



2017 U.S. Open Championship

(The 31st of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Erin, WI
Erin Hills

June 15-18, 2017
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,741

FedExCup Points: 600
Purse: \$12,000,000 (\$2,160,000)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, June 15, 2017

Weather: Sunny with temperatures in the high 80s. SW wind at 5-10 mph turned to WNW at 8-16 mph later in the day.

First-Round Leaderboard

Rickie Fowler	65 (-7)
Paul Casey	66 (-6)
Xander Schauffele	66 (-6)
Brian Harman	67 (-5)
Tommy Fleetwood	67 (-5)
Brooks Koepka	67 (-5)

The last six major champions are first time winners of major championships (Sergio Garcia/2017 Masters, Jimmy Walker/2016 PGA, Henrik Stenson/2016 The Open, Dustin Johnson/2016 U.S. Open, Danny Willet/2016 Masters, Jason Day/2015 PGA).

Major Championship Starts (counting this week) among Top 17 (3-under or better) on Leaderboard

The top 17 players on the leaderboard account for zero Major Championship victories in 322 overall starts.

Rickie Fowler	30 (T2 – 2014 U.S. Open, The Open)
Paul Casey	53 (T3 – 2010 The Open)
Xander Schauffele	1 (first major appearance)
Brian Harman	8 (T26 – 2014 The Open)
Tommy Fleetwood	8 (T27 – 2015 U.S. Open)
Brooks Koepka	15 (T4 – 2014 U.S. Open, 2016 PGA)
Patrick Reed	14 (T12 – 2016 The Open)
Kevin Na	28 (7 th – 2016 U.S. Open)
Marc Leishman	23 (T2 – 2015 The Open)
Adam Hadwin	4 (T36 – 2017 Masters)
Jamie Lovemark	4 (T18 – 2015 U.S. Open)
J.B. Holmes	28 (3 rd – 2016 The Open)
Lee Westwood	77 (2 nd – 2010 Masters, The Open)
Andrew Johnston	8 (8 th – 2016 The Open)
Si Woo Kim	3 (MC – 2016 PGA, 2017 Masters)
Scottie Scheffler (a)	2 (MC – 2016 U.S. Open)
Bernd Wiesberger	16 (T15 – 2014 PGA)

Rickie Fowler

Making his ninth U.S. Open appearance, Rickie Fowler shot a flawless 7-under 65 to produce his career low round in the championship and equal the lowest 18-hole score (in relation to par) in tournament history, joining Jack Nicklaus and Tom Weiskopf (both 7-under 63, Baltusrol, 1980). Fowler's previous low in the U.S. Open was 67 (twice, both in the third round of 2013 and 2014).

Fowler's opening-round 65 was his record low at any major championship. He previously posted 66 at the 2014 PGA Championship and The Open Championship in 2015.

Fowler's lead marks his fourth first-round lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR. He has not converted any of the previous three into a victory.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tournament</u>	<u>Result</u>
2010	the Memorial Tournament	2 nd
2016	Waste Management Phoenix Open	T2
2017	Shell Houston Open	T3
2017	U.S. Open	--

Fowler owns two top-10 results in eight previous starts in the U.S. Open. He was T10 in 2013 and runner-up to Martin Kaymer at Pinehurst in 2014, the same year he recorded top-5 finishes in each of the four major championships, becoming the first player to perform that feat since Tiger Woods did so in 2005.

This marks Fowler's 30th major championship appearance. He's posted six top-10 results in 29 major starts.

Heading in to the U.S. Open, Fowler was one of just three players with a season scoring average below 69.50 (Sergio Garcia – 69.304, Jordan Spieth – 69.411, Rickie Fowler – 69.419). In advance of this week Fowler was ranked No. 1 in three statistical categories for this season – Total Driving (58), Sand Saves (72.37%) and All Around (197).

