



# **2017 OHL Classic at Mayakoba** (7th of 45 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Playa del Carmen, Mexico

November 9-12, 2017

El Camaleón Golf Club at Mayakoba Resort

Purse: \$7,100,000

Par/Yards: 36-35—71/6,987

FexExCup Points: 500 (winner)

### Completed Second-Round Notes - Saturday, November 11, 2017

Weather. After heavy overnight rain, thunderstorms continued throughout the day. High of 83. Wind NE 7-15 mph, with gusts of 18 mph.

Round two was suspended Friday at 1:45 p.m. due to inclement weather and resumed at 4:00 p.m., a delay of 2 hours, 15 minutes. The round was suspended at 6:06 p.m. due to darkness and was scheduled to resume at 7:30 a.m. Due to continuous thunderstorms, the second round resumed at 1:40 p.m. with 57 remaining players completing the round at 4:02 p.m.

The third and fourth rounds will utilize preferred lies. There will be no re-pairing of groups between rounds three and four.

#### **Second-Round Leaderboard**

Patton Kizzire	62-70—132 (-10)
Patrick Rodgers	67-65—132 (-10)
Rickie Fowler	65-67—132 (-10)
Brian Gay	68-65—133 (-9)
Brandon Harkins	65-68—133 (-9)
John Oda	68-65—133 (-9)

After last year's second round, Gary Woodland led by a stroke over Webb Simpson at 13-under 129.

In the 10-year history of the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, five second-round leaders/co-leaders converted for the win. Most recently, Graeme McDowell (2015) achieved the feat.

#### Cut

The 36-hole cut was 1-under 141 with 79 players from a field of 132 professionals advancing to the final two rounds. The 36-hole cut came at 2-under 140 the last two years.

## **Patton Kizzire**

In just his second start at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (T58/2015), Patton Kizzire posted a career-low, 9-under 62 in the opening round. Following the first suspension of play on Friday due to thunderstorms, Kizzire immediately posted a double bogey at No. 1 (his 10<sup>th</sup> hole) after shooting even-par on his first nine. Three consecutive birdies at holes 3, 4 and 5, along with four closing pars resulted in a 1-under 70 immediately before play was suspended due to darkness Friday night. Rickie Fowler and Patrick Rodgers completed the second round on Saturday, matching Kizzire at 10-under.

In 62 previous career starts on the PGA TOUR, Kizzire had never held the lead/co-lead through 36 holes.

Kizzire is off to a solid start in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, having finished T10 at the Sanderson Farms Championship and T4 a week later in last week's Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

Kizzire claimed three top-10 finishes last season on the PGA TOUR, highlighted by a solo-second at the season-opening Safeway Open.

Kizzire has advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs both seasons he's been eligible. He finished No. 99 last season and No. 82 in the 2015-16 season. He currently sits No. 30 in the FedExCup standings.

Kizzire remains in search of his first career win on the PGA TOUR in his 63<sup>rd</sup> start this week. In 2015, Kizzire won twice on the Web.com Tour.

## **Patrick Rodgers**

Patrick Rodgers was 7-under for the round with three holes remaining when play was suspended due to darkness Friday evening. He had just posted his fourth consecutive birdie (Nos. 3-6) when play was halted. A par-bogey-par finish on Saturday dropped him into a share of the lead at 10-under.

This marks the second time Rodgers holds at least a share of the lead after 36 holes on the PGA TOUR. He was the solo leader through 36 holes at the 2017 John Deere Classic and finished runner-up to Bryson DeChambeau.

Rodgers seeks his first win in his 87<sup>th</sup> career start on TOUR. He's finished runner-up twice, most recently to Bryson DeChambeau at last season's John Deere Classic. He also finished T2 with Webb Simpson, seven strokes behind Rory McIlroy at the 2015 Wells Fargo Championship.

Rodgers has been steady in three previous appearances at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. Despite missing the cut in last year's event, in the 12 rounds he has completed at El Camaleon GC Rodgers has a scoring average of 68.75 and has posted just one round above par (72/+1/R1/2017). Rodgers finished T10 at this event in 2015 and T37 in his first appearance in 2014.

Rodgers has advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs both seasons he's been eligible. He finished No. 78 last season and No. 74 in the 2015-16 season. He currently sits No. 71 in the FedExCup standings.

Rodgers came into this event off a missed cut at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in his fourth start of the season. He opened the season with a T43 at the Safeway Open, was T23 at the CIMB Classic and T33 at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES.

Rodgers is a former Stanford standout who equaled the all-time school record for wins held by Tiger Woods (11). He broke Woods' all-time scoring average record, finishing with a career scoring average of 70.96. Among the honors he received in 2013 were the Ben Hogan Award, Jack Nicklaus Award and Fred Haskins Award.

