T13 in 2012.

Garcia (2001) is the last player to win the Colonial in his first start. The others: Keith Clearwater (1987), Dave Stockton (1967), Clayton Heafner (1948) and Ben Hogan (1946).

Garcia, a 10-time winner on the PGA TOUR, is one of seven players who recorded their first TOUR victory at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational: Roberto De Vincenzo (1957), Dave Stockton (1967), Rod Curl (1974), Dan Pohl (1986), Keith Clearwater (1987), Ian Baker-Finch (1989), Garcia (2001).

Jordan Spieth

Dallas native and defending DEAN & DELUCA Invitational champion Jordan Spieth (currently No. 7 in the FedExCup standings) carded a third-round 2-under 68 to move to T8, five strokes behind tournament-leader Webb Simpson.

Spieth is hoping to join Ben Hogan as the only players to win back-to-back DEAN & DELUCA Invitationals, with Hogan performing the feat twice (1946-47 and 1952-53).

Spieth is making his fifth start at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational. His record at Colonial includes four top-15 finishes (Won-2016, T2-2015, T14-2014, T7-2013).

Spieth's first-round 70 snapped a streak of six consecutive rounds in the 60s at the par-70 Colonial Country Club (2015: 64-73-67-65, 2016: 67-66-65-66), but he has since started a new streak with matching 2-under 68s.

In 2015, Spieth became the youngest winner of the FedExCup and of the TOUR Championship (22 years, 2 months).

Phil Mickelson

Two-time DEAN & DELUCA Invitational champion Phil Mickelson (2000, 2008) followed a second-round 5-over 75 with a 1-under 69 Saturday to move to T32 (10 strokes behind Webb Simpson).

In all, Mickelson owns eight top-25 finishes in 14 prior starts at the event. In addition to his two wins, he owns additional top-10 finishes in 2001 (T2) and 1994 (8th).

Mickelson is one of 12 multiple winners of the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational. Ben Hogan leads with five wins, with two-time winners Billy Casper, Julius Boros, Al Geiberger, Ben Crenshaw, Bruce Lietzke, Lee Trevino, Corey Pavin, Nick Price, Kenny Perry, Zach Johnson and Mickelson.

Mickelson is currently No. 43 in the FedExCup standings. A year ago, he finished No. 16 in the standings, marking the eighth time in 10 years he has advanced to the TOUR Championship. His highest finish was second in 2009.

Additional Player Notes

2009 DEAN & DELUCA Invitational champion Steve Stricker, who will serve as the Captain of the U.S. Presidents Cup team later this season, carded a third-round 2-under 68 and enters the final round T32.

Ryan Palmer, who plays out of Colonial Country Club, has finished inside the top 15 four out of his last five starts at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational (T3-2016, MC-2015, T5-2014, T14-2013, T5-2012). He sits T71 following a third-round 7-over 77 (his highest score in 49 rounds at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational).

Miscellaneous Notes

Past DEAN & DELUCA Invitational champions in the field: Jordan Spieth (T8), Sergio Garcia (T8), Phil Mickelson (T32), Steve Stricker (T32), Chris Kirk (T57), Zach Johnson (T65), Keith Clearwater (MC), Boo Weekley (MC), Rory Sabbatini (MC), Tim Herron (MC).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Kelly Kraft (65), Graeme McDowell (66)

R2: Bud Cauley (66)

R3: Emiliano Grillo (65; round of the day)

Colonial CC shows its teeth over the stretch of holes from Nos. 3-5, known as the "Horrible Horseshoe." During the third round, the holes played as the third toughest (4.250), the most difficult (3.306) and the second toughest (4.292), respectively.

The par-3 fourth hole played the toughest on day three with a 3.306 average. The par-5 first hole played the easiest at 4.514.

Scoring Averages at the par-70 Colonial Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
Thursday	35.661	35.909	71.570	---
Friday	35.661	35.909	71.737	71.654
Saturday	35.333	35.667	71.000	71.502