



2016 Safeway Open
(1st 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

First-Round Notes – Thursday, October 13, 2016

Weather: Mostly sunny, with a high of 69. Wind SW 5-10 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Scott Piercy	62 (-10)
Paul Casey	64 (-8)
Patton Kizzire	64 (-8)

Scott Piercy

Beginning on No. 10, Scott Piercy birdied seven of his first 10 holes, and 12 total, en route to a 10-under 62, one stroke off his career low. The Silverado course record was 63, originally set by Johnny Miller in round one of the 1976 Kaiser International Open Invitational. Last year, Brendan Steele and Andrew Loupe posted 9-under 63s to tie Miller's then-course record.

Piercy's two-stroke advantage marks his sixth 18-hole lead on the PGA TOUR. The only one of the previous five which resulted in victory was the 2012 RBC Canadian Open.

The Safeway Open's best 18-hole scores of 61 were all posted at Grayhawk Golf Club: Mark Hensby (R2/2007), Kevin Stadler (R2/2008), Mike Weir (R4/2009), Troy Matteson (R2/2009 and R3/2009).

Piercy made just four pars in round one (12 birdies, 2 bogeys). He hit nine of 14 fairways in regulation, 13 of 18 greens and needed just 22 putts to complete his round.

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.

Paul Casey

Claiming early in the week to media to have "unfinished business," England's Paul Casey birdied his last three holes in round one, Nos. 7-9, to open with a bogey-free 8-under 64. Casey ended 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.

In his last 13 rounds on the PGA TOUR, Casey is now 50-under par.

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 hit just six of 14 fairways in regulation, but missed just one green. He found himself just off the green on the par-3 second hole, but sank the putt for birdie from 16 feet.

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.

Patton Kizzire

Patton Kizzire birdied six of his inward nine holes in round one to finish with an 8-under 64.

Kizzire hit just six of 18 fairways in regulation, but was a perfect 18 for 18 in greens hit.

Kizzire, a second-year PGA TOUR member, collected five top-10 finishes as a rookie last season and finished 82nd in the FedExCup standings.

Kizzire is making his first start in the Safeway Open this week.

Kyle Stanley

In search of his first top-10 finish since a T8 at the 2014 Barracuda Championship, Kyle Stanley opened with a bogey-free, 7-under 65. In relation to par, the 65 is his lowest score since posting the score in round three of the 2013 Zurich Classic of New Orleans (3rd).

In his only other start in the Safeway Open, Stanley opened with a 6-under 66 at Silverado in 2014 en route to T33 honors.

Stanley made his way back onto the PGA TOUR last season by way of the Web.com Tour. In the 2015-16 season, five top-25 finishes was strong enough to land him 116th in the FedExCup standings to retain his card for this season.

Stanley, winner of the 2012 Waste Management Phoenix Open, is making his 160th career start on the PGA TOUR this week.

Johnson Wagner

Johnson Wagner's 7-under 65 in round one marks his lowest opening score on the PGA TOUR in relation to par since posting a 7-under 63 in round one of the 2016 AT&T Byron Nelson (T58).

Wagner made 10 birdies against just three bogeys in round one. He missed just three fairways in regulation and three greens.

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 Deutsche Bank Championship, he finished 78th in the FedExCup standings.

Jon Rahm

On his second hole of the day, No. 11, Jon Rahm aced the 11th hole with a 7-iron from 173 yards en route to a 6-under 66. This marked Rahm's first hole in one.

To celebrate the occasion after his round, Rahm hand delivered several cases of local wine to those covering the event in the media center.

Making his eighth start as a professional this week, Rahm joined the PGA TOUR last season as a Special Temporary Member less than two months after turning professional. He earned his 2016-17 TOUR status by virtue of finishing second in FedExCup points for non-members. Rahm is not considered a rookie on the PGA TOUR this season.

Rahm is making his 13th overall start on the PGA TOUR this week, having collected two top-10 finishes as an amateur and two as a professional. His best among them is a T2 as a professional at last season's RBC Canadian Open.

At the 2015 Waste Management Phoenix Open, Rahm's T5 finish made him the first amateur to finish in the top 5 of a PGA TOUR event since Chris Wood (5th) at the 2008 Open Championship and Justin Rose (T4) at the 1998 Open Championship.

Miscellaneous Notes

Defending Safeway Open champion and 2015-16 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Emiliano Grillo opened with a 3-under 69 and is seven strokes back. In last year's opening round, he opened with a 4-under 68 and was five strokes back.

Playing in the same group with Emiliano Grillo, Phil Mickelson followed back-to-back bogeys at his first two holes with three straight birdies on Nos. 3-5 en route to open with a 3-under 69.

On his way to a 2-under 70, Morgan Hoffmann holed his second shot from 251 yards on the par-5 18th hole for an albatross.

Twenty one of the 25 2016-17 PGA TOUR Rookies are in this week's Safeway Open field. Among them, the lowest score of 5-under 67 belonged to Cody Gribble.

This week's Safeway Open marks the 31st 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.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Paul Casey (64), Patton Kizzire (64), Kyle Stanley (65), Troy Merritt (66), Cody Gribble (67), Peter Malnati (67), Hudson Swafford (67), Ken Duke (69), Richy Werenski (69), Aaron Baddeley (70)

Scoring Averages at the par-72 Silverado Resort and Spa (North):

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	36.069	34.993	71.063	---