



**2017 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open**  
*(6<sup>th</sup> of 45 events in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season)*

**Las Vegas, Nevada**  
**TPC Summerlin**

**November 2-5, 2017**  
**Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,255**

**Purse: \$6,800,000**

**Third-Round Notes – Saturday, November 4, 2017**

*Weather: Mostly sunny, with a high of 71. Wind SSW 15-25 mph, gusting to 35 mph.*

*Of the 78 players competing in round three, only 22 posted sub-par scores.*

**Third-Round Leaders**

J.J. Spaun	66-65-73—204 (-9)
Beau Hossler	69-69-66—204 (-9)
Tony Finau	69-69-69—207 (-6)

The lead of 9-under 204 is the highest lead by six strokes since the tournament went to one course in 2008.

**J.J. Spaun**

At the wind-swept TPC Summerlin, 36-hole leader J.J. Spaun made four bogeys and two birdies en route to a 73. He made a clutch 10-foot par at the last to retain a share of the lead.

Prior to this week, Spaun's only previous lead after any round came last week, opening with a 6-under 66 as part of a five-way tie for the lead at the Sanderson Farms Championship. He went on to finish T34.

A win for Spaun tomorrow would come at the age of 27 years, 2 months, 29 days. Since 1995, there have been 10 winners of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in their 20s, tied with the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by MasterCard for second most for a tournament during this time frame. The BMW Championship has yielded 11 winners under the age of 30.

Spaun is making his third start of the 2017-18 season, missing the cut at the season-opening Safeway Open and finishing T34 at the Sanderson Farms Championship. This marks his 35<sup>th</sup> career start on the PGA TOUR.

Spaun is coming off a 97<sup>th</sup> place finish in the FedExCup during his rookie season, led by top-10 finishes at the Waste Management Phoenix Open (T4), RBC Heritage (T6) and Farmers Insurance Open (T9).

Jim Furyk (1995) and Tiger Woods (1996) both own their maiden PGA TOUR titles at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. Since Woods won in 1996, 10 players have posted their first career PGA TOUR victory in Las Vegas: Phil Taturangi (2002), Andre Stolz (2004), Wes Short Jr. (2005), Troy Matteson (2006), George McNeill (2007), Marc Turnesa (2008), Martin Laird (2009), Kevin Na (2011), Ben Martin (2014) and Smylie Kaufman (2015).

Spaun posted rounds of 70-72 to miss the cut at the 2016 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

**Beau Hossler**

Mission Viego, Calif. native Beau Hossler birdied his last hole to post a bogey-free, 5-under 66, the low round of the day, to move to 9-under 204. He was one of just four players to play round three without a bogey or worse.

In 10 starts as a professional, this marks Hossler's first time atop of the leaderboard after any round, but third time of being inside the top three after a round. He was T3 after round one of the 2017 Farmers Insurance Open (T49) and T3 after round three of last week's Sanderson Farms Championship (T10).

Hossler, a first-year PGA TOUR member, does not qualify as a rookie, as he made more than seven starts on the TOUR in the 2016-17 season (eight).

Hossler is making his third start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season and is coming off a T10 at last week's Sanderson Farms Championship, his first top-10 in 14 starts. As an amateur, he competed in the 2012 and 2015 U.S. Open, finishing T29 and T58, respectively.

On the Web.com Tour last season, he finished solo-second in two of his first four starts, en route to a 48<sup>th</sup>-place finish on the Web.com Tour priority rank.

### **Third-Round Lead Notes**

The 54-hole leader/co-leader has gone on to win seven of the last 10 Shriners Hospitals for Children Opens: Rod Pampling (2016), Ben Martin (2014), Webb Simpson (2013), Ryan Moore (2012), Kevin Na (2011), Marc Turnesa (2008) and George McNeill (2007).

So far during the 2017-18 season, Pat Perez (CIMB Classic), Justin Thomas (THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES) and Ryan Armour (Sanderson Farms Championship) converted a 54-hole lead/co-lead into victory.

### **Tony Finau**

For the third straight day, Tony Finau posted a 2-under 69. In round three, he overcame a bogey at the first hole with an eagle-three at No. 9. Another bogey at the par-4 12<sup>th</sup> was offset by birdies at Nos. 13 and 15.

Despite swirling wind conditions, Finau managed to his 17 of 18 greens in regulation in round three and ranks third in Strokes Gained: Approach the Green (6.504).

Finau is making his fourth-consecutive start in the Shriners Hospitals Open, where he has now posted a sub-par score in 12 of 15 rounds. In his first start of 2014, he finished T7. In 2015, he took home T16 honors and was T41 last season.

Finau is the winner of the 2016 Puerto Rico Open.

### **Additional Player Notes**

1999 UNLV grad Charley Hoffman posted a second-consecutive, even-par 71 to get to 3-under 201 through 54 holes in his hometown event. Hoffman announced earlier this week that he would be donating his entire paycheck this week to the Direct Impact Fund via PGA TOUR Charities to aid in the relief efforts of last month's Las Vegas shooting.

Hoffman is making his 13<sup>th</sup> start in the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, where he has collected three top-10 finishes; 4<sup>th</sup>/2014, 6<sup>th</sup>/2009 and T5/2006. He had missed the cut in his previous three starts at TPC Summerlin.

Through 54 holes, defending Shriners Hospitals for Children Open champion Rod Pampling is at 2-over 215 (70-73-72). The only player to win the event in back-to-back years is Jim Furyk (1998, 1999).

Making his PGA TOUR debut this week and playing on a sponsor invite, Las Vegas native A.J. McInerney posted a third-round 1-under 70 to get to 2-under 211. In attendance at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival the night of the Las Vegas shooting a month ago, the former UNLV golfer shielded his girlfriend from danger as bullets flew overhead. Later, after evacuating the premises, he returned in his truck to help others evacuate.

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Each winner of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open since 2009 made a start this week: Ryan Moore/2012 (-2), Webb Simpson/2013 (-1), Rod Pampling/2016 (+2), Jonathan Byrd/2010 (MC), Ben Martin/2014 (MC), Martin Laird/2009 (MC), Smylie Kaufman/2015 (MC), Kevin Na/2011 (WD).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Whee Kim (65), Alex Cejka (66), Peter Malnati (67), Rod Pampling (70).

R2: Kelly Kraft (65), Aaron Baddeley (66).

R3: Beau Hossler (66), Tom Hoge (67), Scott Piercy (68), Byeong Hun An (69).

Scoring Averages at the par-71 TPC Summerlin:

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	35.347	35.826	71.174	---
R2:	35.532	36.752	72.284	71.729
R3:	36.064	36.128	72.192	71.883

In round three, the par-3 eighth hole played the toughest (3.308) and the par-5 13<sup>th</sup> was the easiest (4.667).