



# 2018 Sony Open in Hawaii

(10th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Honolulu, HI January 11-14, 2018 Purse: \$6,200,000 (\$1,116,000)
Waialae Country Club Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,044 500 FedExCup points to winner

# Second-Round Notes - Friday, January 12, 2018

#### Weather

Partly cloudy. High of 84. Wind W 4-8 mph.

Cut: 76 professionals at 2-under 138 from a field of 143 professionals and one amateur.

## First-Round Leaderboard

64-63—127 (-13)
63-67—130 (-10)
66-64—130 (-10)
65-65—130 (-10)
63-67—130 (-10)
64-66—130 (-10)

#### **Brian Harman**

Brian Harman opened with rounds of 64-63 at the Sony Open in Hawaii, good enough for a three-shot lead over five players. His position through two rounds marks a TOUR-leading 12<sup>th</sup> time inside of the top-10 after any round this season. His score of 13-under 127 is the lowest first 36 holes on TOUR this season, besting the previousbest of 128 by Austin Cook at the RSM Classic, which he would go on to win. Last year, winner Justin Thomas opened with 123 on his way to breaking the PGA TOUR scoring record, finishing at 253.

Harman's score of 13 under through two rounds is his best 36-hole score in relation to par in his PGA TOUR career.

Harman's best scores through 36 holes in relation to par:

Event	Score	Finish
2018 Sony Open in Hawaii	-13	TBD
2017 CareerBuilder Challenge	-12	T3
2015 RBC Canadian Open	-12	T34
2012 John Deere Classic	-12	T19

This is Harman's third lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR through two rounds, and second in a row. He has yet to convert a 36-hole lead to victory, finishing T2 at the 2017 U.S. Open and solo third at last week's Sentry Tournament of Champions.

Harman entered the final round of last week's Sentry Tournament of Champions two shots behind eventual winner Dustin Johnson, finishing solo third. He has four top-10s and three top-five finishes in four starts this season.

Since the beginning of the 2012 season, Brian Harman has more starts on the PGA TOUR than any other player heading into this week.

Starts since the beginning of the 2012 PGA TOUR Season:

Player	Number of Starts
Brian Harman	185
John Huh	176
David Hearn	174
Ricky Barnes	173
William McGirt	172
Brendon do Jonge	170
Harris English	169

Daniel Summerhays 169

JJ Henry\* 168

Charles Howell III\* 167

R2 at a glance: 10 of 14 fairways, 14 of 18 greens, three of four scrambling, 26 putts.

#### **Second-Round Leader Statistics**

Two out of the last five 36-hole leaders have gone on to win the Sony Open in Hawaii, and five out of the last 10, most recently by Justin Thomas last year.

The second-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win four of the first nine events of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, most recently accomplished by Austin Cook at The RSM Classic.

#### **Chris Kirk**

First-round co-leader Chris Kirk carded a 67 a day after he shot a bogey-free 7-under and is three behind leader Brian Harman.

Kirk is making his eighth start at the Sony Open in Hawaii, with back-to-back top-five finishes in 2013 (T5) and 2014 (2). He has missed the cut in his last two starts at this event (2016, 2017).

This week marks Kirk's sixth start of the season, with a T4 at The RSM Classic his best outing.

Kirk has finished inside the top 100 in the FedExCup standings each season since his rookie year in 2011, led by a second-place finish in 2014. He is currently No. 50 in the standings.

#### **Zach Johnson**

2009 Sony Open in Hawaii champion Zach Johnson is three back of the lead after a second-round 67 after an opening-round 63 that saw him share the lead with Chris Kirk. Johnson is seeking his 13<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR win and first since winning the 2015 Open Championship at St. Andrews.

Johnson has par-or-better scores in 18 of his last 19 rounds at the Sony Open in Hawaii.

Johnson is making his 13<sup>th</sup> start at Waialae Country Club, with top-10 finishes in 2009 (won), 2014 (T8), 2016 (T9) and 2017 (T6). His best round at the Sony Open in Hawaii is a second-round 9-under 61 in 2017 (T6).

