



## 2018 THE NORTHERN TRUST

*(The first of four events in the FedExCup Playoffs)*

Paramus, New Jersey

August 21-26, 2018

FedExCup Points: 2000 Purse: \$9,000,000

The Ridgewood Country Club

Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,385

### First-Round Notes – Thursday, August 23, 2018

*Weather: Partly cloudy with light rain early in the morning. High of 80. Wind NW 10-15 mph.*

#### First-Round Leaderboard

Jamie Lovemark	66 (-5)
Kevin Tway	66 (-5)
Vaughn Taylor	66 (-5)
Sean O'Hair	66 (-5)

13 players tied at 4-under-par

#### Five Things To Know

- The top-125 players in the FedExCup standings qualify for THE NORTHERN TRUST, making it an elite field based entirely on merit and play throughout the season.
- One in five players will see their season end at The Ridgewood Country Club as only the top 100 in the standings advance to the Dell Technologies Championship.
- Of the top five in the FedExCup standings, Dustin Johnson (No. 1) and Brooks Koepka (No. 3) both shot 4-under-par 67 and are T5.
- Co-leader Vaughn Taylor also held a share of the first-round lead at THE NORTHERN TRUST when it was held at Ridgewood in 2010. That year, he was tied with Tiger Woods after round 1 and ultimately finished T5.
- There are 26 players within two shots of the lead after round 1, the most at THE NORTHERN TRUST in the FedExCup era (since 2007). The 26 players within two shots of the lead after round one ranks third this season behind the Honda Classic (28) and the Waste Management Phoenix Open (30).

#### First-Round Lead Notes

9 of 50 First-round leaders/co-leaders at THE NORTHERN TRUST who have gone on to win.

(Most recent: Dennis Paulson, 2000)

9 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win on PGA TOUR in 2017-18

(Most recent: Brandt Snedeker/Wyndham Championship)

#### Jamie Lovemark (T1)

**Age:** 30 (January 23, 1988)

**Joined TOUR:** 2009

#### Entering this week

#86	FedExCup Current Standing
#4	FedExCup Projected Standing
#108	OWGR
143	PGA TOUR starts
T5	Best finish this season (THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES)
2	Previous starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
0	Top-10s at THE NORTHERN TRUST
24	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18

### **Career-best finish on the PGA TOUR – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2016 Zurich Classic of New Orleans, 2009 Safeway Open**

- First time holding a first-round lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR.
- Previous best standing through 18 holes was T2 at last year's BMW Championship (finished T33).
- Looking to reach the TOUR Championship for the first time in his career.
- 66 matches lowest first round of the season with last week's Wyndham Championship where he finished T24.
- In search of his first top-10 finish in a FedExCup Playoffs event.

#### **Kevin Tway (T1)**

**Age:** 30 (July 23, 1988)

**Joined TOUR:** 2014

#### **Entering this week**

#85	FedExCup Current Standing
#3	FedExCup Projected Standing
#130	OWGR
88	PGA TOUR starts
T5	Best finish this season (Fort Worth Invitational)
1	Previous starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
0	Top-10s at THE NORTHERN TRUST
29	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18

### **Career-best finish on the PGA TOUR – T3 or 3<sup>rd</sup> – T3 2017 Valero Texas Open, 3<sup>rd</sup> Zurich Classic of New Orleans**

- First time holding a first-round lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR.
- Previous best standing through 18 holes was T2 at the Houston Open earlier this year (finished T32).
- Looking to reach the TOUR Championship for the first time in his career.
- After missing six cuts in his first 18 events, has only missed one cut in his last 11.
- In search of his first top-10 finish in a FedExCup Playoffs event.
- Father, Bob, made 23 appearances at THE NORTHERN TRUST including a win in 1986.
- Kevin and Bob Tway would become the 10<sup>th</sup> father-son combo to both win on the PGA TOUR and would join Al and Brent Geiberger (1976 and 2004 Wyndham Championship) and Bill and Jay Haas (1988 and 2010 Career Builder Challenge) as the only Father-Son combinations to win the same event since 1949.

#### **Vaughn Taylor (T1)**

**Age:** 42 (March 9, 1976)

**Joined TOUR:** 2004

#### **Entering this week**

#112	FedExCup Current Standing
#5	FedExCup Projected Standing
#243	OWGR
359	PGA TOUR starts
T8	Best finish this season (The RSM Classic)
9	Previous starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
1	Top-10s at THE NORTHERN TRUST (T5, 2010)
24	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18

**PGA TOUR Victories (3):** 2004 Barracuda Championship. 2005 Barracuda Championship. 2016 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

- Shared the first-round lead at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2010 with Tiger Woods, also held here at Ridgewood, and ultimately finished T5.
- Fourth time leading or sharing the lead in a PGA TOUR event after the first round.
- Converted one of past three first-round leads into victory at 2005 Barracuda Championship.
- Looking to reach the TOUR Championship for the first time in his career.