#### **Rickie Fowler**

Making his first start in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba and of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, four-time PGA TOUR winner Rickie Fowler sits in a three-way tie for the lead at 10-under after rounds of 65-67.

This marks the seventh time Fowler has at least a share of the 36-hole lead on the PGA TOUR. Of the six previous, he has never gone on to win. His most recent 36-hole lead was at THE NORTHERN TRUST last season, where he finished T20.

Fowler is coming off a solid 2016-17 PGA TOUR Season, highlighted by 10 top-10 finishes in 21 starts. Early in the season, he claimed his fourth career TOUR title at The Honda Classic.

Four players have won the OHL Classic at Mayakoba in their first start in the event; Johnson Wagner (2011), John Huh (2012) Harris English (2013) and Fred Funk (2007, inaugural event).

Fowler has advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs in all eight seasons he has been eligible. Of those eight, he's reached the season-finale TOUR Championship four times.

With a solo-seventh or better this week, Fowler will surpass \$30 million in career earnings.

Fowler is one of eight players in this week's field who competed in the 2017 Presidents Cup.

## **Brian Gay**

Brian Gay, who won the 2008 OHL Classic at Mayakoba for his first of four PGA TOUR victories, hit 13 of 18 greens and was a perfect 5 of 5 in scrambling to post a bogey-free 6-under 65 following his opening-round 68.

Gay, who will celebrate his 46<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 14, is making his 522<sup>nd</sup> career start. In three starts this season, he owns two missed cuts (Safeway Open, Shriners Hospitals for Children Open) and a T18 at the Sanderson Farms Championship.

At 45, Gay would be the second-oldest winner of the OHL Classic at Mayakoba if he were to go on to victory. Fred Funk won the inaugural event aged 50 in 2007. In 10 editions of the tournament, only two winners have been under the age of 30 (2012/John Huh/21, 2013/Harris English/24).

This marks Gay's eighth appearance in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba, an event in which he has never missed the cut. Along with his 2008 victory, Gay's best results here are a T5 in 2011 and T20 in 2009.

Gay's 65 Friday matched the 65 he recorded in the opening round of the inaugural event in 2007. He's shot lower rounds twice at El Camaleon – his third-round 62 in 2008 and his final-round 64 in last year's tournament.

Gay began last season on a Major Medical Extension with 14 available events to earn 309 FedExCup points or \$461,851 to remain exempt for the rest of the season. With back-to-back T6 finishes at the RBC Heritage and Valero Texas Open in his 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> respective starts, he fulfilled the requirements of his Extension and went on to advance to the FedExCup Playoffs for the eighth time in his career and the first since 2013. He ended his season No. 112 in the FedExCup.

#### **Brandon Harkins**

PGA TOUR rookie Brandon Harkins birdied the last three holes of the front nine to make the turn 9-under and tied for the lead at that point. With a birdie at No. 13, he led alone at 10-under before trading bogeys and birdies over the final six holes to shoot 68 and finish at 9-under 133.

In his short PGA TOUR career, this marks the second time Harkins (65-68) has posted consecutive rounds in the 60s. He shot 69-68 on the weekend at the Safeway Open to begin this season.

Harkins hit 29 of 36 greens in regulation through 36 holes (R1/15 of 18, R2/14 of 18).

Harkins made his way to the PGA TOUR this season after collecting four top-10 finishes in 25 starts on the Web.com Tour. Among those was a runner-up result at the Ellie Mae Classic which moved him into the top 25 on the Regular Season money list with three events remaining. He eventually placed 21<sup>st</sup> on the 2017 Web.com Tour Regular Season money list to earn his PGA TOUR card.

Harkins is making his fourth start of his rookie season this week, having finished inside the top 10 at the Safeway Open (T9) and inside the top-20 at last week's Shriners Hospitals for Children Open (T20). He missed the cut at the Sanderson Farms Championship. In his only other TOUR start – the 2016 U.S. Open – Harkins finished T59.

In the Web.com Tour's Mexico Championship this year, played at El Bosque CC in April, Harkins missed the cut with rounds of 78-73.

Harkins, a California native now living in Scottsdale, Arizona, graduated from California State University-Chico in 2010. He took a year off between high school and college to travel abroad in Australia and New Zealand on his own.

#### John Oda

John Oda, a sponsor exemption playing his first PGA TOUR event as a professional, was in the final group with 10 holes remaining when play was suspended due to darkness Friday. After resuming the round Saturday with a bogey at No. 18, Oda, from Honolulu, Hawaii reeled off four consecutive birdies (Nos. 3-6) to reach 9-under through 36-holes.

Oda played three PGA TOUR events as an amateur. He shot 6-under 66 to lead the Monday qualifiers for the 2017 Sony Open in Hawaii before missing the cut with rounds of 70-69. He also missed the cut in the U.S. Open at Erin Hills this year. The junior at UNLV was an honorable mention All-American for the Rebels last season. In his only other PGA TOUR start, he played in the 2012 Sony Open in Hawaii, missing the cut with a pair of 73s.

