



2018 Sentry Tournament of Champions
(9th of 48 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Kapalua, Maui, HI **January 4-7, 2018**
The Plantation Course at Kapalua Resort

Purse: \$6,300,000 (\$1,260,000)
Par/Yards: 36-37—73/7,452

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, January 6, 2018

Weather

Partly cloudy and breezy. High of 77. Wind ENE at 15-25 mph, gusts to 30 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Dustin Johnson	69-68-66—203 (-16)
Brian Harman	68-68-69—205 (-14)
Jon Rahm	71-70-66—207 (-12)
Rickie Fowler	69-71-68—208 (-11)
Jason Dufner	71-68-69—208 (-11)

Dustin Johnson

Dustin Johnson, 2013 Sentry Tournament of Champions winner, followed up rounds of 69 and 68 with a third-round 66 and has a two-shot lead over second-round leader Brian Harman. Johnson's round was highlighted by a hole-out for eagle from 72 yards on the par-4 12th after a drive of 359 yards. The eagle was the seventh of his career at The Plantation Course at Kapalua, putting him just one behind Ernie Els, who recorded eight.

Johnson, 33, has won at least one PGA TOUR event in 10 consecutive seasons, dating back to his rookie season in 2008, the longest active streak on TOUR, and will look to continue the streak on Sunday. A win at the Sentry Tournament of Champions would be his 17th on TOUR.

In seven previous starts at the Sentry Tournament of Champions, Johnson has five top 10s, including his win at the 2013 event that was shortened to 54 holes due to weather and a T6 finish in 2017. Coming into the week, his career stroke average of 69.30 at the event was good enough for T12 on the all-time list (minimum of eight rounds), and he is ninth in all-time earnings.

He is making his second start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, finishing T2 at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions last fall after shooting a closing-round 77.

Johnson won a career-best four times in the 2016-17 season, including three tournaments in a row – Genesis Open, WGC-Mexico Championship and WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play. His win at the Dell Technologies Match Play also made him the first player to win each of the four World Golf Championships events, completing the 'WGC Slam'. Johnson's five WGC victories are the HSBC Champions (2013), the Mexico Championship (2015), the Bridgestone Invitational (2016), the Mexico Championship (2017) and Dell Technologies Match Play (2017).

Strokes-Gained stats through three rounds:

Stat	Ranking
Strokes Gained: Off the Tee	1
Strokes Gained: Tee to Green	1
Strokes Gained: Approach the Green	6
Strokes Gained: Around the Green	3
Strokes Gained: Putting	10

At 325.5 yards, Johnson leads the field in driving distance. With three drives of 400-plus yards this week, Johnson trails the leaders in 400-plus yard drives, Kevin Chappell and Hideki Matsuyama, by two.

This is Johnson's 14th lead/co-lead through 54 holes on the PGA TOUR, converting seven to victory, most recently at the Genesis Open in 2017. Johnson led the WGC-HSBC Champions by six shots going into the final round and finished T2 behind winner Justin Rose.

Third-Round Leader Notes

The third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to five of the first eight events of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season, most recently accomplished by Austin Cook at The RSM Classic.

The third-round leader has gone on to victory 24 of 32 times in tournament history, most recently by Justin Thomas last year, who was 18-under and held a two-shot lead over Hideki Matsuyama through 54 holes.

Brian Harman

Lefty Brian Harman, who won the Wells Fargo Championship in 2017 to qualify for his second Sentry Tournament of Champions, trails Dustin Johnson by two shots through 54 holes at The Plantation Course at Kapalua.

Harman's round was highlighted by an eagle at the par-5 fifth hole. After being a perfect seven for seven in scrambling through the first two rounds, was two for four in the third round, but still leads the field in that category.

Harman is off to a consistent start in 2017-18, with three top-10s and two top-fives in three starts. The 2016-17 PGA TOUR Season was the best of Harman's career, recording seven top-10s in 30 starts on his way to an 18th-place finish in the FedExCup.

In his two victories, Harman led through 54 holes at the 2014 John Deere Classic and was T4 going into the final round of the 2017 Wells Fargo Championship.

Jon Rahm

Jon Rahm shot a bogey-free 66 in the third round of the Sentry Tournament of Champions and is third, four shots behind the leader, Dustin Johnson, heading into the final round.

This week is his Sentry Tournament of Champions debut after winning the Farmers Insurance Open in 2017, his first career victory. Rahm showed consistency throughout the season and finished fifth in the final FedExCup standings in the 2016-17 season.

With a win on Sunday, Rahm would join Daniel Chopra (2008) and Sergio Garcia (2002) as the only players to win in their first start since the event moved to Kapalua in 1999.

Rahm's only better position through three rounds on the PGA TOUR was when he was T2 at the 2017 Wells Fargo Championship; He was solo third through 54 holes at The National in 2016. He finished fourth and T3 in those events, respectively.

Additional Player Notes

Defending champion, and reigning FedExCup champion, Justin Thomas opened with rounds of 71-75-75 and is 30th at the midway point of the Sentry Tournament of Champions. This is Thomas' first start since winning THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES. A year ago, Thomas held the third-round lead by two shots over Hideki Matsuyama.

Rickie Fowler, looking for his first victory since last year's The Honda Classic, shot a bogey-free 68 in the third round and is T4, five shots off the lead. Fowler won the unofficial Hero World Challenge in December and finished runner-up in his only start so far in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba.

Patton Kizzire, who won the OHL Classic at Mayakoba and currently leads the FedExCup standings, sits T17 through three rounds at the Sentry Tournament of Champions.

Miscellaneous Notes

Ten of the 11 winners of the Sentry Tournament of Champions in the FedExCup era (2007-present) have qualified for the FedExCup finale, the TOUR Championship. The lone exception was Daniel Chopra in 2008.

The 34 players in the field have accounted for 100 PGA TOUR wins, led by Dustin Johnson's 16 career wins, including his four wins in the 2017 calendar year at the Genesis Open, World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship, WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play and THE NORTHERN TRUST. He is followed by Jordan Spieth (11), Justin Thomas (7), Jason Dufner (5) and Hideki Matsuyama (5).

There are 14 first-time winners in the field – Ryan Armour, Wesley Bryan, Patrick Cantlay, Kevin Chappell, Austin Cook, Bryson DeChambeau, Adam Hadwin, Patton Kizzire, Grayson Murray, Jon Rahm, Xander Schauffele, Cameron Smith, Chris Stroud and Hudson Swafford.

There are three past champions of the Sentry Tournament of Champions in the field this week: Thomas (2017), Spieth (2016) and Johnson (2013).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Brian Harman (68), Ryan Armour (71)

R2: Marc Leishman (69)

R3: Jon Rahm (66), Rickie Fowler (68)

Scoring Averages at the par-73 The Plantation Course:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.529	36.382	71.912	---
R2:	35.059	35.912	70.971	71.441
R3:	35.206	36.206	71.412	71.431

Toughest/Easiest

R1: toughest (par-3 eighth – 3.265); easiest (par-5 fifth – 4.382)

R2: toughest (par-3 11th – 3.294); easiest (par-4 18th – 4.381)

R3: toughest (par-4 10th – 4.412); easiest (par-5 fifth – 4.235)