



PROUD PARTNERS

**2017 TOUR Championship**  
*(The 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 events in the FedExCup Playoffs)*

**Atlanta, Ga.**  
**East Lake Golf Club**

**September 19-25, 2016**  
**Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,385**

**Purse: \$8,750,000**

## Second-Round Notes – Friday, September 22, 2017

*Weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 89 degrees. ENE winds at 4-8 mph.*

### FedExCup and the TOUR Championship

- The TOUR Championship is the last of four events of the FedExCup Playoffs and the finale to the PGA TOUR season for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive season since the FedExCup Playoffs were introduced in 2007.
- The top-125 players on the final PGA TOUR Season FedExCup points list (following the Wyndham Championship) qualified for THE NORTHERN TRUST (won by Dustin Johnson).
- The top-100 players on the FedExCup points list following THE NORTHERN TRUST qualified for the Dell Technologies Championship (won by Justin Thomas).
- The top-70 players on the FedExCup points list after the Dell Technologies Championship have advanced to the BMW Championship, contested at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill. (won by Marc Leishman).
- The top-30 players following the BMW Championship qualified for the TOUR Championship. Prior to the start of the TOUR Championship, a “points reset” took place, giving all players in the field a mathematical opportunity to win the FedExCup title. The top-five players control are in control and would claim the FedExCup with a victory at East Lake.

### Second-Round Leaderboard

Justin Thomas	67-66—133 (-7)
Paul Casey	66-67—133 (-7)
Webb Simpson	66-67—133 (-7)
Patrick Reed	69-65—134 (-6)
Justin Rose	68-66—134 (-6)
Gary Woodland	67-67—134 (-6)
Jon Rahm	67-67—134 (-6)

The top-five players in the FedExCup standings entering the TOUR Championship will win the FedExCup title should they go on to victory at East Lake.

FEC	Name	Score	Position	FedExCup Projection
1	Jordan Spieth	67-70—137 (-3)	T15	4
2	Justin Thomas	67-66—133 (-7)	T1	1
3	Dustin Johnson	68-69—137 (-3)	T15	5
4	Marc Leishman	71-71—142 (+2)	T24	7
5	Jon Rahm	67-67—134 (-6)	T4	6

A points reset took place following the BMW Championship giving all 30 players in the field at the TOUR Championship a mathematical chance to win the FedExCup

**Justin Thomas – TOUR Championship - T1<sup>st</sup>, 67-66—133, (-7) / FedExCup – Started 2<sup>nd</sup>, Projected 1<sup>st</sup>**

With an eagle on the final hole of the second round, Justin Thomas jumped to 7-under-par and into a tie for the 36-hole lead at the TOUR Championship. This is the second time that Thomas has played in the TOUR Championship after finishing T6 in his debut at East Lake last year. Thomas hit his approach from 231 yards to just under six feet on his second shot and went on to make the eagle putt.

Thomas' Strokes Gained Statistics through two rounds:

Strokes Gained: Off the Tee	1 <sup>st</sup>
Strokes Gained: Tee to Green	1 <sup>st</sup>
Strokes Gained: Approach the Green	4 <sup>th</sup>
Strokes Gained: Around the Green	24 <sup>th</sup>
Strokes Gained: Putting	19 <sup>th</sup>

Thomas' 2016-17 season got off to a very hot start, with Thomas earning three victories in his first five starts. Thomas successfully defended his CIMB Classic title and then earned back-to-back victories at the Sentry Tournament of Champions and the Sony Open in Hawaii. Thomas' 59 in the opening round of the Sony Open made him the youngest of seven players (eight times) to record a sub-60 round on the PGA TOUR (23 years, 8 months, 14 days). His four-day total of 253 also set a new PGA TOUR record.

Since his T8 finish at the season-opening Safeway Open, Thomas has ranked no worse than fourth in the FedExCup standings, thanks to 11 top-10 finishes in 24 total starts.

After finishing T9 at the U.S. Open, his first top-10 result in a major championship in his eighth major start, Thomas won his first major championship title at the 99th PGA Championship at Quail Hollow Club, coming from two strokes behind to eventually win by two over Francesco Molinari, Patrick Reed and Louis Oosthuizen for his fifth PGA TOUR victory in his 90<sup>th</sup> start. With his win at the Dell Technologies Championship, Thomas became the first player to win five or more times in a season on TOUR since Jordan Spieth and Jason Day won five times during the 2014-15 season.

Thomas entered the FedExCup Playoffs second in the standings; he retained his position in the top five of the FedExCup standings with a T6 result at THE NORTHERN TRUST and followed that up with a three-stroke victory over Jordan Spieth at the Dell Technologies Championship to stay at No. 2. Finishing T47 at the BMW Championship was good enough to remain in the No. 2 spot.

