



#### THE NORTHERN TRUST 2017

(The 1st of 4 events in the FedExCup Playoffs)

Old Westbury, NY Glen Oaks Club August 24-27, 2017

FedExCup Points: 2000

Purse: \$8,750,000

Par-Yards: 35-35-70/7,346

# First-round Notes - Thursday, August 24, 2017

Thursday weather: Sunny with a high of 81. Winds NW at 5-10 mph.

## **First-round leaders**

Russell Henley	64 (-6)
Dustin Johnson	65 (-5)
Scott Brown	66 (-4)
Camilo Villegas	66 (-4)
Chris Kirk	66 (-4)

## Russell Henley (19th in the FedExCup)

Russell Henley, 28, opened with a 6-under 64 at the Glen Oaks Club to take the first-round lead at THE NORTHERN TRUST, the first of four events in the FedExCup Playoffs. Henley is attempting to win his second PGA TOUR event this year (Shell Houston Open), and the fourth of his career.

As it was the first round of PGA TOUR competition on the course, Henley's opening-round 64 is the new course record at the Glen Oaks Club. The course also used this configuration at the 2016 Metropolitan Open. Adam Fuchs shot 6-under 66 in the final round of that event.

Henley is 19<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup, looking to best his career-high finish of 19<sup>th</sup> in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR season. In 2016-17, Henley has three other top 10s this season to go along with his win at the Shell Houston Open.

Henley's 64 is the lowest first round at THE NORTHERN TRUST since Kevin Stadler Opened with 64 at Liberty National Golf Club in 2013, where he eventually finished T43. Sixty-four was the low-round at THE NORTHERN TRUST last year at Bethpage Black, shot by Sung Kang and Johnson Wagner in the final round. This is the fifth time that Henley has shot 64 in the first round of a PGA TOUR event, his lowest opening round a 63 in the first round of the 2013 Sony Open in Hawaii, which he won by nine shots.

This is just the second time in Henley's career that he has held a first-round lead, the first coming at the Sentry Tournament of Champions in 2015, where he eventually finished T3. In two of his three wins, he was solo second after the opening round (2013/Sony Open in Hawaii, 2014/The Honda Classic). In his win at this year's Shell Houston Open, he was T6 following the first round.

This is Henley's fifth appearance at THE NORTHERN TRUST, his best finish T48 last year at Bethpage Black.

#### Henley's R1 Strokes-Gained Stat Rankings:

Strokes Gained: Off the Tee: 67

Strokes Gained: Approach the Green: 38 Strokes Gained: Around the Green: 1

Strokes Gained: Putting: 3



## **First-Round Lead Notes**

Just nine of 50 first-round leaders have won THE NORTHERN TRUST since its inception in 1967, the feat accomplished most recently by Dennis Paulson in 2000.

Through 42 stroke-play events this season, seven players have managed to hang on for the win. Most recently, Jordan Spieth at The Open Championship.

## **Dustin Johnson (4th in the FedExCup)**

In a bid to win for the fourth time this season, Dustin Johnson opened with 5-under 65 at Glen Oaks and is just one back of leader Henley.

Following his first victory of the season at the Genesis Open, Johnson won the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship in his next start. His third win of the season in three consecutive starts, at the World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play, made him the first player to win each of the four World Golf Championships events, completing the 'WGC Slam'.

He also took the No. 1 spot in the FedExCup standings after the win in Austin, Texas, and held it for 17 straight events before relinquishing it to Jordan Spieth at The Open. After injuring his back in a fall on the eve of the Masters, Johnson withdrew from the first major of the season. He returned to the TOUR with a T2 at the Wells Fargo Championship and posted just one additional top-10 result (T8/RBC Canadian Open) before the FedExCup Playoffs began. Johnson owns the longest drive of the season, a 439-yard tee-shot at No. 16 during round one of the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational.

This is Johnson's ninth appearance at THE NORTHERN TRUST, an event he won in 2011 (shortened due to Hurricane Irene). He has three additional top-10 finishes along with his 2011 victory (T3/2012, T9/2015, T9/2010) as well as at T15 in 2009 and missed cuts in both 2013 and 2008. Last year, his T18 at THE NORTHERN TRUST was his weakest performance in the four FedExCup Playoff events (T8/Dell Technologies Championship, 1/BMW Championship, T6/TOUR Championship) while finishing No. 2 behind Rory McIlroy in the FedExCup. Johnson, 403 points behind leader Hideki Matsuyama, is seeking to advance to the TOUR Championship for the eighth time in his career.

FedExCup Playoffs starts - 29

FedExCup Playoffs wins - 3 (2016 & 2010 BMW Championship, 2011 THE NORTHERN TRUST)

FedExCup Playoffs top-5s – 8

FedExCup Playoffs top-10s - 15

#### **Additional Player Notes**

Scott Brown (65<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup) fired a bogey-free, 4-under 66 in the opening round of THE NORTHERN TRUST as he attempts to better his career-best finish in the FedExCup of 80<sup>th</sup> last season. Brown has had two runner-up finishes this year on the PGA TOUR, at the Genesis Open and in a playoff at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans (Kevin Kisner was his partner). Those two runner-up finishes are his best in his career on TOUR, outside of his victory at the 2013 Puerto Rico Open. Brown has only made one cut in four previous starts in THE NORTHERN TRUST; he finished T62 in 2013. After missing the cut last year at Bethpage Black, Brown played the Glen Oaks Club on Saturday of tournament week, as it is a new course on the PGA TOUR this year.