Johnson has finished inside the top-25 in all three of his starts this season: Safeway Open (T13), OHL Classic at Mayakoba (T23), The RSM Classic (T8).

With the exception of 2008 (No. 131), Johnson has finished no worse than No. 57 in the FedExCup standings dating to its inception in 2007.

#### **Additional Player notes**

Defending champion Justin Thomas turned in his second 67 and is T17 through two rounds. A year ago, Thomas won the Sony Open in Hawaii by eight shots and set the PGA TOUR scoring record with 253. He is hoping to become the fifth player to win consecutive Sony Open titles: Hubert Green (1978-79), Corey Pavin (1986-87), Ernie Els (2003-04), Jimmy Walker (2014-15).

Gary Woodland (T17) improved by eleven shots on the back nine after opening with a 4-over 39. His 7-under 28 on the back nine is the lowest nine holes recorded on the PGA TOUR in the 2017-18 season. Last season, a nine-hole score of 28 was recorded twice, including by Chez Reavie in the final round of the Sony Open in Hawaii, also on the back nine.

Jordan Spieth shot a second round 68 (T48). During the round, he holed a birdie putt of 90 feet, 8 inches on the par-4 fifth, the longest of his career, besting his previous-best of 52 feet, 1 inch at the 2016 Valspar Championship.

Kevin Kisner (T10) carded a 64 after an opening-round 68 and is five shots off the lead. He wore a University of Alabama football jersey on the par-3 17<sup>th</sup> hole during the first round, paying off a wager to Thomas following his Georgia Bulldogs losing to the Crimson Tide in the College Football Playoff National Championship.

<sup>\*</sup>This week marks his 500th career start

<sup>\*</sup>This week marks his 503nd career start

Charles Howell III (T28) posted a second-round 68, his 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive round in the 60s at the Sony Open in Hawaii and 25<sup>th</sup> out of the last 26. He owns nine top-10 finishes in 16 starts at the Sony Open in Hawaii (T8-2017, T8-2014, T3-2013, T2-2012, T5-2010, 4-2009, T2-2007, T3-2005, T4-2002). This week is his 502<sup>nd</sup> start on the PGA TOUR.

Patrick Rodgers withdrew before the second round with the flu.

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Ten players have made the Sony Open in Hawaii their first PGA TOUR win: Ted Makalena (1966), Grier Jones (1972), John Schlee (1973), Gary Groh (1975), Isao Aoki (1983), David Ishii (1990), John Morse (1995), Jerry Kelly (2002), Russell Henley (2013).

Past Sony Open in Hawaii champions in the field: Zach Johnson (T2), Jerry Kelly (T12), Justin Thomas (T17), K.J. Choi (MC), Fabian Gomez (MC), Ryan Palmer (T28), Vijay Singh (MC), Russell Henley (MC), Mark Wilson (MC), Jimmy Walker (MC).

## Bogey-free rounds:

R1 – Chris Kirk (63), Zach Johnson (63), Vaughn Taylor (64), Peter Malnati (65), Ryan Blaum (66), Austin Cook (67), Jason Kokrak (67), Justin Thomas (67)

R2 – Stewart Cink (64), Russell Knox (64), Keith Mitchell (66), Rory Sabbatini (65), Adam Schenk (65), Brian Stuard (66), Kevin Tway (66), Kyle Stanley (67)

Scoring Averages at the par-70 Waialae Country Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	34.618	34.590	69.208	
R2	34.874	34.350	69.224	69.216

The par-4 13<sup>th</sup> hole played the toughest during the second round, yielding a 4.336 average. The par-5 9<sup>th</sup> hole was the easiest at 4.105.

## 2018 marks 53rd playing of Sony Open in Hawaii

Longest-running PGA TOUR title sponsors				
The Honda Classic	1982			
AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am	1986			
Sony Open in Hawaii	1999			
John Deere Classic	1999			