



## 2018 The Honda Classic

(The 16th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Feb. 22 – 25, 2018

Purse: \$6,600,000 (\$1,188,000/winner)

PGA National (Champion Course)

Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,140

### Second-Round Notes – Friday, February 23, 2018

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 82. Wind E 15-25 mph.

**36-hole Cut:** 76 players at 5-over 145 from a field of 141 professionals, marking the highest cut on the PGA TOUR (outside the majors) since the 2015 Valero Texas Open (+6). Since moving to PGA National in 2007, the highest 36-hole cut is 6-over 146 (2011).

In round two, only 13 of 141 players managed to post a sub-par score.

#### Second-Round Leaderboard

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Luke List       | 71-66—137 (-3) |
| Jamie Lovemark  | 68-69—137 (-3) |
| Russell Henley  | 68-70—138 (-2) |
| Rory Sabbatini  | 69-69—138 (-2) |
| Webb Simpson    | 66-72—138 (-2) |
| Tommy Fleetwood | 70-68—138 (-2) |

#### **Luke List**

With five birdies and one bogey, Luke List posted a 4-under 66, the day's lowest score to get to 3-under 137 and take a share of the 36-hole lead with Jamie Lovemark.

List is making his fourth start in The Honda Classic this week; 2017/T52, 2016/T10, 2013/MC.

List is making his 11<sup>th</sup> start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season this week and is in search of his second top-10 finish of the season (T5/THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES).

List, who joined the PGA TOUR in 2013, is making his 104<sup>th</sup> career start on TOUR this week. Still in search of his first TOUR win, his best finish is a T2 from the 2016 Sanderson Farms Championship.

On the Web.com Tour, List won the 2012 South Georgia Classic.

This marks the third time List has been leading or co-leading after 36 holes on the PGA TOUR. He was T1 at the 2016 RBC Canadian Open (T14) and 1<sup>st</sup> at the 2017 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES (T5).

#### **Jamie Lovemark**

Making his seventh start in The Honda Classic, Jamie Lovemark overcame early bogeys on two of his first three holes (Nos. 10 and 12) with birdies on 18, 3, 4 and 6 to post a 1-under 69.

This marks the first occasion on which Lovemark has held a lead/co-lead after 36 holes. The only time he has ever been atop the leaderboard (T1) after any round on TOUR was at the 2016 Shell Houston Open (18<sup>th</sup>).

In his previous six starts at The Honda Classic, Lovemark has missed four cuts (2011, 2012, 2016, 2017). In 2014, he made the 36-hole cut, but missed the 54-hole cut. He finished T31 in 2015.

Lovemark, a two-time runner-up on the PGA TOUR, remains in search of his first career TOUR win in his 129<sup>th</sup> start. He lost in a playoff at the 2009 Safeway Open and suffered a second playoff loss at the 2016 Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

Lovemark, who made 84 professional starts on the Web.com Tour between 2010 and 2015, won the 2010 Mexico Bicentenary via a playoff and the 2013 Midwest Classic.

**Second-Round Lead Notes**

Since moving to PGA National in 2007, the only winners to have held a 36-hole lead/co-lead were Y.E. Yang (2009), Camilo Villegas (2010) and Pádraig Harrington (2015).

Through 15 events on the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, four players have converted a 36-hole lead/co-lead into a win. Most recently, Austin Cook did so at The RSM Classic.

Since the tournament moved to PGA National in 2007, the highest 36-hole lead is 5-under 135 (Robert Allenby, Charlie Wi).

**Additional Player Notes**

Following round one's 3-under 67, Justin Thomas could manage no better than a 2-over 72 in round two. With the 72, his TOUR-leading streak of rounds of par or better ended at 14. In three previous starts at The Honda Classic, Thomas has two missed cuts (2015 and 2017) and a T3 (2016). He heads into this weekend at 1-under 139 (T7).

Making his fifth start at The Honda Classic and first since 2014 (WD), Tiger Woods followed an even-par 70 in round one with a 1-over 71 in Friday's second round. He will begin round three four strokes back at 1-over 141.

Woods, who was as high as T8 at one point in round two, hasn't been inside the top 10 after 36 holes since the 2015 Wyndham Championship (T1). He finished T10.

In round two, Woods hit 8 of 14 fairways and 11 of 18 greens.

Defending Honda Classic champion Rickie Fowler followed a 1-over 71 in round one with a 76 in round two to miss the cut (+7/147). Fowler has now missed the cut three of four times when in defense of a PGA TOUR title. He made the 36-hole cut at the 2016 Wells Fargo Championship, but missed the 54-hole cut. In his one made cut, he finished T46 at the 2016 Dell Technologies Championship. Only Jack Nicklaus has successfully defended a title at The Honda Classic (1977-78).

This week is the final opportunity for players to qualify for next week's World Golf Championships event, the WGC-Mexico Championship. Players not previously eligible can qualify by being inside the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking or the top 10 of the FedExCup standings following The Honda Classic. Past Honda Classic and WGC-Mexico Championship winner Adam Scott (T59) is currently No. 58 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

**Miscellaneous Notes**

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Daniel Berger (67), Adam Schenk (69).

R2: None

Scoring Averages at the par-70 PGA National:

|     | Front 9 | Back 9 | Total  | Cumulative |
|-----|---------|--------|--------|------------|
| R1: | 35.483  | 37.154 | 72.636 | ---        |
| R2: | 35.879  | 37.277 | 73.156 | 72.896     |

"Bear Trap" averages – No. 15 (3.475/2<sup>nd</sup>-toughest), No. 16 (4.305/4<sup>th</sup>-toughest), No. 17 (3.738/Toughest).