Year	Final Rank	Began Playoffs Rk	TNT	Dell Tech	BMW	TOUR Champ
2015	32	36	T16 (30)	T56 (35)	T13 (32)	
2016	12	10	T10 (8)	CUT (14)	T32 (12)	T6 (12)
2017		2	T6	1	T47 (2)	

**#2 Justin Thomas**

- If he wins the TOUR Championship, he wins the FedExCup
- Has a reasonable chance of winning with a top-3 finish
- Can finish as low as 9th and still have a mathematical chance of winning

**Paul Casey – TOUR Championship T1<sup>st</sup> – 66-67—133 / FedExCup – Started 10<sup>th</sup>, Projected 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Playing in the TOUR Championship for the fourth time since the start of the FedExCup in 2007, Paul Casey has never finished outside of the top 5 at East Lake Golf Club.

Casey's finishes at the TOUR Championship

Year	Finish
2010	T4
2015	T5
2016	4

Englishman Paul Casey is once again having a great season, coming on the heels of his best FedExCup finish in 2015-16, when he finished fifth. Despite only one PGA TOUR win on his resume at the 2009 Shell Houston Open, Casey has amassed 47 top 10s in 218 career starts, including eight this year, tied for the most in any one season in his career. His consistency in 2016-17 is unmatched in any other season of his career, as he has missed only one cut and has recorded 16 top 25s in 22 starts this season.

Casey has a history of playing well in the FedExCup Playoffs, especially recently. Last year he entered the playoffs ranked 63<sup>rd</sup>, but a pair of runner-up finishes at the Dell Technologies Championship and BMW Championship vaulted him to fifth heading into the season-ending TOUR Championship, giving him a chance to win the FedExCup with a win at East Lake.

Following his highly successful campaign last season, Casey got his season off to a fast start at the Safeway Open, recording his best finish of the year in the opening event, a tie for third. Casey's record at the TOUR Championship is sterling, as he has never finished outside the top five in three previous appearances.

**To win the FedExCup - No. 10 Paul Casey (Currently T1 in the tournament)**

- Must win the tournament AND
- Jordan Spieth must finish in a three-way tie for 4<sup>th</sup> or worse (T15)
- Justin Thomas must finish in a three-way tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> or worse (T1)
- Dustin Johnson must finish in a three-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> or worse (T15)
- Marc Leishman must finish in a two-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> or worse (T24)
- John Rahm must finish 2<sup>nd</sup> or worse (T4)

Year	Final Rank	Began Playoffs Rk	TNT	Dell Tech	BMW	TOUR Champ
2008	74	90	T7 (38)	CUT (74)		
2009	52	18	DNS	DNS	DNS (52)	
2010	6	26	T12 (23)	T25 (21)	2 (5)	T4 (6)
2011	144	144				
2012	233	233				
2013	197	197				
2014	95	118	T22 (85)	DNS		
2015	13	19	T39 (21)	WD (24)	T23 (22)	T5 (13)
2016	5	63	T31 (59)	2 (10)	2 (5)	4 (5)
2017		18	5 (12)	T4 (8)	T33 (10)	

**Webb Simpson - T1<sup>st</sup> – 66-67-133 / FedExCup – Started 16<sup>th</sup>, projected 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Webb Simpson's season started by making seven of his first eight cuts—including a runner-up finish at the Waste Management Phoenix Open—and has since finished strong by making the cut in 12 consecutive events. A third-place finish in his home state for the North Carolina native at the final regular season event of the year put him in good form at the start of the FedExCup Playoffs. With top 10s at THE NORTHERN TRUST (T6) and the BMW Championship (T9), he returns to the TOUR Championship after advancing to the event in four consecutive seasons from 2011-2014.

Year	Final Rank	Began Playoffs	TNT	Dell Tech	BMW	TC
2009	62	85	8 (41)	CUT (51)	T61 (62)	
2010	85	94	T36 (80)	CUT (85)		
2011	2	3	T10 (4)	1 (1)	5 (1)	22 (2)
2012	16	13	MC (20)	T18 (19)	T51 (25)	T5(16)
2013	11	17	T15 (18)	T53 (20)	T24 (21)	4 (11)
2014	25	13	CUT (22)	T9 (19)	T53 (22)	T23(25)
2015	48	40	T30 (37)	T44 (42)	T64 (48)	
2016	84	78	T48 (74)	CUT (84)		
2017		25	T6 (16)	T75 (21)	T9 (16)	

**To win the FedExCup - No. 16 Webb Simpson (Currently T1 in the tournament)**

- Must win the tournament AND
- Jordan Spieth must finish 10<sup>th</sup> or worse (T15)
- Justin Thomas must finish in a three-way tie for 4<sup>th</sup> or worse (T1)

- Dustin Johnson must finish in a two-way tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> or worse (T15)
- Marc Leishman must finish 3<sup>rd</sup> or worse (T24)
- John Rahm must finish in a two-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> or worse (T4)
- Rickie Fowler must finish in a two-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> or worse (29)

### **First-Round Leader Statistics**

This is the first time in TOUR Championship history dating back to 1987 that more than two players have been tied for the lead after the second round.

The second-round leader/co-leader has won 14 of 30 times at the TOUR Championship. The last was Billy Horschel in 2014.

