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2018 Open Championship Media Notes

Dates: July 16-22, 2018

Course: Carnoustie Golf Links (par 71, 7,402 yards)

Field/Format: 156 players, 72-hole stroke play

Purse/Winner: \$10,800,000/\$1,890,000

FedExCup: 600 points to winner

2017 Champion: Jordan Spieth

2017 The Open Championship Leaderboard

Jordan Spieth	65-69-65-69—268 (-12)
Matt Kuchar	65-71-66-69—271 (-9)
Haotong Li	69-73-69-63—274 (-6)
Rory McIlroy	71-68-69-67—275 (-5)
Rafa Cabrera Bello	67-73-67-68—275 (-5)

How The Open Championship was won in 2017

Jordan Spieth finished at 12-under 268 to win the 146th Open Championship by three strokes over Matt Kuchar. Spieth began the final round with a three-shot lead over Kuchar and went out in 37, while Kuchar opened with an even-par 34. Spieth continued to struggle when his drive on No. 13 went roughly 60 yards offline, resulting in a 20-minute ruling. He finished 13 with a bogey, including a one-stroke penalty for an unplayable lie. Spieth played his next four holes birdie-eagle-birdie-birdie and closed with a par on 18, matching Kuchar's 69, to convert the three-shot lead after 54 holes into a three-stroke victory and his third major title. Spieth's 11th PGA TOUR victory came at the age of 23 years, 11 months and 26 days (just four days before his 24th birthday).

More on Spieth's win at the 2017 Open Championship

- Joined Jack Nicklaus as the only players to win three legs of the grand slam before the age of 24. Nicklaus won the 1963 PGA Championship at the age of 23 years, 6 months. Spieth requires a win at the PGA Championship to complete the career grand slam.
- Recorded four scores in the 60s (65-69-65-69) for the first time in a major championship and joined Greg Norman (1983), Nick Price (1994), Tiger Woods (2000) and Henrik Stenson (2016) as the only players to perform the feat at The Open Championship.
- Held at least a share of the lead after each round, joining Harry Vardon (1899, 1903), J.H. Taylor (1900), Lee Trevino (1971) and Gary Player (1974) as players to do so in 72-hole Open Championships.
- Began with a bogey-free 5-under 65, equaling Louis Oosthuizen (2015) for lowest opening round by an Open champion.
- Will attempt to become the sixth player to post consecutive Open Championship victories since 1960: Padraig Harrington (2007-08), Tiger Woods (2005-06), Tom Watson (1982-83), Lee Trevino (1971-72) and Arnold Palmer (1961-62).

FedExCup and The Open Championship

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Together, anything's possible.

- With only five weeks remaining before the FedExCup Playoffs, The Open Championship will again play an important role in setting the field for the first Playoffs event, THE NORTHERN TRUST.
- The top 10 in the current FedExCup rankings are in the field: Dustin Johnson (1), Justin Thomas (2), Bubba Watson (3), Justin Rose (4), Jason Day (5), Bryson DeChambeau (6), Patrick Reed (7), Phil Mickelson (8), Patton Kizzire (9), Tony Finau (10).
- Six FedExCup winners, including each of the last three, are in field: Tiger Woods (2007, 2009), Brandt Snedeker (2012), Henrik Stenson (2013), Jordan Spieth (2015), Rory McIlroy (2016) and Justin Thomas (2017).
- The top five players in the FedExCup standings have accounted for a total of 11 wins and 30 top-10s this season:

FedExCup Rank	Player	OWGR	Wins	Top-10s	Starts
1	Dustin Johnson	1	2	8	12
2	Justin Thomas	2	2	6	16
3	Bubba Watson	11	3	5	16
4	Justin Rose	3	2	7	12
5	Jason Day	9	2	4	13

- Five of the last six winners of The Open Championship have advanced to the TOUR Championship, including 2017 champion Jordan Spieth, who finished second in the standings.

