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## 2017 Quicken Loans National Media Notes

**Dates:** June 26-July 2, 2017

**Where:** TPC Potomac at Avenel Farms; Bethesda, MD

**Par/Yards:** 35-35—70 (7,107 yards)

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play; **Field:** 120

**FedExCup:** 500 points to winner

**Purse:** \$7.1 million (\$1,278,000 to the winner)

**2016 Champion:** Billy Hurley III

**Twitter:** @QLNational; **Facebook:** QLNational; **Instagram:** qlnational

### Quicken Loans National set for TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm

The 2017 Quicken Loans National will be played at TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm in Potomac, Md. This will mark the first PGA TOUR tournament at TPC Potomac has held since 2006. Formerly known as TPC Avenel, the facility previously was the host venue for what then was known as the Kemper Open in 1987 and continued until the tournament's final year in 2006. After a major renovation to both clubhouse and course, the clubhouse reopened in late 2008 while the course reopened on April 28, 2009. Since then, TPC Potomac has hosted two Web.com Tour events (David Lingmerth/2012 and Michael Putnam/2013) and the Constellation Energy Senior Players Championship (Mark O'Meara/2010).

### A look back at the 2016 Quicken Loans National

Billy Hurley III, who was born in Leesburg, Virginia and resides in Annapolis, Maryland, posted a final-round 69 to win the Quicken Loans National by three shots over Vijay Singh for his first PGA TOUR victory. The 2004 United States Naval Academy graduate overcame a bogey at Nos. 2 and 12 with a stretch on the back nine that included a 10' 2" putt for par at the par-3 13<sup>th</sup>, a hole-out for birdie from 35 yards on the par-4 15<sup>th</sup> and a 27' 3" putt for birdie at the par-5 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Final-Round Leaderboard

Billy Hurley III	66-65-67-69—267 (-17)
Vijay Singh	68-66-71-65—270 (-14)
Jon Rahm	64-67-70-70—271 (-13)
Bill Haas	66-69-68-68—271 (-13)
Ernie Els	66-69-65-68—272 (-12)

### More on Billy Hurley III's win in 2016

- Victory came in his 104<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR start at the age of 34 years and 17 days.
- Won in his fifth start at the Quicken Loans National (1-2016, T46-2015, T8-2014, T4-2012, MC-2011).
- Joined 2015 champion Troy Merritt as the only first-time winners of the Quicken Loans National.
- Victory topped his previous best finish in 104 PGA TOUR starts: T4 at both the 2012 Quicken Loans National and 2014 Greenbrier Classic.
- Won for the first time in two attempts when carrying the lead into the final round on the PGA TOUR. His only other 54-hole lead came at the 2014 Greenbrier Classic before a 3-over 73 on the final day led to a T4 finish.
- Joined Troy Merritt (2015), Bill Haas (2013), Nick Watney (2011), Justin Rose (2010) and Tiger Woods (2009) as players to successfully convert the 54-hole lead/co-lead on to victory at the Quicken Loans National.

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### **Rickie Fowler**

- Quicken Loans player ambassador Rickie Fowler will compete in the event for the sixth time (T44-2016, 2-2015, T21-2013, T13-2011, MC-2010).
- Fowler has racked up six top-6 finishes this season. In addition to his win at The Honda Classic, he finished T2 at the Memorial Tournament, T3 at the Shell Houston Open, T4 at the Waste Management Phoenix Open, T5 at the U.S. Open and T6 at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions.
- Fowler is seeking a return trip to the TOUR Championship after just missing a trip to East Lake in 2016, finishing one spot out at No. 31 in the FedExCup standings. Prior to that, he had finished inside the top 10 in the FedExCup the previous two seasons (No. 9 in 2014 and No. 4 in 2015). He is currently No. 9 in the FedExCup.

### **Justin Thomas**

- Justin Thomas returns to the Quicken Loans National as a four-time PGA TOUR winner, having won three times this season – successfully defending his title at the CIMB Classic and winning both Hawaii events, the SBS Tournament of Champions and Sony Open in Hawaii.
- Thomas is seeking his third top-12 finish or better in as many starts at the event (T4-2015, T12-2016).
- Thomas is third in the FedExCup standings.
- Thomas enters the week coming off a T4 at the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide, a T9 at the U.S. Open and a (TBD) at the Travelers Championship. He was T2 entering the final round of the U.S. Open after a record-breaking 9-under-par 63, but struggled home with a 75.