This is the fifth time that Paul Casey has led or shared the lead through 36 holes with this year's U.S. Open as the most recent. Casey was T1 after 36 holes during his lone PGA TOUR win at the 2009 Shell Houston Open.

This is the seventh time that Justin Thomas has led or shared the second-round lead through 36 holes. Thomas has carried the 36-hole lead to victory in each of the last four times he has been atop the leaderboard after the second round.

### **Justin Thomas' 36-hole leads on the PGA TOUR**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Thru 36</b>	<b>Finish</b>
2017	Sony Open in Hawaii		1 <sup>st</sup>
2017	Sentry Tournament of Champions	Tied for 1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>
2016	CIMB Classic		1 <sup>st</sup>
2015	CIMB Classic		1 <sup>st</sup>
2015	John Deere Classic		T5
2015	Sony Open In Hawaii	Tied for 1 <sup>st</sup>	T6

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> time that Webb Simpson has held a share of the lead on the PGA TOUR, converting one of those leads to victory at the 2013 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in Las Vegas. Simpson was tied for the lead at the Wyndham Championship and the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational this season finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

### **Additional Player Notes**

FedExCup leader Jordan Spieth followed up his opening-round 67 with an even-par 70 in the second round in his bid to become just the second player to win multiple FedExCups (Tiger Woods – 2007, 2009). After the second round, he has work to do, as his T15 position leaves him projected at a final finish of fourth in the FedExCup standings.

Jon Rahm is T4 after a bogey-free, second-round 67, just one shot off the lead in his bid to win the FedExCup in his first TOUR Championship appearance. He would be the second-youngest winner of the FedExCup, second only to Spieth in 2015. At fifth in the FedExCup entering the week, Rahm would claim the FedExCup with a win at the TOUR Championship.

Patrick Reed had the round of the day, a 5-under 65 that vaulted him into contention, just one shot back of the three-way tie for the lead. Reed entered the week at No. 23 in the FedExCup, so he needs help to win the coveted prize – highlighted by needing leader Thomas to finish in a two-way tie for fifth or worse.

### **First Timers at the TOUR Championship**

Eight players are making their first appearance at the TOUR Championship this week, including Jon Rahm, Pat Perez, Brian Harman, Adam Hadwin, Kyle Stanley, Tony Finau, Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay. With a victory, they would join Chad Campbell (2003), Bart Bryant (2005), Bill Haas (2011) and Henrik Stenson (2013) as players to win the TOUR Championship in their first appearance (not including Tom Watson's win at the first TOUR Championship in 1987).

### **FedExCup Notes**

Here's a year-by-year look at FedExCup winners and their performance throughout the Playoffs in the years they won:

Year	FedExCup Champion	THE NORTHERN TRUST	Dell Technologies Championship	BMW	TOUR Championship
2016	Rory McIlroy	T31	Won	T42	Won
2015	Jordan Spieth	MC	MC	T13	Won
2014	Billy Horschel	MC	T2	Won	Won
2013	Henrik Stenson	T43	Won	T33	Won
2012	Brandt Snedeker	2 <sup>nd</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	T37	Won
2011	Bill Haas	T24	T61	T16	Won
2010	Jim Furyk	DNP	T37	T15	Won
2009	Tiger Woods	T2	T11	Won	2 <sup>nd</sup>
2008	Vijay Singh	Won	Won	T44	T22
2007	Tiger Woods	N/A	T2	Won	Won

Jordan Spieth (2015) is the only past FedExCup champion at East Lake this year, and he has a chance to join Tiger Woods (2007, 2009) as the only two-time winner of the FedExCup. Spieth lies T15, four off the lead held by three players.

### **Rookies and the FedExCup**

For the second straight year, two rookies have qualified for the TOUR Championship (Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay). Last year was the first time more than one rookie qualified for East Lake, with Emiliano Grillo and Si Woo Kim earning their way into the field. Schauffele stands T8 after a second-round 66 and Patrick Cantlay at T22, also shooting 66 in the second round.

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Last year, the decision was made to reverse the nines at East Lake Golf Club with the goal of creating more drama and excitement on the finishing stretch. The final five holes, in particular, now have more potential for lead changes and provide more risk-reward opportunities. The finishing stretch on the back nine begins with the par-4, 500-plus-yard 14th hole that has statistically been the most difficult hole on the course dating back to 2007. From there, players will be faced with a peninsula green at the par-3 15th that has traditionally resulted in a wide range of scores from birdie to double bogey. The final three holes rewarded players for solid play with potential birdie opportunities while also penalizing players for mistakes off the tee and on their approach shots.

Scoring Averages for the par-70 East Lake Golf Club:

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
Thursday	34.967	34.267	69.233	
Friday	34.333	34.533	68.867	69.050

The par-4 first hole is the most difficult on the course through two rounds, playing to 4.283 average, and the par-5 sixth, and the par-5 18<sup>th</sup> are tied for the easiest, each averaging 4.433.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Brooks Koepka (66), Gary Woodland (67), Dustin Johnson (68)

R2 – Jon Rahm (67)

