



P R O U D P A R T N E R S

2018 THE PLAYERS Championship

(The 28th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR season)

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida May 10-13, 2018
TPC Sawgrass – PLAYERS Stadium Course

FedExCup Points: 600 Purse: \$11,000,000
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,189

First-Round Notes – Thursday, May 10, 2018

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 82. Wind variable 5-10 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Webb Simpson | 66 (-6) |
| Dustin Johnson | 66 (-6) |
| Alex Noren | 66 (-6) |
| Chesson Hadley | 66 (-6) |
| Matt Kuchar | 66 (-6) |
| Patrick Cantlay | 66 (-6) |
| 6 players | 67 (-5) |

Five Things To Know

- Si Woo Kim's 5-under 67 is the lowest first-round score by a defending champion at THE PLAYERS
- Most eagles (23) in a round at THE PLAYERS
- Six players tied for lead is second-most in THE PLAYERS history (7/1978) and most since move to TPC Sawgrass in 1982
- Dustin Johnson's 6-under 66 is his lowest score and first bogey-free round in 31 career rounds at THE PLAYERS
- Jordan Spieth's 75 ties his highest score at TPC Sawgrass; has missed the cut in each of the last three seasons

First-Round Lead Notes

- 14 First-round leaders/co-lead­ers at THE PLAYERS Championship to win (most recent: Jason Day/2016)
- 6 First-round leaders/co-lead­ers to win on PGA TOUR in 2017-18 (most recent: Brice Garnett/Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship)

Dustin Johnson (T1)

Age: 33 (June 22, 1984)

Joined TOUR: 2008

Entering this week

| | |
|--------|---|
| #7 | FedExCup |
| #1 | OWGR |
| 229 | PGA TOUR starts |
| 17 | PGA TOUR wins |
| 1 | Win in 2017-18 (Sentry Tournament of Champions) |
| 9 | Starts at THE PLAYERS |
| 0 | Top-10s at THE PLAYERS |
| 8 | PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18 |
| 3/14 | Wins when holding 18-hole lead/co-lead |
| 69.051 | 2017-18 scoring average (TOUR-best) |

Wins (17); has at least one win in each of his first 11 PGA TOUR seasons (2008-active)

- 66 is lowest career score in 31 rounds at THE PLAYERS (previously 68/three times)
- First bogey-free round at TPC Sawgrass
- T12/2017 is best finish at THE PLAYERS
- Has been No. 1 in the OWGR for 63 consecutive weeks

Matt Kuchar (T1)

Age: 39 (June 21, 1978)

Joined Tour: 2001

Entering this week

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| #63 | FedExCup |
| #21 | OWGR |
| 415 | PGA TOUR starts |
| 7 | PGA TOUR wins |
| 13 | Starts at THE PLAYERS |
| 1 | Win at THE PLAYERS (2012) |
| 13 | PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18 |
| 3 | Top-10s in 2017-18 |
| 1/8 | Wins with 18-hole lead/co-lead |

Wins (7): 2002 The Honda Classic, 2009 Turning Stone Resort Championship, 2010 THE NORTHERN TRUST, 2012 THE PLAYERS Championship, 2013 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, 2013 the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide, 2014 RBC Heritage

Best 2017-18 results: T5/Waste Management Phoenix Open, T8/Houston Open

- 2012 THE PLAYERS Championship winner
- Six multiple winners of THE PLAYERS (most recent: Tiger Woods, 2001/2013)
- 66 ties low score in 43 rounds at THE PLAYERS (R2/2013)

Si Woo Kim (T7)

Age: 22 (June 28, 1995)

Joined TOUR: 2013

Entering this week

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| #28 | FedExCup |
| #40 | OWGR |
| 88 | PGA TOUR starts |
| 2 | PGA TOUR wins |
| 2 | Starts at THE PLAYERS |
| 16 | PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18 |
| 2 | Top-three finishes in 2017-18 |

Wins (2): 2016 Wyndham Championship, 2017 THE PLAYERS Championship

Best 2017-18 results: P2/RBC Heritage, 3rd/OHL Classic at Mayakoba

- Winner of 2017 THE PLAYERS
- No defending champion has won THE PLAYERS
- 67 is best opening-round score by a defending champion (previous: Craig Perks/68/2003)
- Best result by defending champion since move to TPC Sawgrass in 1982: Tom Kite/T5/1990, Hal Sutton/T5/2001
- Did not lead after any round in 2017
- 67 is lowest career score at THE PLAYERS (previously 68 – twice)

Additional Player Notes

Chesson Hadley (T1)

- Six top-10s in 2017-18 (best: 2nd/Sanderson Farms Championship)
- Two missed cuts in three starts at THE PLAYERS (T24/2015)
- No. 1 on combined 2017 Web.com Tour Regular Season and Finals money list