### **A glance at the field**

- Eleven of the top 25 in the FedExCup standings, led by Justin Thomas (3), Rickie Fowler (9), Adam Hadwinn (12), Brendan Steele (13), Marc Leishman (14), Billy Horschel (16), Russell Henley (18), Mackenzie Hughes (21), Gary Woodland (23), Wesley Bryan (24), Kevin Chappell (25).
- Five of the top 30 in the Official World Golf Ranking: Rickie Fowler (9), Justin Thomas (12), Patrick Reed (17), Kevin Chappell (26), Si Woo Kim (30).
- Past Quicken Loans National champions: Billy Hurley III (2016), Troy Merritt (2015), Bill Haas (2013), Nick Watney (2011), K.J. Choi (2007).
- Seven players with five or more PGA TOUR wins: K.J. Choi (8), Geoff Ogilvy (8), Bill Haas (6), Jimmy Walker (6), Ben Crane (5), Patrick Reed (5), Nick Watney (5).
- 2016-17 Season winners: Brendan Steele (Safeway Open), Justin Thomas (CIMB Classic/SBS Tournament of Champions/Sony Open in Hawaii), Cody Gribble (Sanderson Farms Championship), Rod Pampling (Shriners Hospitals for Children Open), Mackenzie Hughes (RSM Classic), Hudson Swafford (CareerBuilder Challenge), Rickie Fowler (Honda Classic), Adam Hadwin (Valspar Championship), Marc Leishman (Arnold Palmer Invitational), D.A. Points (Puerto Rico Open), Russell Henley (Shell Houston Open), Wesley Bryan (RBC Heritage), Kevin Chappell (Valero Texas Open), Jonas Blixt (Zurich Classic of New Orleans), Si Woo Kim (THE PLAYERS Championship), Billy Horschel (AT&T Byron Nelson).

### **Quicken Loans National and the FedExCup**

With the FedExCup Playoffs just eight weeks away, the Quicken Loans National will once again play a pivotal role in players vying to make the Playoffs.

- Tiger Woods is the only player to win the Quicken Loans National and FedExCup in the same season (2009).
- Players who have won the Quicken Loans National and FedExCup during their career: Tiger Woods, Bill Haas.
- All 10 winners of the Quicken Loans National advanced to the Playoffs. The first eight champions advanced all the way to the season-ending TOUR Championship. Of that group, the average FedExCup finish was ninth.
- Just two champions of the event have failed to reach the TOUR Championship, 2015 champion Troy Merritt (finished No. 56 in the FedExCup) and 2016 champion Billy Hurley III (finished No. 55).
- Two past FedExCup champions are in this week's field: Bill Haas (2011), Billy Horschel (2014).

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- With his T3 finish at the Travelers Championship, Danny Lee made the largest FedExCup standings jump of the week, moving from No. 85 to 51.

#### **Additional Player Notes**

- 2013 Quicken Loans National champion Bill Haas has finished inside the top 4 in three of his last four starts at the event (1-2013, T30-2014, T4-2015, T3-2016).
- PLAYERS Championship winner Si Woo Kim missed the cut last year in his inaugural start at the Quicken Loans National, following an opening round 67 with a second-round 77.
- 2015 champion Troy Merritt set multiple records in route to winning in 2015, including his winning total of 18-under 266. This week will mark his sixth start at the Quicken Loans National (MC-2016, 1-2015, MC-2014, T30-2011, T68-2010).
- Five-time PGA TOUR winner and U.S. Ryder Cup standout Patrick Reed returns for his fourth start at the Quicken Loans National (T39-2016, T11-2014, T34-2013). Reed is currently No. 53 in the FedExCup standings.
- One week after making his professional debut at the Travelers Championship, recent University of Oregon graduate Wyndham Clark will tee it up at the Quicken Loans National. Prior to helping the Ducks advance to the NCAA Championship match just a few weeks ago, Clark spent his first four college seasons at Oklahoma State. The Denver native recently qualified for the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada.
- Ryan Ruffels, will make his 13<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR start and fifth this season. Born in Florida, but raised in Australia, Ruffels has been competing on the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica where he has runner-up finishes in his last two starts.
- Gavin Kyle Green, a 23-year-old from Malaysia, set a school record with eight wins at the University of New Mexico. He has also garnered three titles on the Asian Development Tour. Green qualified for and eventually finished 47<sup>th</sup> in the 2016 Summer Olympics.

#### **Additional Quicken Loans National notes**

- This year will mark the 11<sup>th</sup> playing of the Quicken Loans National, with past champions including Tiger Woods, Justin Rose, K.J. Choi, Bill Haas, Anthony Kim, Nick Watney, Troy Merritt and Billy Hurley III.
- The best 18-hole score in tournament history is 61 by Troy Merritt in 2015.
- The best 36-hole score in tournament history is 130 by Tiger Woods in 2009.
- The best 54-hole score in tournament history is 199 by Troy Merritt and Kevin Chappell in 2015.
- The best 72-hole score in tournament history is 266 by Troy Merritt in 2015.
- The best come-from-behind win at the event is three shots by Anthony Kim (2008) and Justin Rose (2014).
- Justin Rose (2010, 2014) and Tiger Woods (2009, 2012) are the only multiple winners of the tournament.
- International winners include Justin Rose (2010, 2014) and K.J. Choi (2007).
- The event has had two first-time winners: Troy Merritt (2015), Billy Hurley III (2016).
- The Quicken Loans National has produced just one playoff which occurred in 2014, with Justin Rose defeating Shawn Stefani on the first extra hole.

#### **Open Qualifying Series**

The road to the 146<sup>th</sup> Open Championship at Royal Birkdale winds its way to the Quicken Loans National, with spots available for the top four finishers (not otherwise eligible). In all, the Qualifying Series is being contested at 15 events in 10 countries this season. A total of 44 places in The Open are available through the Series, which provides golfers with opportunities to qualify at events around the world on the PGA TOUR, European Tour, PGA Tour of Australasia, Asian Tour, Japan Golf Tour and the Sunshine Tour. In addition to the Quicken Loans National, other PGA TOUR events in the Series include The Greenbrier Classic (four spots available) and John Deere Classic (one spot).

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