



2016 Safeway Open (1<sup>st</sup> of 43 events in the 2016-17 PGA TOUR Season)

Napa, Calif. October 13-16, 2016 Silverado Resort and Spa (North)

Purse: \$6,000,000 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,166

# Second-Round Notes – Saturday, October 15, 2016

Weather. Mostly cloudy, with a high of 66. Wind SW 10-20 mph. The second round resumed at 7:45 a.m. Saturday, and was completed at 10:56 am. Third-round tee times are scheduled from 11:15 a.m. – 1:05 p.m.

36-hole cut: 70 players at 3-under-par from a field of 144 professionals

# Second-Round Leaderboard

Scott Piercy	62-67—129 (-15)
Johnson Wagner	65-67—132 (-12)
Paul Casey	64-68—132 (-12)

# Scott Piercy

Scott Piercy grabbed his first outright 36-hole lead of his career after posting 15-under 129. Following a course record 10-under 62 in the opening round, Piercy posted three birdies and an eagle for a bogey-free 5-under 67.

Piercy previously held the 36-hole co-lead at the 2012 RBC Canadian Open, which he went on to win.

In his second round, Piercy hit nine of 14 fairways and 17 of 18 greens.

Piercy is making his fourth start in the Safeway Open and second at Silverado. He missed last year's cut, following rounds of 74-73.

In the 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season, Piercy claimed three top-10 finishes in 24 starts. For the seventh time, he made it to the FedExCup Playoffs, competing in the first three. He ended his season following the BMW Championship at No. 37 in the FedExCup standings.

Piercy is in search of his fourth career PGA TOUR win this week, having previously won the 2011 Barracuda Championship, 2012 RBC Canadian Open and 2015 Barbasol Championship.

# Johnson Wagner

Johnson Wagner followed up an opening-round 65 with a bogey-free 5-under 67 in the second round to get within three shots of Piercy's lead.

Wagner's looking for his fourth career PGA TOUR victory and first since the 2012 Sony Open in Hawaii.

Last season, Wagner collected three top-10 finishes in 26 starts, two of which were top-5 showings. Making it through the first two of four FedExCup Playoffs events, The Barclays and Deutsche Bank Championship, he finished 78<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup standings.

#### Paul Casey

After ending last season with a pair of runner-ups and a fourth-place showing in the FedExCup Playoffs at the Deutsche Bank Championship, BMW Championship and TOUR Championship, respectively, Paul Casey has picked up right where he left off in T2 at 12-under after rounds of 64-68.

Casey enjoyed a banner season in 2015-16, amassing seven top-10 finishes in 22 starts. In doing so, he finished a career-best fifth in the FedExCup standings.

Casey is in search of his second career PGA TOUR win, having previously won the 2009 Shell Houston Open. He has seven runner-up finishes to his credit.

In Casey's only other start at the Safeway Open, he finished T7 at CordeValle GC in 2011.

# **Bill Haas**

A week after his father, Jay Haas, posted a win on PGA TOUR Champions, Bill Haas is in contention heading into the weekend at the Safeway Open after a 2-under 70 Friday that included three birdies and two bogeys. Haas is at 8-under 136 through 36 holes after hitting 30 of 36 greens in regulation thus far.

The 2011 FedExCup Champion's only two previous starts at the Safeway Open came in 2007 (T51) and 2008 (T20) – both of which were held at Grayhawk Golf Club.

The six-time PGA TOUR winner is in search of his first victory since January of 2015 when he won the CareerBuilder Challenge. In 24 starts on the PGA TOUR a season ago, Haas posted six top-10s on his way to a 46<sup>th</sup> place finish in the final FedExCup standings.

# J.J. Spaun

J.J. Spaun, a PGA TOUR rookie, started his day with a bogey, but the Los Angeles native promptly reeled off birdies on six of the next eight holes. Spaun, who finished third on the 2016 Web.com Tour Regular Season money list to get his TOUR card, played the back nine in even-par 36 to card a 4-under 68 and is in T9 entering the weekend.

This week marks the 26-year-old's third career start on the PGA TOUR, with his previous best being a T41 finish at the 2015 RBC Canadian Open, an exemption he earned after winning the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada Order of Merit in 2015.

In 23 starts on the Web.com Tour in 2016, Spaun recorded a one-shot victory at the News Sentinel Open presented by Pilot, two runner-ups, and four additional top-10s to earn his PGA TOUR card in his first season on the Web.com Tour.

# Miscellaneous Notes

Among the 144-player field, 70 professionals made the cut at 3-under-par or better.

Defending Safeway Open champion and 2015-16 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Emiliano Grillo opened with rounds of 69-70—139 (-5) and is 10 strokes back of the lead. Entering the weekend a year ago, Grillo was six shots back of the lead at 5-under in T19 after 36 holes a year ago with rounds of 68-71, but the Argentinian closed with rounds of 65-69 to earn a spot in a playoff with Kevin Na, who he defeated for the victory.

Through 36 holes a year ago, Brendan Steele held the 36-hole lead by two shots at 11-under after opening with rounds of 63-70. Steele finished T17 after closing with rounds of 69-76. In each of the two previous years that the Safeway Open has been held at Silverado Resort and Spa's North Course, the 36-hole leader has failed to hold onto their lead on the weekend.

42-time PGA TOUR winner Phil Mickelson will play the weekend after rounds of 69-69—138 (-6). In Mickelson's only previous start at the Safeway Open in 2007, he missed the cut at his then home course of Grayhawk Golf Club.

Twenty one of the 25 2016-17 PGA TOUR Rookies are in this week's Safeway Open field, with 14 making it to the weekend. Among them, Cody Gribble and Trey Mullinax lead the pack in T7. J.J. Spaun and Ryan Blaum are both tied for 11<sup>th</sup> at 7-under.

This week's Safeway Open marks the 31<sup>st</sup> PGA TOUR or PGA TOUR Champions event hosted by Silverado Resort and Spa; 1968-1976 Kaiser International Open Invitational, 1977-1980 Anheuser-Busch Golf Classic, 1989-2002 The Transamerica on PGA TOUR Champions and 2014-16 Safeway Open.