History of the Open Championship at Carnoustie Golf Links

In 2018, Carnoustie Golf Links will host the Open Championship for the eighth time. Here's a look at the winners of Open Championships hosted at Carnoustie since 1931:

Year	Winner	Country	Score	Margin	Runner(s)-up
2007	Padraig Harrington	Ireland	277 (-7)	Playoff	Sergio Garcia
1999	Paul Lawrie	Scotland	290 (+6)	Playoff	Justin Leonard Jean van de Velde
1975	Tom Watson	U.S.A.	279 (-9)	Playoff	Jack Newton
1968	Gary Player	South Africa	289 (+1)	2 strokes	Bob Charles Jack Nicklaus
1953	Ben Hogan	U.S.A.	282 (-6)	4 strokes	Antonio Cerda Dai Rees Frank Stranahan Peter Thomson
1937	Henry Cotton	England	290	2 strokes	Reg Whitcombe
1931	Tommy Armour	U.S.A.	296	1 stroke	Jose Jurado

- In 2007 at Carnoustie, Padraig Harrington won the first of his two consecutive Open Championships, defeating Sergio Garcia in a playoff
- Garcia led by three shots over Steve Stricker entering the final round in 2007, and Harrington trailed by six before firing a 67 to force the playoff with Garcia (73)
- Harrington is the most recent of five players since 1960 to win back-to-back Open Championships. The others: Tiger Woods (2005-06), Tom Watson (1982-83), Lee Trevino (1971-72) and Arnold Palmer (1961-62).
- Garcia's runner-up result is one of his 10 top-10s in 21 appearances at the event. Only two players have more without a victory (Andrew Kirkcaldy/14, Ben Sayers/12).

2007 Open Championship Final Leaderboard

Rank	Player	72-hole Score
1	Padraig Harrington	277
2	Sergio Garcia	277
3	Andres Romero	278
T4	Ernie Els	279
T4	Richard Green	279

T6	Stewart Cink	280
T6	Hunter Mahan	280
T8	K.J. Choi	281
T8	Ben Curtis	281
T8	Steve Stricker	281
T8	Mike Weir	281

Masters champion Patrick Reed seeks second major championship victory

- Making his fifth Open Championship start (MC/2017, T12/2016, T20/2015, MC/2014).
- Seeking to become the first player since Jordan Spieth (2015 Masters Tournament, 2015 U.S. Open) to win two majors in one year. Overall, 19 players have won multiple majors in a season (32 times).
- Enters the week with three consecutive top-fives at majors (T2/2017 PGA Championship, Won/2018 Masters Tournament, 4th/2018 U.S. Open)
- Players who have won the Masters Tournament and The Open Championship in same season (8): Tiger Woods (2005), Mark O'Meara (1998), Nick Faldo (1990), Tom Watson (1977), Gary Player (1974), Jack Nicklaus (1966), Arnold Palmer (1962), Ben Hogan (1953).

U.S. Open champion Brooks Koepka seeks back-to-back major championship victories

- Making his fifth Open Championship start (T6/2017, T10/2015, T67/2014, MC/2013).
- Seeking to become the first player since Jordan Spieth (2015 Masters Tournament, 2015 U.S. Open) to win two majors in one year. Overall, 19 players have won multiple majors in a season (32 times).
- Players who have won the U.S. Open and The Open Championship in the same season (6): Tiger Woods (2000), Tom Watson (1982), Lee Trevino (1971), Ben Hogan (1953), Gene Sarazen (1932), Bobby Jones (1926, 1930).
- In all, 19 players have won the U.S. Open and Open Championship in their career, most recently Jordan Spieth (2015 U.S. Open, 2017 Open Championship)

Tiger Woods

- Making his 340th PGA TOUR start and 20th at The Open Championship (most recent: MC/2015), entering the week with 79 victories on TOUR (14 majors).
- Three wins (2000, 2005, 2006) and six additional top-10s (3rd/1998, T7/1999, T4/2003, T9/2004, T3/2012, T6/2013).
- Played two Open Championships at Carnoustie: 2007 (T12, 69-74-69-70—282/-2) and 1999 (T7, 74-72-74-74—294/+10)
- T32 at the 2018 Masters Tournament is his only made cut in last five major championship starts (most recent: MC/U.S. Open).

Phil Mickelson

- Making his 25th start in The Open Championship, with win in 2013 one of four top-three finishes (Win-2013, 2nd-2016, T2-2011, 3rd-2004).
- Missed the cut in both Open Championships at Carnoustie: 2007 (71-77—148/+6) and 1999 79-76—155/+13)
- Has won 43 PGA TOUR titles (most recent: 2018 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship) and 35 runner-up finishes
- In major championships: 5 wins, 11 runner-up finishes (second-most in history behind Jack Nicklaus/19)
- Only player to win the Scottish Open and Open Championship in the same season (2013).