In February, Fowler won The Honda Classic for his fourth PGA TOUR title (212 Wells Fargo Championship, 2015 THE PLAYERS, 2015 Dell Technologies Championship, 2017 The Honda Classic). He also owns two European Tour wins (2015 Aberdeen Asset Scottish Open, 2016 Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Classic).

In 12 starts this season, Fowler recorded his fifth top-10 of the season earlier this month at the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide when he tied for second, three strokes behind Jason Dufner. He missed the cut at last week's FedEx St. Jude Classic.

Fowler began this week at No. 8 in the FedExCup standings and No. 9 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Going into the week, Fowler was sixth in the Presidents Cup US Team points standings and is on track to qualify for his second Presidents Cup. He went 1-3-1 for the US Team in 2015 in Korea.

First-Round Statistics at the U.S. Open

Number of times the first-round leader/co-leader at the U.S. Open has gone on to win: 21. Martin Kaymer performed the feat last, holding a three-stroke lead in 2014 over Kevin Na, Graeme McDowell, Brendon de Jonge and Fran Quinn.

Lowest first round score in relation to par: 7-under (Jack Nicklaus/1980, Tom Weiskopf/1980, Rickie Fowler/2017)

Lowest scores to lead after 18 holes:

63 (7 under), Jack Nicklaus, Baltusrol G.C., Springfield, N.J., 1980

63 (7 under), Tom Weiskopf, Baltusrol G.C., Springfield, N.J., 1980

64 (6 under), Lee Mackey, Merion G.C., Ardmore, Pa., 1950 64 (6 under) Mike Weir, Bethpage State Park (Black Course), Farmingdale, N.Y., 2009

65 (6 under), Tiger Woods, Pebble Beach (Calif.) G.C., 2000

65 (6 under), Rory McIlroy, Congressional C.C. (Blue Course), Bethesda, Md., 2011

65 (5 under), T.C. Chen, Oakland Hills C.C., Birmingham, Mich., 1985

65 (5 under), Colin Montgomerie, Congressional C.C. (Blue Course), Bethesda, Md., 1997

65 (5 under), Tom Watson, Olympia Fields (Ill.) C.C. (North Course), 2003

65 (5 under), Martin Kaymer, Pinehurst R. & C.C. (No. 2), Village of Pinehurst, N.C., 2014

65 (5 under), Dustin Johnson, Chambers Bay, University Place, Wash., 2015

65 (5 under), Henrik Stenson, Chambers Bay, University Place, Wash., 2015

65 (7-under), Rickie Fowler, Erin Hills, Erin, Wisc., 2017

A year ago, Andrew Landry held the opening-round lead at Oakmont Country Club with 4-under 66. Eventual champion Dustin Johnson was a stroke back after opening with 3-under 67.

Largest 18-hole lead: 5 strokes (Tommy Armour in 1933).

On the PGA TOUR this season, the first-round leader/co-leader has won five of 30 times, most recently Jason Dufner at the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide.

Paul Casey

Paul Casey sits T2 after an opening-round 6-under 66, one stroke back of leader Rickie Fowler. Casey eagled the first hole of the day, just 30 minutes after Sergio Garcia had made an eagle to start his round and become the first player since 2003 to start the U.S. Open with an eagle.

Casey's 66 is just the second sub-70 opening round he's recorded in 15 U.S. Open appearances (69/2010).

Casey is seeking his second top-10 finish in his 14th U.S. Open appearance. His lone top-10 (T10) came in 2007, one of seven cuts he's made in this event.

This week marks Casey's 53rd start in a major championship. A T3 at The Open Championship in 2007 is his best result at any major. Casey finished sixth at the Masters this year, five back of winner Sergio Garcia.

In 15 starts this season, Casey has recorded 10 top-25s with his best showing coming at the Safeway Open (T3). He is currently No. 26 in the FedExCup standings, seeking to improve on his career-best fifth-place finish a year ago.