- Camilo Villegas (98th in the FedExCup) holed a 7-iron from 161 yards on the 18th hole today en route to a
  first-round 66, two shots back of Henley's lead. This is the second time this season that Villegas has been
  T2 following the first round he was T2 at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, eventually finishing T28.
  Villegas is 98th in the FedExCup, on the bubble of the top 100, who will move on to the Dell Technologies
  Championship next week at TPC Boston.
- Bubba Watson (113<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup) opened with a bogey-free, 3-under 67 as he tries to qualify for the Dell Technologies Championship.
- Phil Mickelson opened with a 2-over 72 as he tries to qualify for the Presidents Cup. Following the first round, he is projected to be 20<sup>th</sup> in the standings. Next week's Dell Technologies Championship is the last chance players have to qualify for both the U.S. and International Teams on points. On Sept. 6, both teams will announce its two captain's picks.

## **Miscellaneous Notes**

This year is the 51st playing of THE NORTHERN TRUST. Members of the World Golf Hall of Fame who have won this event include Vijay Singh (4 times), Ernie Els (twice), Seve Ballesteros (twice), Jack Nicklaus (twice), Hale Irwin, Raymond Floyd, Curtis Strange, David Graham, Gene Littler, Johnny Miller, Arnold Palmer and Julius Boros. The event was also known as the Westchester Classic (1967-1975), American Express Westchester Classic (1976-1978), Manufacturers Hanover Westchester Classic (1979-1989), Buick Classic (1990-2004), Barclays Classic (2005, 2006) and The Barclays (2007-2016).

#### **Rookies**

Six rookies advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs last season, with Emiliano Grillo and Si Woo Kim the only rookies to advance to the TOUR Championship, the first time in FedExCup history more than one rookie advanced to the TOUR Championship. Both finished T10 at East Lake, with Kim winding up No. 17 in the FedExCup and Grillo at No. 11. Grillo's peers voted him as the PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year at the close of the 2015-16 season.

<u>Player</u>	FEC Standing	First Round Score and Position
Wesley Bryan	27	T39 (E)
Xander Schauffele	33	T55 (+1)
Mackenzie Hughes	34	T39 (E)
Ollie Schniederjans	39	T55 (+1)
Grayson Murray	69	T80 (+2)
*Patrick Cantlay	78	T6 (-3)
C.T. Pan	86	T39 (E)
Cody Gribble	89	T118 (+8)
J.J. Spaun	91	T55 (+1)
Ryan Blaum	105	T12 (-2)
Richy Werenski	108	T39 (E)
Dominic Bozzelli	115	DNS
*D 11 1 0010 11 1		

<sup>\*</sup>Rookie in 2013-14, but played in less than 10 events due to injury.

### **Bubble Watch**

FedExCup Rank	Player	Pos. Thru R1	Proj. FEC Standing
96 <sup>th</sup>	Byeong Hun An	T110	105
97 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Kirk	T3	33
98 <sup>th</sup>	Camilo Villegas	T3	34
99 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Garrigus	T80	110
100 <sup>th</sup>	Seung-Yul Noh	T102	111



101 <sup>st</sup>	Jimmy Walker	T39	104
102 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott Stallings	T55	108
103 <sup>rd</sup>	David Lingmerth	T55	109
104 <sup>th</sup>	D.A. Points	T80	113
105 <sup>th</sup>	Ryan Blaum	T12	77

## FedExCup and THE NORTHERN TRUST

- THE NORTHERN TRUST is the opening event of the FedExCup Playoffs for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive season since the FedExCup Playoffs were introduced in 2007.
- Each playoff event offers 2,000 FedExCup points to the winner.
- The top-125 players on the final PGA TOUR Season FedExCup points list (following the Wyndham Championship) qualify for THE NORTHERN TRUST.
- The top-100 players on the FedExCup points list following THE NORTHERN TRUST qualify for the Dell Technologies Championship at TPC Boston.
- The top-70 players on the FedExCup points list after the Dell Technologies Championship advance to the BMW Championship, contested at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill.
- The top-30 players following the BMW Championship will qualify for the TOUR Championship. Prior to the TOUR Championship, a points reset will take place, giving all players in the field a mathematical opportunity to win the FedExCup title. The top-five players control their own destiny and would claim the FedExCup with a victory at East Lake.

Morning wave scoring average: 71.05 Afternoon wave scoring average: 70.60

#### **Bogey-free Rounds**

R1: Scott Brown (67), Chris Kirk (67), Patrick Cantlay (67), Bubba Watson (67)

Scoring Averages at the par-70 Glen Oaks Club:

Front 9 Back 9 Total Cumulative
Thursday 36.000 34.825 70.825

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