



2017 CIMB Classic
(2nd of 45 events in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
TPC Kuala Lumpur

October 12-15, 2017

Purse: \$7,000,000
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,005

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, October 14, 2017

Weather: Mostly cloudy with a high of 90 degrees Fahrenheit / 32 degrees Celsius. Winds west at 4-8 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Pat Perez	66-65-64 – 195 (-21)
Xander Schauffele	65-67-67 – 199 (-17)
Sung Kang	67-68-65 – 200 (-16)

Pat Perez

In his first start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season, Pat Perez shot a third-round 8-under 64 to get to 21-under and has a four lead over Xander Schauffele. He made just his second bogey of the tournament on the par-4 13th, but immediately followed it with three birdies, and added one at the last for good measure. His 54-hole total of 21-under-par 195 is the lowest 54-hole score in tournament history, bettering the mark of 20-under 196 set by Justin Thomas and Brendan Steele in 2015. At 41-years-old, Perez would become the oldest winner of the CIMB Classic with a win tomorrow.

Perez has held the 54-hole lead/co-lead just twice in his career, at the 2002 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and the 2009 CareerBuilder Challenge, finishing runner-up at the former and winning the latter (CareerBuilder Challenge was a 90-hole event). His total of 195 is the second-lowest 54-hole of his career (191 – 2009 CareerBuilder Challenge).

Perez is coming off his best season on the PGA TOUR, recording six top-10 finishes, including a win at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, a T3 finish at the Sentry Tournament of Champions and a T2 finish at the Wells Fargo Championship. His strong play qualified him for the season-ending TOUR Championship, and he finished 11th in the final FedExCup standings. Perez has one other win on the PGA TOUR, the 2009 CareerBuilder Challenge.

Perez' berth in the TOUR Championship was the first of his career, coming on the back of a T6 finish at the Dell Technologies Championship, his 400th start on the PGA TOUR. He began last season on a Major Medical Exemption, and his win at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba was good enough to earn full TOUR status.

This is Perez' fifth start in the CIMB Classic, his best finish coming in 2011 when he tied for ninth.

Perez' stats through 54 holes:

Stat	Ranking
Driving Accuracy	T17
Greens in Regulation	T4
Putts	T1

Third-Round Leader Statistics

The third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win five of seven previous editions of the CIMB Classic, with Justin Thomas accomplishing the feat most recently in 2015.

Perez' four-stroke lead over Schauffele ties Anirban Lahiri (2016) for the largest lead through 54 holes in tournament history; Lahiri went on to finish T3.

Brendan Steele won last week's Safeway Open for the second consecutive year trailing leader Tyler Duncan by two shots through 54 holes.

Xander Schauffele

Making his first start since becoming the first rookie to win the TOUR Championship, Xander Schauffele is in second place after the third round at the CIMB Classic, four shots back of Pat Perez' lead. Schauffele is looking to become

the first player since Jordan Spieth (2017 Travelers Championship, 2017 The Open Championship) to win back-to-back events on the PGA TOUR.

Schauffele's has held or shared the runner-up position through three rounds just one other time, at the recent TOUR Championship, where he was T2 through 54 holes and went on to win.

Schauffele was named PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year, as voted by his peers, after winning twice last season, including the FedExCup Playoffs finale, the TOUR Championship and The Greenbrier Classic. He finished inside the top 20 in three of four FedExCup Playoffs event and claimed top-five finishes at the U.S. Open and Sanderson Farms Championship, both T5s. His win at East Lake propelled him to a third-place finish in the final FedExCup standings.

Schauffele was born in La Jolla, California, but his mother is half Taiwanese (grew up in Japan) and his father is half French and German.

He is part of golf's high school Class of 2011 that includes, among others, Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas, Emiliano Grillo and Daniel Berger.

This is Schauffele's first start in the CIMB Classic.

Sung Kang

Sung Kang shot a 7-under 65 in third round of the CIMB Classic, good enough for solo third through 54 holes, five shots behind the leader, Pat Perez.

His T3 position through three rounds is his best since he led through 54 holes at the Shell Houston Open last season, where he finished runner-up. That finish was the best of Kang's PGA TOUR career, which has seen him record 7 top 10s in 113 starts.

Kang had his best season on the PGA TOUR last year, finishing 59th in the FedExCup. This is the Korean's second start at the CIMB Classic; he finished T21 last year.

Hideki Matsuyama

In his first action since the 2017 Presidents Cup at Liberty National Golf Club and first start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season, Japan's Hideki Matsuyama made five-consecutive birdies on the front nine and closed with three consecutive birdies in the third round to cap off a 9-under 63, that ties the low round of the week.

Matsuyama is making his fifth straight start at the CIMB Classic, his best finish coming last year when he was runner-up to Justin Thomas. He was also T5 in 2015.