**Sean O'Hair (T1)****Age:** 36 (July 11, 1982)**Joined TOUR:** 2005**Entering this week**

#121	FedExCup Current Standing
#6	FedExCup Projected Standing
#137	OWGR
354	PGA TOUR starts
T2	Best Finish this season (Valero Texas Open)
11	Previous starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
1	Top-10s at THE NORTHERN TRUST (T2, 2016)
21	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18

**PGA TOUR Victories (4):** 2004 Reno-Tahoe Open. 2005 Reno-Tahoe Open. 2016 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

- O'Hair is attempting to use a strong finish at THE NORTHERN TRUST to catapult himself higher in the standings for the second time in three years. O'Hair finished T2 in 2016 with a final-round 5-under 66, to move from 108 to 15<sup>th</sup> in the standings.
- Entering this week at No. 121 in the standings, O'Hair is again trying to jump from outside the bubble of THE NORTHERN TRUST and into the TOUR Championship.
- O'Hair has yet to convert a first-round lead into a victory having held or shared the lead in four previous events in his career.

**Dustin Johnson (T5)****Age:** 34 (June 22, 1984)**Joined Tour:** 2018

Defending champion Dustin Johnson returns to THE NORTHERN TRUST in the same spot in the FedExCup rankings where he left after his playoff victory last year, No. 1.

**Entering this week**

#1	FedExCup
#1	FedExCup Projected Standing
#1	OWGR
9	Starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
2	Wins at THE NORTHERN TRUST (2011, 2017)
237	PGA TOUR starts
19	PGA TOUR victories
16	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18
10	Top-10s in 2017-18

**Best 2017-2018 results:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Sentry Tournament of Champions, FedEx St. Jude Classic, RBC Canadian Open**Wins (19):** Three victories in 2017-2018 season: Sentry Tournament of Champions, FedEx St. Jude Classic, RBC Canadian Open.

- Two-time winner at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2011 at a weather-shortened 54-hole event and last year's playoff victory over Jordan Spieth.
- Has finished inside the top 10 in the FedExCup standings in six of the last eight seasons.
- Has won at least one PGA TOUR event in 11 consecutive seasons, dating to his rookie season in 2008, the longest active streak on TOUR.
- One of three players on TOUR this season with three victories along with Justin Thomas and Bubba Watson.
- His 10 top-10 finishes are the most on the PGA TOUR this season.
- Leads the TOUR in scoring average so far this year at 68.597
- In two previous starts at The Ridgewood Country Club, missed the cut in 2008 and finished T9 in 2010 after entering the final round T2.

- Johnson is tied with Rory McIlroy for the most victories at FedExCup Playoffs events with four.
- Johnson is also tied for the most top-10 finishes in FedExCup Playoffs events with 16 (Jim Furyk).

### **Brooks Koepka (T5)**

**Age:** 34 (June 22, 1984)

**Joined Tour:** 2008

With two major championship victories this season, Brooks Koepka enters the Playoffs at a career-high No. 3 in the FedExCup standings.

### **Entering the week**

#3	FedExCup
#7	FedExCup Projected Standing
#2	OWGR
3	Starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST
T49 (2017)	Best finish at THE NORTHERN TRUST
100	PGA TOUR starts
4	PGA TOUR victories
13	PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18
5	Top-10s in 2017-18

**Wins (4):** 2015 Waste Management Phoenix Open. 2017 U.S. Open. 2018 U.S. Open, PGA Championship.

**Best 2017-2018 results:** 1<sup>st</sup> - U.S. Open, PGA Championship.

- Playing for the fourth time in the FedExCup Playoffs, Koepka is looking for his first finish inside the top five after finishing a career-best 10<sup>th</sup> last year.
- In his 100th career start on the PGA TOUR at the PGA Championship, birdied three holes in a row and two of his last four to claim his second major championship of the season.
- Joined Tiger Woods (2000), Jack Nicklaus (1980), Ben Hogan (1948) and Gene Sarazen (1922) as the only players to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same season
- Playing at The Ridgewood Country Club for the first time in his career.

### **FedExCup and THE NORTHERN TRUST**

- THE NORTHERN TRUST is the opening event of the FedExCup Playoffs for the 12th consecutive season since the FedExCup Playoffs were introduced in 2007.
- Each playoff event offers 2,000 FedExCup points to the winner.
- The top-125 players on the final PGA TOUR Season FedExCup points list (following the Wyndham Championship) qualified for THE NORTHERN TRUST.

**If the tournament ended today, seven players would move from outside the top 100 and into the field for next week's Dell Technologies Championship.**

<b>FedExCup Rank</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> round</b>	<b>Projected FedExCup</b>
103	Danny Lee	T5	65
111	Bronson Burgoon	T18	90
112	Vaughn Taylor	T1	5
118	Brian Stuard	T18	98
120	Sam Saunders	T18	99
121	Sean O'Hair	T1	6
123	Jhonattan Vegas	T5	75

Brandt Snedeker withdrew prior to the start of his round citing back spasms. Grayson Murray withdrew following the end of his round.

### **Course Statistics**

#### **Toughest Hole**

**R1:** Tied – Par-4 7<sup>th</sup> and Par-4 18<sup>th</sup> (4.269)

**Easiest Hole**

**R1:** Par-5 3<sup>rd</sup> (4.538)

**Scoring Averages at The Ridgewood Country Club**

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1:</b>	35.235	35.311	70.546	--

**Bogey-free rounds**

**R1:** Rafa Cabrera Bello (67), Trey Mullinax (68)