At the 2009 Shell Houston Open, Casey defeated J.B. Holmes in a playoff for his only PGA TOUR win. After 54 holes, he was in a six-way tie for the lead and carded a final-round 72 to force overtime. Casey also has 13 victories on the European Tour, the most recent coming at the 2014 KLM Open.

Xander Schauffele

Xander Schauffele sits T2 after a bogey-free 6-under 66 in his first ever major championship round. Schauffele is making his first start in a major championship after shooting 64-71 and surviving a five-man playoff for the final two spots in the Memphis sectional qualifier.

Schauffele advanced to the PGA TOUR this season after finishing 45th in the priority ranking of the Web.com Tour. The former San Diego State golfer finished T5 at the Sanderson Farms Championship in his second start as a TOUR member. His only other top-20 finish this season was at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, when he paired with Tag Ridings in the two-man team event to finish T11.

Schauffele's best results on the Web.com Tour came in back-to-back weeks in July last year when he finished third at the Utah Championship and followed with a T3 at the Ellie Mae Classic the next week.

Schauffele's mother is from Chinese Taipei (but grew up in Japan) and his father is half French and German.

Brian Harman

Savannah, Georgia native Brian Harman posted a bogey-free 5-under 67 in his third U.S. Open appearance.

Harman, 30, recently claimed his second career PGA TOUR win with victory at the Wells Fargo Championship in May with birdies at the final two holes to win by a stroke at 10-under 278 over Dustin Johnson and Pat Perez. Harman is also the winner of the 2014 John Deere Classic.

Harman was the first left-handed winner of the Wells Fargo Championship and first left-hander to win on the PGA TOUR since Greg Chalmers at the 2016 Barracuda Championship. No left-hander has won the U.S. Open, the only major championship without a left-handed winner.

Harman is making his third start at the U.S. Open, with missed cuts in both previous starts in 2012 (77-72) and 2015 (69-79).

This is Harman's 20th start of the 2016-17 PGA TOUR Season. He owns five top-10 results and 10 top-25 finishes, matching his career-high 10 top-25s last season. His most recent top-10 was T7 at the DEAN & DELUCA Invitational.

Tommy Fleetwood

England's Tommy Fleetwood posted a bogey-free 5-under 67 to get his second U.S. Open appearance off to a good start. Fleetwood finished T27 with rounds of 74-69-73-69 in his only other U.S. Open start in 2015.

This is the eighth appearance in a major championship for Fleetwood. His T27 finish in the 2015 U.S. Open is the only time he has advanced to the weekend at any major championship.

The two-time European Tour winner claimed his most recent title earlier this year at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship.

Fleetwood's best showing in 18 previous starts on the PGA TOUR was T2 at the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship earlier this year. Before that, he was T5 at the 2015 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play (T5) when he lost to countryman Danny Willett in the quarterfinals.

After opening with a 6-over 78 in the first round of this year's Arnold Palmer Invitational, Fleetwood posted rounds of 66-70-68 to finish T10. In need of just four non-member FedExCup points to qualify for Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR, Fleetwood easily achieved the points and earned Special Temporary Membership.

Brooks Koepka

Brooks Koepka mixed six birdies with a solo bogey (No. 8) to shoot 5-under 67, his low 18-hole score in 15 career rounds at the U.S. Open.

Koepka is making his fifth appearance at the U.S. Open. After missing the cut in his first start in 2012, he was T4 in 2014, T18 in 2015 and T13 last year.

This week is Koepka's 15th major championship appearance. He missed the cut in his first two major championship starts, the U.S. Open in 2012 and The Open in 2013. Since then, Koepka has made the cut in 12 consecutive major championships.

Koepka owns four top-10 finishes in major championships (T4-2016 PGA, T4-2014 U.S. Open, T5-2015 PGA, T10-2015 The Open).

