



Team/Player Notes –

Third-round leaderboard

1 Søren KJELDSEN / Thorbjørn OLESEN	DEN	72-60-70—202 (-14)
2 Rickie FOWLER / Jimmy WALKER	USA	70-67-69—206 (-10)
3 WU Ashun / LI Haotong	CHN	70-65-72—207 (-9)
T4 Victor DUBUISSON / Romain LANGASQUE	FRA	70-67-72—209 (-7)
T4 Rafa CABRERA BELLO / Jon RAHM	ESP	69-67-73—209 (-7)
Hideki MATSUYAMA / Ryo ISHIKAWA	JPN	73-65-71—209 (-7)

Denmark	Søren Kjeldsen	Thorbjørn Olesen
Official World Golf Ranking	45	67
International Victories	5	5
World Cup Appearances (including this week)	6	3
Denmark Best World Cup of Golf Finish	T3 – 2013 - Thorbjørn Olesen, Thomas Bjorn	
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Followed their fantastic 2nd-round, fourball, 12-under-par 60 with a third-round, alternate shot/foursomes, 2-under-par 70 to hold the 54-hole lead. Olesen won the European Tour's Turkish Airlines Open in early November. During Friday's fourball format, Olesen recorded six birdies and an eagle while Kjeldsen pitched in two birdies and an eagle for the team. 	

USA	Rickie Fowler	Jimmy Walker
Official World Golf Ranking	12	20
International Victories	6	9
World Cup Appearances (including this week)	1	1
USA World Cup of Golf Best Finish	1 st – 24 times	
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trying to win the 25th World Cup of Golf for the United States and first since Matt Kuchar and Gary Woodland won in 2011 in Hainan Island, China. South Africa and Australia are tied for second-most victories at the World Cup of Golf with five. Since the start of the 2014 season, Walker and Fowler have combined for 10 victories worldwide. Fowler and Walker represent the only team in the 56-player field with both players ranked inside the top 20 in the Official World Golf Ranking Team USA's third-round 69 matched Canada for the lowest score of the day on Friday. 	

CHINA	Wu Ashun	Li Haotong
Official World Golf Ranking	171	131
International Victories	4	4
World Cup Appearances (including this week)	2	1
China World Cup of Golf Best Finish	3 rd – 1966 - Chen Ching-Po/Lu Liang-Huan	
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Li Haotong recorded his maiden European Tour victory on home soil at the Volvo China Open, thanks to an 8-under par final round 64. • Wu has twice won on the European Tour, most recently the 2016 Lyoness Open. • Li has three victories on the PING AN BANK CHINA TOUR – PGA TOUR CHINA SERIES - 2014 Jianye Tianzhu Henan Open, Hainan Open, Tour Championship presented by CTS Tycoon. 	

Denmark in the driving seat at the World Cup

Denmark's Søren Kjeldsen and Thorbjørn Olesen continued their impressive form at the ISPS HANDA World Cup of Golf to hold a four-shot lead over the USA's Rickie Fowler and Jimmy Walker at Kingston Heath Golf Club.

A stunning round of 60 in the fourballs on Friday had given the duo a three-shot advantage, and they extended that with five birdies and three bogeys in a 70 in the foursomes to reach 14-under par.

"We showed yesterday that a really low score is possible out there in the fourball. I had a seven-shot lead in Turkey and it got down to one shot very quickly, so I know how quick this game can go sometimes," said Olesen. "It's definitely not going to be easy tomorrow. There's a lot of great players here and a lot of birdies out there. It's a four-shot lead, which is really nice, but it's not going to be easy."

Fowler and Walker have emerged as their nearest challengers with a round of 69, but they face an uphill battle to deny Denmark their first World Cup title.

It's not an impossible task with Germany achieving the feat at the 2006 World Cup of Golf in Barbados. The German team of Bernard Langer and Marcel Siem, made up five shots on leaders Sweden to grab the title in a play-off against Scotland, while the Swedes finished a shot further back in third.

"It would be nice to be out front or a little closer, but with where we were coming into today, just putting up a solid round of golf was that we wanted to do," said Fowler. "We did that and we gave ourselves a chance going into tomorrow. It's going to take some good golf and some birdies obviously, but it will be nice being in that final group to know exactly where we stand."

China's team of Wu Ashun and Li Haotong stumbled badly with an opening double bogey and bogey in their opening two holes at Kingston Heath Golf Club before recovering courageously with birdies on four, five and 11 to end the day in third place at 9-under-par 207.

Wu was delighted with the way he and Li fought back following their stuttering start.

“We had some trouble from the beginning but we played very good after that,” said Wu. “We talked a bit and we said ‘let's go, new tournament right now, new hole right now. Nothing can be worse after two holes. We still had a lot of holes, a lot of chances and we played simple golf and made some birdies.”

After narrowly missing birdie chances on the first and second, Denmark dropped their first shot in 25 holes on the third as Kjeldsen found the sand with the second shot but they bounced back with a pair of birdies.

An excellent approach from Olesen had left Kjeldsen with little to do on the fourth and the 26-yearold then drained a 12-footer for a five-shot lead.

Another birdie came on the tenth and after the pair did well to drop just a single shot after a ragged Olesen tee-shot on the 11th, he made amends with an excellent one on the short 13th to set up a gain. A three-putt bogey on the 17th then slightly took the gloss off the round.

The United States three-putted the first but bounced back with a birdie on the second and when Walker made another good putt on the fifth, they were alone in second.

A bogey was to come on the seventh but Walker was putting beautifully and back-to-back birdies on the eighth and ninth were followed by another gain on the 17th as the Americans search for a 25th title.

Japan, Spain and France are all seven shots off the pace at 7-under-par. The final round of the ISPS HANDA World Cup of Golf, which will be played in the fourball format, gets underway at 8.23am, with the last group due out on course at 11.25am.