



2017 Hero World Challenge

Albany Golf Course
Albany, Bahamas

November 30-December 3, 2017
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,309

Purse: \$3,500,000

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, December 2, 2017

Weather: Partly cloudy and breezy. High of 82. Wind NE 10-15 mph, gusting to 20 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Charley Hoffman	69-63-70—202 (-14)
Justin Rose	68-68-71—207 (-9)
Jordan Spieth	68-67-72—207 (-9)
Francesco Molinari	69-68-71—208 (-8)

Charley Hoffman

After storming up the Hero World Challenge leaderboard with a second-round 9-under 63 to take a three-shot lead over Jordan Spieth and first-round leader Tommy Fleetwood, Charley Hoffman added a 2-under 70 Saturday to move to 14-under 202. He will enter the final round with a five-stroke cushion over Justin Rose and Spieth.

Hoffman, currently making his first start at the Hero World Challenge, leads the field with 23 birdies.

Hoffman has qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs all 11 seasons, with his worst showing a 69th place finish in the FedExCup in 2012. Most recently, the four-time PGA TOUR winner finished 20th in the standings following the 2016-17 season.

Hoffman's R3 statistics: 10/18 greens, 8/13 fairways, 1/1 sand save, 24 putts.

Hoffman has led/co-led following the third round four times on the PGA TOUR, most recently carrying that lead on to a runner-up finish at the 2017 RBC Canadian Open. He has never gone on to win after leading/co-leading after the third round.

Third-Round Leader Results at the Hero World Challenge

In 2016, eventual champion Hideki Matsuyama (at 19-under 197) held a commanding seven-stroke lead over Henrik Stenson and Dustin Johnson, tying Jordan Spieth (2014) for the largest 54-hole lead at the Hero World Challenge, with Spieth going on to a record 10-stroke win over Henrik Stenson in 2014.

The 54-hole leader/co-leader has won the World Challenge five times in the last 13 seasons (Tiger Woods/2007, Graeme McDowell/2012, Jordan Spieth/2014, Bubba Watson/2015, Hideki Matsuyama/2016).

Overall, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win eight times in 18 attempts (Tom Lehman/1999, Padraig Harrington/2002, Davis Love III/2003, Woods/2007, McDowell/2012, Spieth/2014, Watson/2015, Matsuyama/2016).

Tiger Woods

Host Tiger Woods (T10), the winner of 79 career PGA TOUR titles including 14 major championships, who is making his return to competitive this week at the Hero World Challenge, followed opening rounds of 68-68 with a 3-over 75 to fall to T10. He'll enter the final 18 holes trailing Charley Hoffman by 10 strokes.

A missed cut at the 2017 Farmers Insurance Open marks Woods' last start on the PGA TOUR. Before this week, his last round in a tournament was an opening-round 77 before withdrawing from the Omega Dubai Desert Classic (February 2).

Woods owns five victories (2001, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2011) and five runner-up finishes (most recent to Zach Johnson in 2013) in 15 prior Hero World Challenge starts. Last year, Woods led the field with 24 birdies en route to a 15th place finish.

Woods' R1 statistics: 12/18 greens, 7/13 fairways, 0/1 sand save, 28 putts.

Woods' R2 statistics: 12/18 greens, 9/13 fairways, 26 putts.

Woods' R3 statistics: 9/18 greens, 7/13 fairways, 1/2 sand saves, 28 putts.

Comparing Woods and his playing partners this week:

R1: Woods (69), Justin Thomas (69)

R2: Woods (68), Henrik Stenson (71)
R3: Woods (75), Hideki Matsuyama (72)

Additional Player Notes

2014 World Challenge champion Jordan Spieth (T2) opened with rounds of 68-67-72 and is currently five strokes behind Charley Hoffman. He won in 2014 by a record 10 strokes over Henrik Stenson with a tournament-record 26-under 262, becoming the first player to win the event in wire-to-wire fashion.

Albany resident Justin Rose posted a 1-under 71 to jump to T2, five strokes behind Charley Hoffman. He is making his fourth start at the Hero World Challenge (T6-2014, 13-2015, WD-2016), including a final-round, course-record 10-under 62 at Albany in 2015 to finish in 13th place.

Defending champion Hideki Matsuyama (T5) has rounds of 71-66-72 and will enter the final round of the Hero World Challenge seven strokes behind Charley Hoffman. He is attempting to join Tiger Woods (2006-07) as the only players to win the Hero World Challenge in back-to-back seasons. This week marks Matsuyama's fourth start at the Hero World Challenge (13/2014, T17/2015, 1/2016).

With rounds of 69-70-74, 2017 FedExCup champion and PGA TOUR Player of the Year Justin Thomas is currently in 12th place and trailing Hoffman by 11 shots.

Henrik Stenson (T16), with wife Emma serving as his caddie this week, recorded a third-round 2-over 74. In four prior starts at the Hero World Challenge, Stenson has never failed to finish inside the top five, including runner-up finishes in his last two starts (2014, 2016).

Miscellaneous Notes

Past Hero World Challenge winners: Jordan Spieth (T2), Hideki Matsuyama (T5) and five-time winner Tiger Woods (T10).

First-time participants: Charley Hoffman (1), Francesco Molinari (4), Tommy Fleetwood (T5), Kevin Chappell (T10), Justin Thomas (12), Alex Noren (T13), Kevin Kisner (15), Daniel Berger (T16).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Tommy Fleetwood (66), Matt Kuchar (67), Dustin Johnson (68)

R2 – None

R3 – None

Scoring Averages at the par-72 Albany Golf Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
Round 1	34.55	34.89	69.44	---
Round 2	34.55	34.88	69.43	---
Round 3	36.06	36.82	72.88	70.61