En route to his lone PGA TOUR victory, Koepka came from three strokes back to win the 2015 Waste Management Phoenix Open by one shot. This year's runner-up finish at the Valero Texas Open marked Koepka's fourth runner-up finish on TOUR (2016 AT&T Byron Nelson, 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic, 2016 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, 2017 Valero Texas Open).

In September last year, Koepka made his first-ever start at the Ryder Cup, going 3-1 in his four matches in the United States' 17-11 victory at Hazeltine, including a dominating 5&4 singles victory over former Masters champion Danny Willett. His three-point total (tied with Brandt Snedeker) was second only to Patrick Reed's 3 ½ points.

Additional player notes

Rickie Fowler and Sergio Garcia were the only two players from the top-10 in the Official World Golf Ranking to shoot under par in the opening round;

Dustin Johnson	75 (+3)
Rory McIlroy	78 (+6)
Jason Day	79 (+7)
Hideki Matsuyama	74 (+2)
Jordan Spieth	73 (+1)
Henrik Stenson	74 (+2)
Sergio Garcia	70 (-2)
Alex Noren	73 (+1)
Rickie Fowler	65 (-7)
Jon Rahm	76 (+4)

Marc Leishman (68) has missed the cut in three of five previous starts at the U.S. Open. His best result is T18 last year. He was also T51 in 2011. Leishman earned his second victory on the PGA TOUR at this year's Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard. His maiden PGA TOUR title came at the 2012 Travelers Championship. Leishman is currently No. 16 in the FedExCup standings and has advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs every season since his PGA TOUR career began in 2009. He's finished no worse than 72nd but has reached the TOUR Championship just once – when he was 20th in the standings in 2009 and voted by his peers as Rookie of the Year.

Canada's Adam Hadwin (68) birdied six consecutive holes (holes 18-5) to equal the most birdies in a row in U.S. Open history, matching George Burns (1982, holes 2-7) and Andy Dillard (1992, holes 1-6), who both recorded six-in-a-row at Pebble Beach. Hadwin's run ended with a three-putt bogey at No. 6 and a seventh birdie at No. 8.

Davis Love IV made a solid start to his professional career, shooting a 1-under 71 after having qualified through local and sectional play. Love was the first alternate from the Ball Ground, Ga., sectional. Known as Dru, he was a fifth-year senior at the University of Alabama in 2016-17 and is playing in his first U.S. Open. His father, Davis III, has played in 23 U.S. Opens and attempted to qualify in the Columbus, Ohio, sectional but is carrying Dru's bag this week after failing to advance.

Current Masters champion Sergio Garcia (70) recorded an eagle 3 at the 613-yard par-5 opening hole to become the first player since 2003 (Retief Goosen, Rory Sabbatini, Brian Davis) to start the U.S. Open with an eagle. Less than 30 minutes later, Paul Casey also achieved the feat. Garcia is attempting to become the fourth player to win two majors in the same year since 2008: Jordan Spieth (2015 Masters Tournament and U.S. Open), Rory McIlroy (2014 Open Championship and PGA Championship), Pádraig Harrington (2008 British Open and PGA Championship).

Ernie Els bogeyed his last two holes to shoot 2-under 70 while making his 25th consecutive appearance at the U.S. Open in 2017, with wins in 1994 and 1997 among his 10 top 10s. Els is seeking to become the seventh player with at least three U.S. Open wins (4 – Willie Anderson, Robert Trent Jones, Jr., Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus; 3 – Hale Irwin, Tiger Woods).

Wisconsin native and U.S. Presidents Cup Captain Steve Stricker qualified for his 20th U.S. Open, a week ahead of competing and hosting the American Family Insurance Championship, a PGA TOUR Champions event outside Madison. Stricker, who finished fifth in both 1998 and 1999, posted a 1-over 73.

Jason Day's round of 7-over 79 included triple bogey 7s at the fourth and 10th holes, marking the first time in his 676 rounds on the PGA TOUR that he has recorded two triple bogeys in a round.