## **Miscellaneous Notes**

Martin Piller sat 8-under through 27 holes when play was suspended Friday due to darkness. He played his remaining nine holes in even-par Saturday to sit solo-seventh through 36 holes. Piller has failed to make the cut in two previous starts in the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (2016, 2011). Piller owns two top-10 results in 51 starts on the PGA TOUR, both coming in his home state of Texas in 2016 (T4/Valero Texas Open, T6/DEAN & DELUCA Invitational).

Defending champion Pat Perez (T64) made the cut on the number. The only defending champion to miss the cut at this event was Charley Hoffman in 2015. The best performance by a defending champion was 12<sup>th</sup> by Cameron Beckman, the year after his 2010 victory. Brandt Snedeker was the last player to win after making the cut on the number – at the 2016 Farmers Insurance Open.

There are seven past champions in the field this week: Pat Perez/2016 (T64), Graeme McDowell/2015 (T42), Charley Hoffman/2014 (MC), Harris English/2013 (MC), John Huh/2012 (T64), Johnson Wagner/2011 (T42), Mark Wilson/2009 (MC) and Brian Gay/2008 (T4). Only Fred Funk (2007) and Cameron Beckman (2010) are missing.

Chris Stroud (MC) is the only player to compete in each of the 10 nine OHL Classic at Mayakoba events. His three top-5 finishes in the event came consecutively in 2011 (4<sup>th</sup>), 2012 (T5) and 2006 (T3).

Si Woo Kim (T8), the youngest winner of THE PLAYERS last season, posted a bogey-free 3-under 68 to move inside the top 10. In 2015, Kim sat T3 through 36 holes at this event after rounds of 68-64 but weekend rounds of 72-70 saw him finish T17. Kim withdrew from this event before the opening round last year.

Oscar Fraustro, one of five Mexican players in the field this week, began the second round from No. 10 with a birdie-birdie-eagle start, eventually shooting 5-under 66. Through 36 holes, Fraustro (T8) is the leading player from Mexico at 7-under and shares the best result of any Mexican players in the history of this event with Carlos Ortiz when the pair finished T9 in 2014. Here's a look at this week's performances of other players from Mexico; Roberto Diaz (T10), Carlos Ortiz (T32), Abraham Ancer (T52) and Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (MC).

Victor Regalado and Cesar Sanudo are the only native Mexican golfers to win on the PGA TOUR.

In 2007, the OHL Classic at Mayakoba was the first PGA TOUR co-sanctioned event to be contested outside of the United States and Canada.

Beau Hossler (T10), playing his 16<sup>th</sup> TOUR event, is seeking his third consecutive top-10 finish after a T10 at the Sanderson Farms Championship and a T7 at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, despite final-round 73s in both events.

Alex Cejka (T10), who turns 48 in less than three weeks, is in contention again after losing a three-man playoff at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open last week. Two weeks ago, Cejka was disqualified from the Sanderson Farms Championship for holing a tap-in putt on his final hole of the second round after the siren had sounded for a suspension of play due to a dangerous weather situation.

Jonathan Byrd (T42), who regained his PGA TOUR card with a win at the 2017 Web.com Tour Championship, holed a 135-yard pitching wedge for a hole-in-one at No. 8. It marked the second ace of the week following Keith Mitchell's ace on his opening hole (No. 10) Thursday to begin the tournament. Byrd's ace is the ninth in tournament history and the fifth of his PGA TOUR career. His 2010 ace in Las Vegas was the first-ever playoff hole-in-one to secure victory.

## PGA TOUR aces by Jonathan Byrd

2006 Deutsche Bank Championship

2010 Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

2014 Travelers Championship

2015 Valspar Championship

2017 OHL Classic at Mayakoba

Marty Dou, David Lingmerth, Ernie Els and Andrew Landry withdrew before Saturday's resumption of round two.

#### Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Vaughn Taylor (64), Rickie Fowler (65), Patrick Rodgers (67), Ben Silverman (68), Brian Stuard (69), Richy Werenski (69).

R2: Brian Gay (65), Roberto Diaz (65), Denny McCarthy (65), Alex Cejka (67), Matt Jones (67), Emiliano Grillo (67), Kevin Streelman (68), Si Woo Kim (68), Brice Garnett (68), Ryan Armour (69).

A.M. Scoring Average: R1/69.98 R2/70.00 P.M. Scoring Average: R1/70.71 R2/71.03

Scoring Averages at the par-71 El Camaleón Golf Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.341	35.008	70.348	
R2:	35.409	35.094	70.504	70.425

For OHL Classic at Mayakoba transcripts please visit: http://tee-scripts.com/