



2017 Sanderson Farms Championship

(The fifth of 45 events in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season)

Jackson, Miss.
CC of Jackson

October 23-29, 2017
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,421

FedExCup Points: 300/winner
Purse: \$4,300,000 (\$774,000/winner)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, October 26, 2017

Weather: Sunny, with a high of 80. Wind S 8-14 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Ryan Armour	66 (-6)
Wyndham Clark	66 (-6)
Andrew Landry	66 (-6)
Conrad Shindler	66 (-6)
J.J. Spaun	66 (-6)

Ryan Armour

With birdies on his last two holes, Ryan Armour opened with a 6-under 66, his lowest opening-round score on the PGA TOUR in relation to par since a 5-under 67 in last year's Sanderson Farms Championship. He followed it with a 5-over 77 in round two to miss the cut.

Armour has never been higher than T7 after 18 holes on the PGA TOUR before this week.

Armour hit 10 of 14 fairways in regulation and 16 of 18 greens.

Last year, Kevin Streelman opened with a 9-under 63 to lead by two strokes. He finished T18.

The course record at the Country Club of Jackson belongs to Roberto Castro, who posted a 10-under 62 in round one of 2015 en route to a T4 finish.

Since 2000, four players have converted a first-round lead into victory at the Sanderson Farms Championship; Bill Haas (2010), D.J. Trahan (2006), John Huston (2003) and Steve Lowery (2000).

Armour, who joined the PGA TOUR in 2007, made a return this year by virtue of his 11th-place finish on last year's Web.com Tour priority list. On that Tour last year, he finished solo-second at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship in the Web.com Tour Finals.

Armour, who has bounced between the PGA TOUR and Web.com Tour for the last decade, did not make a start on the PGA TOUR from 2011-2014.

Armour is making his fifth start in the Sanderson Farms Championship, having never made a cut. His 5-under 67 in last year's opening round marked his only sub-par score in the event before round one of this year.

Armour is making his 105th career start on TOUR this week, with a solo-fourth-place showing at the 2007 OHL Classic at Mayakoba his best showing. He finished T4 at the Wyndham Championship earlier this year, thanks to a 9-under 61 in round two. On the Web.com Tour, Armour won the 2016 Panama Claro Championship.

Andrew Landry

Andrew Landry's birdie-birdie-birdie-birdie-eagle starts (Nos. 10-14) ties the record for best score in relation to par to start an event in the ShotLink era (Brandt Snedeker/2007 Farmers Insurance Open). After making the turn in 7-under 29, Landry would finish with a 6-under 66. He played his inward nine in 1-over-par.

Landry sank 67' 2" of putts on his first nine holes (Nos. 10-18) and just 15' 8" on Nos. 1-9, for a total of 82' 10". He needed just nine putts on his first hole holes, versus 17 on his inward nine.

Landry made his way to the PGA TOUR this season after finishing fourth on the 2017 Web.com Tour priority list. Among his eight top-10 finishes on last season's Web.com Tour was a win at The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic, a second-place finish and two third-place showings.

Landry, a three-time All-American at the University of Arkansas, finished T7 at the Safeway Open three weeks ago following four sub-par scores. He made an eagle-three at the 72nd hole to claim the top-10 finish. This is his 21st career start on the PGA TOUR.

Conrad Shindler

PGA TOUR rookie Conrad Shindler made five birdies and an eagle-3 at No. 3 to open with a 6-under 66. Beginning on No. 10, he followed a bogey at No. 18 with a 5-under-through-five stretch on Nos. 1-5.

Shindler, a 29-year-old Texas A&M grad, is making just his fourth start on TOUR this week. He missed the cut at the 2013 Valero Texas Open, finished T75 at the 2016 AT&T Byron Nelson and missed the cut at the Safeway Open three weeks ago. On the Web.com Tour last season, Shindler claimed nine top-25 finishes, four of which were top-10 showings. He finished the season ranked 30th on the Web.com Tour priority list.

Shindler also made 16 starts on the 2016 Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada.

Two of the last three winners of the Sanderson Farms Championship have been rookies (Nick Taylor/2014, Cody Gribble/2016).

J.J. Spaun

PGA TOUR sophomore J.J. Spaun made seven birdies and one bogey en route to a 6-under 66. In his first start at the Sanderson Farms Championship last year, he opened with a 4-over 76 and missed the cut.

With five putts made from outside eight feet, Spaun drained a total of 77' 3" of putts on his inward nine alone (103' 11" total).

In 32 TOUR starts before this week, his best 18-hole position was T5 at the 2017 Puerto Rico Open (T17).

Spaun collected three top-10 finishes in his rookie season on TOUR last season and advanced through the first two of four FedExCup Playoffs events, before ending his season at No. 97 in the FedExCup standings.

Wyndham Clark

Sponsor invite Wyndham Clark reeled off five birdies in a row on Nos. 11-15 en route to a 6-under 66. He made an eagle-3 at No. 5, with his only two bogeys coming at Nos. 8 and 9, both par fours. After hitting his approach into No. 18 to within seven feet, he converted for the birdie and 66.

Clark is making his sixth start on the PGA TOUR, with his only made cut coming at the 2017 Quicken Loans National (T51).

Clark is a 2017 University of Oregon graduate, where he won the individual title of the Pac-12 Championship in April.

Peter Malnati

2015 Sanderson Farms Championship winner Peter Malnati made seven birdies and two bogeys in round one, good for a 5-under 67. En route to his victory in Jackson two years ago, Malnati opened with a 3-under 69 (T42).

Since his 2015 win, his lone TOUR victory, Malnati has collected just two top-10 finishes (2015 OHL Classic at Mayakoba/T10 and 2016 Sentry Tournament of Champions/T6.)

In defense of his 2015 title, Malnati finished T68 in last year's Sanderson Farms Championship.

Jonathan Randolph

After opening with three straight birdies, University of Mississippi grad Jonathan Randolph opened with a 3-under 69. His only two blemishes came at the par-4 15th (bogey) and par-4 16th (double bogey).

Randolph, a native of nearby Brandon, Miss., is making his eighth consecutive start in the Sanderson Farms Championship, with a T14 his best finish. This is his 54th career start on TOUR, with a T8 at the 2017 Wells Fargo Championship his best showing.

The first round of the Sanderson Farms Championship has been good to Randolph. With the exception of a 4-over 76 in 2010, he has opened the event with a sub-par score. After today's 69, he is now 21-under-par in the first round alone.

Randolph made his way to this season's PGA TOUR by virtue of his 17th-place finish on the 2017 Web.com Tour priority list.

Miscellaneous

Defending Sanderson Farms champion Cody Gribble struggled in round one, opening with a 3-over 75. After last year's first round, he was 10 strokes back at 1-over 73.

With his 1-under 71, Dru Love bettered the score of Davis Love III, his father, by a stroke. It marks the first time (six events) that the younger Love has posted a lower score than his father when competing in the same event.

There are six former Sanderson Farms Championship winners in the field: Cody Gribble/2016 (75), Peter Malnati/2015 (67), Scott Stallings/2012 (71), Chris Kirk/2011 (70), D.J. Trahan/2006 (71) and Heath Slocum/2005 (76).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Derek Fathauer (67), Chesson Hadley (68), Beau Hossler (69), Sam Burns (69), Johnson Wagner (69), Greg Chalmers (69).

Scoring averages at the par-72 Country Club of Jackson:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.538	36.053	71.591	