Jordan Niebrugge, who was runner-up in his first Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada event earlier this month, hit the opening tee shot to get the U.S. Open underway at 6:45 a.m. CT. Niebrugge of Mequon, Wis., posted a 1-over 73.

Rising Texas A&M senior Cameron Champ celebrated his 22nd birthday on Thursday by shooting a 2-under 70 but it was University of Texas standout Scottie Scheffler (69) who was the leading amateur after the first round. Fourteen amateur participants teed it up in the 2017 U.S. Open. In 2015, 16 amateurs were in the field and six advanced to the weekend. Here's a look at the scores for amateurs in the field this year: Brad Dalke (78), Scott Gregory (75), Maverick McNealy (73), John Oda (78), Mason Anderson (73), Stewart Hagestad (77), Sahith Theegala (77), Cameron Champ (70), Joaquin Nieman (74), Alex Smalley (73), Christopher Crawford (75), Scott Harvey (78), Scottie Scheffler (69), Walker Lee (81).

Phil Mickelson withdrew before his opening-round tee time because of a previously scheduled family commitment. Mickelson, who was fully exempt and has competed in 26 U.S. Opens, was replaced in the field by Roberto Diaz, of Mexico, the first alternate from the Summit, N.J. sectional qualifying site. Diaz, 30, playing in his first U.S. Open, birdied his final hole for an even-par 72 in the first round.

According to local authorities, a commercial blimp not affiliated with the USGA or the U.S. Open Championship broadcast crashed in an open field approximately a half mile from the Erin Hills golf course at approximately 11:15 a.m. CT. First responders were quick to arrive at the scene and the pilot was treated for unknown injuries.

Miscellaneous Stats

Having led the FedExCup the last 12 weeks and 23 total weeks in his career, Dustin Johnson (75) is now third in all-time weeks leading the FedExCup behind Tiger Woods (85 weeks) and Jimmy Walker (48 weeks). Three players have a chance to surpass Johnson with a win at the U.S. Open: No. 2 Justin Thomas (73), No. 3 Hideki Matsuyama (74) and No. 4 Jon Rahm (76).

Eleven past U.S. Open champions (12 wins) are in the field: Dustin Johnson (75/2016), Jordan Spieth (73/2015), Martin Kaymer (72/2014), Justin Rose (72/2013), Webb Simpson (74/2012), Rory McIlroy (78/2011), Graeme McDowell (76/2010), Lucas Glover (74/2009), Angel Cabrera (71/2007), Jim Furyk (70/2003), Ernie Els (70/1994, 1997).

Erin Hills Notes

The par-72 Erin Hills measured 7,845 yards during the opening round, the longest course in tournament history. The previous-longest layout for the U.S. Open was 7,695 yards in the second round of 2015 championship at Chambers Bay.

Erin Hills is the first par-72 setup in a U.S. Open since 1992 when Pebble Beach Golf Links hosted and ninth since World War II.

Erin Hills is the third course in the last decade to host a U.S. Open for the first time (Torrey Pines/2008/won by Tiger Woods, Chambers Bay/2015/won by Jordan Spieth)

44 players broke par in the first round, the most ever in any opening round of the U.S. Open.

Most Sub-Par Scores, First Round

44, Erin Hills, Erin, Wisc., 2017

39, Medinah (Ill.) C.C. (No. 3 Course), 1990

29, Pebble Beach (Calif.) G.L., 1992

25, Chambers Bay, University Place, Wash., 2015

Bogey-free rounds:

Round 1 – Rickie Fowler (65), Xander Schauffele (66), Brian Harman (67), Tommy Fleetwood (67).

Scoring Averages at the par-70 Oakmont Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
Round 1	36.897	36.487	73.385	--

The 252-yard par-3 sixth hole played the most difficult during round one, yielding a 3.385 average. The par-5 18th hole was the easiest at 4.641.

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