The third-ranked player in the Official World Golf Ranking (the highest ranked player in the field), has won six times in the last 12 months on the global stage, including two World Golf Championships tournaments, as well as posting two top-5 finishes in the U.S. Open and PGA Championship last season.

Matsuyama also captured the Waste Management Phoenix Open last season, successfully defending his title – his strong play throughout the season made him the leader of the FedExCup standings entering the playoffs.

Miscellaneous Notes

Whee Kim made an ace at the 208-yard par-3 15th hole, the first of his PGA TOUR career and the second of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season. The hole in one earned Kim a BMW 740Le xDrive Hybrid, which was presented to him by Han Sang Yun, Managing Director/CEO of BMW Malaysia after the round. This is the fourth consecutive year that an ace has been recorded at the CIMB Classic (Kevin Na/8th/R3, Scott Brown/15th/R1, Westwood/11th/R2

Brendan Steele, coming off his second-straight win at the Safeway Open, is at 8 under through three rounds. Steele finished T26 in the CIMB Classic last year coming in off a victory.

After shooting a first-round 77, Englishman Paul Casey, No. 14 in the Official World Golf Ranking, improved by 14 shots in the second round with a 9-under 63. He continued his rebound in the third round, shooting a 3-under 69 to get to 7-under through 54 holes.

Justin Thomas, the 2016-17 PGA TOUR Player of the Year and FedExCup champion is at 6-under after a 69 where he overcame a double bogey at the par-5 fifth with an eagle at the par-4 16th. The two-time defending champion owns the lowest stroke average at this event (minimum of eight rounds), averaging 65.88 per round coming into 2017.

Indian player Anirban Lahiri, who held a four-shot lead through 54-holes at this event last year, had a bogey-free 64 today, to move into sixth place, nine shots behind the lead.

Greyson Murray made two eagles, on the par-5 fifth and the par-4 16th, to shoot a third-round 64, 18 shots better than his opening-round 82.

CIMB Classic and the FedExCup

CIMB Classic is a 72-hole stroke play event combining players from three official sanctioning bodies – the PGA TOUR, the Asian Tour and the Professional Golf Association of Malaysia (PGAM). The tournament, in its eighth year, brings together top players from the PGA TOUR's FedExCup standings, top players from the Asian Tour Order of Merit and top players from Malaysia. The tournament is held at TPC Kuala Lumpur and is the only official FedExCup event on the PGA TOUR to be held in Southeast Asia with PGA TOUR members receiving official FedExCup points as part of the 2017-2018 PGA TOUR season. This is the fifth year that FedExCup points will be awarded at the event.

The CIMB Classic is the second event of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season and is part of eight events during the fall of 2017, all of which will award FedExCup points. After a seven-week break, the season will resume in January with the traditional swing through Hawaii before moving to the West Coast. The FedExCup Playoffs once again features four events and concludes in September with the TOUR Championship and the crowning of the FedExCup champion.

In addition to 500 FedExCup points and a two-year PGA TOUR exemption, the winner this week (if not previously eligible) receives invitations to the 2018 Sentry Tournament of Champions, a winners-only event in January, along with two major championships (Masters Tournament and PGA Championship) and THE PLAYERS Championship. The player would also earn exemptions into six additional invitational events on the PGA TOUR.

Every week is significant in the race for the FedExCup – three of the seven winners from the fall calendar of 2016 (Justin Thomas, Hideki Matsuyama and Pat Perez) qualified for the TOUR Championship. The other four winners advanced through at least the second of four Playoffs events (Brendan Steele, Cody Gribble, Rod Pampling and Mackenzie Hughes).

Earlier this year in May, FedEx extended its contract as sponsor of the FedExCup by 10 years through 2027.

TPC Kuala Lumpur

In 2016, TPC Kuala Lumpur marked a milestone in the club's history with its successful acquisition of the licensing rights as Southeast Asia's first golf facility to join the PGA TOUR's prestigious Tournament Players Club (TPC) Network. TPC Kuala Lumpur joins the highly acclaimed network of golf courses affiliated with the PGA TOUR, most of which are based in the United States. As home of the CIMB Classic, TPC Kuala Lumpur will also hold the distinction of being Southeast Asia's first TPC-branded facility to ever host an official PGA TOUR event.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Cameron Smith (64), Poom Ssaksansin (65), Xander Schauffele (65), Gary Woodland (66), Pat Perez (66), Brendan Steele (67), C.T. Pan (70)

R2: Thomas Pieters (67), Adam Hadwin (67), Wesley Bryan (68), Robert Streb (70)

R3: Hideki Matsuyama (63), Anirban Lahiri (64), Keegan Bradley (65), Peter Uihlein (65), Chad Campbell (66), Lucas Glover (68), Gary Woodland (68)

Scoring Averages at the par-72 TPC Kuala Lumpur

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	34.859	36.091	70.950	
R2:	35.230	35.756	70.986	70.967
R3:	34.679	35.319	69.998	70.645