Justin Thomas

- 2017 FedExCup champion making his third start in The Open (MC/2017, T53/2016). Began both championships with opening-round 67.
- One of six multiple winners on the PGA TOUR this season (Bubba Watson/3, Patton Kizzire/2, Justin Thomas/2, Dustin Johnson/2, Jason Day/2, Justin Rose/2) with victories at the 2017 CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES and 2018 The Honda Classic.
- Seeking second major championship (2017 PGA Championship).

Rory McIlroy

- After rounds of 68-76-73, McIlroy shot 72 (+1) on the final day of the 2007 Open Championship at Carnoustie to finish 5-over 289 (T42) and win the silver medal for top amateur in his first Open Championship.
- Making his 10th start at The Open, with top-five results, including victory in 2014, in his last three appearances (T4/2017, T5/2016, Won/2014). Also posted a T3 finish in 2010 .
- Four top-fives at The Open since 2010 are the most of any player in that time.

Tommy Fleetwood

- 2017 European Tour's Race to Dubai winner makes his fifth appearance at The Open, advancing to the weekend for the first time in 2017, finishing T27 at Royal Birkdale.
- Fired 7-under 63 in his most recent major championship round, the final round of the 2018 U.S. Open, to finish runner-up, one stroke behind Brooks Koepka.

Branden Grace

- Set a major championship record in the third round of the 2017 Open Championship at Royal Birkdale, becoming the first player to record a 62 in major championship history.
- Made the cut in each of his seven appearances, with T6 in 2017 his first top-10 result at The Open.

A look inside the field

- The top 10 in the current FedExCup rankings are in the field: Dustin Johnson (1), Justin Thomas (2), Bubba Watson (3), Justin Rose (4), Jason Day (5), Bryson DeChambeau (6), Patrick Reed (7), Phil Mickelson (8), Patton Kizzire (9), Tony Finau (10).
- All 10 of the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking, led by Dustin Johnson (1), Justin Thomas (2), Justin Rose (3), Brooks Koepka (4), Jon Rahm (5), Jordan Spieth (6), Rickie Fowler (7), Rory McIlroy (8), Jason Day (9), Tommy Fleetwood (10).
- Past Open Championship winners (60 or under on July 22, 2018): Mark Calcavecchia, Stewart Cink, Darren Clarke, John Daly, David Duval, Ernie Els, Todd Hamilton, Padraig Harrington, Zach Johnson, Tom Lehman, Sandy Lyle, Rory McIlroy, Phil Mickelson, Louis Oosthuizen, Jordan Spieth, Henrik Stenson, Tiger Woods.
- 34 Major Championship winners, led by Tiger Woods with 14.
- Four amateurs: 2018 Amateur champion Jovan Rebula, 2018 European Amateur champion Nicolai Hojgard, 2017 Asia-Pacific Amateur champion Lin Yuxin, Qualifier Sam Locke (Renaissance Club).

History of the Open Championship

This is the 147th Open Championship, with the first being played in 1860.

- The youngest Open Championship winner is Tommy Morris Jr. (1868; 17 years, 5 months, 3 days)
- The oldest Open winner is Tom Morris Sr., winning in 1867 at the age of 46 years and 99 days.
- Harry Vardon owns the most victories at the Open Championship, with six (1896, 1898, 1899, 1903, 1911, 1914). The list of five-time winners includes James Braid, J.H. Taylor, Peter Thomson and Tom Watson.
- Amateur winners: Bobby Jones (1926, 1927, 1930), Harold Hilton (1892, 1897), John Ball (1890).

Countries Represented - Winners of the Open Championship:

United States (30 winners, 45 wins)
 Scotland (22 winners, 41 wins)
 England (14 winners, 28 wins)
 South Africa (4 winners, 10 wins)
 Australia (4 winners, 9 wins)
 Northern Ireland (3 winners, 3 wins)
 Spain (1 winner, 3 wins)
 Republic of Ireland (1 winner, 2 wins)
 Argentina (1 winner, 1 win)
 France (1 winner, 1 win)
 New Zealand (1 winner, 1 win)
 Zimbabwe (1 winner, 1 win)
 Sweden (1 winner, 1 win)

The Claret Jug

The Claret Jug, also known as The Golf Champion Trophy, is presented each year to the Open Championship winner. The trophy was created by Mackay Cunningham & Company of Edinburgh and was hallmarked in 1873. The first player to receive the trophy was 1873 champion Tom Kidd, but Tom Morris Junior's name was the first to be engraved on it as the 1872 winner. Prior to that, the Open Championship winner was presented with the Challenge Belt, made of rich morocco leather and embellished with a silver buckle and emblems.