- Wins: 1 (2014 Puerto Rico Open)
- First 18-hole lead/co-lead
- One of three players that has been ranked inside the top 25 of the FedExCup after each week during the 2017-18 season (Chesson Hadley, Brendan Steele, Tony Finau)

Webb Simpson (T1)

- No top-10s in eight starts at THE PLAYERS
- 66 is lowest career score in 25 rounds at THE PLAYERS (previously 67/R1/2013)
- Wins: 4 (2011 Wyndham Championship, 2011 Dell Technologies Championship, 2012 U.S. Open, 2013 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open)
- Made 139' 2" of putts in R1, nearly double his 2017-18 average of 76' 3"
- Best 2017-18 results: T4/Sony Open in Hawaii, T5/The Honda Classic, T5/RBC Heritage

Alex Noren (T1)

- First season as a PGA TOUR member (No. 22 in FedExCup)
- T10/2017 in THE PLAYERS debut
- Three top-three results in 10 starts in 2017-18
- Only one of the six players tied for the lead without a PGA TOUR victory
- Best PGA TOUR finishes (44 career starts): P2/2018 Farmers Insurance Open, 3rd/2018 The Honda Classic, 3rd/2018 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play

Patrick Cantlay (T1)

- T22/2017 in THE PLAYERS debut
- Wins: 1 (2017 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open)
- 16th in the FedExCup standings
- Four top-10s in 11 starts in 2017-18
- T7 in each of last two starts (RBC Heritage, Zurich Classic of New Orleans)

Steve Stricker (T7)

- Playing in his 21st PLAYERS (best result: T6/1999)
- First-round 67 ties career low round at TPC Sawgrass (R2/2011)
- Best 2017-18 result (five starts): T12/Valspar Championship
- Two wins on PGA TOUR Champions in four starts; second in Charles Schwab Cup Money List

Adam Scott (T27)

- First-round 69 was 19th career round in the 60s at THE PLAYERS (T3-most all-time; record is 22 by Nick Price, Davis Love III)

Jordan Spieth (T108)

- First-round 75 ties career high score at THE PLAYERS (R2/2017, R1/2015)
- Missed cut in each of last three starts at THE PLAYERS; T4/2014

Sean O'Hair withdrew after the first round (no reason given).

Record-23 Eagles in R1

23 eagles in R1 is the most in a round in THE PLAYERS history.

| Year | Round | Eagles |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| 2018 | 1 | 23 |
| 2006 | 1 | 22 |
| 2016 | 2 | 18 |
| 2010 | 2 | 18 |
| 2003 | 2 | 18 |
| 1999 | 2 | 18 |

Morgan Stanley Eagles for Impact Challenge

As part of its Eagles for Impact Challenge, Morgan Stanley will donate 1,500 books for every eagle made at THE PLAYERS, with the goal of providing students around the U.S. with access to 75,000 books. A total of 23 eagles were made during the first round (the most in a round in THE PLAYERS history), which equates to 34,500 books. Here's a breakdown of eagles made and books donated:

| | Eagles | Books |
|-------|---------------|--------------|
| R1 | 23 | 34,500 |
| Total | 23 | 34,500 |

Course Statistics

Toughest Hole

R1: Par-3 17th (3.264)

Easiest Hole

R1: Par-4 12th (3.556)

Scoring Averages at TPC Sawgrass

| | Front 9 | Back 9 | Total | Cumulative |
|-----|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| R1: | 36.208 | 35.806 | 72.014 | -- |

Bogey-free rounds

R1: Alex Noren (66), Dustin Johnson (66), Jhonattan Vegas (67), Andrew Landry (67), Cody Gribble (68), Brooks Koepka (70)

Balls in the water on the 17th hole since 2003:

| Year | Round 1 | Round 2 | Round 3 | Round 4 | Cumulative |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------|
| 2018 | 24 | -- | -- | -- | 24 |
| 2017 | 19 | 29 | 10 | 11 | 69 |
| 2016 | 6 | 9 | 17 | 4 | 36 |
| 2015 | 21 | 16 | 3 | 5 | 45 |
| 2014 | 12 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 28 |
| 2013 | 15 | 9 | 7 | 13 | 44 |
| 2012 | 18 | 11 | 4 | 6 | 39 |
| 2011 | 12 | 14 | 8 | 6 | 40 |
| 2010 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 29 |
| 2009 | 16 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 32 |
| 2008 | 20 | 18 | 10 | 16 | 64 |
| 2007 | 50 | 21 | 10 | 12 | 93 |
| 2006 | 19 | 17 | 12 | 9 | 57 |
| 2005 | 7 | 8 | 25 | 28 | 68 |
| 2004 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 30 |
| 2003 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 10 | 29 |

Clubs Used on the 12th hole

| Club used | Attempts | Score to par |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Driver | 31 | -14 |
| Fwy wood | 55 | -26 |
| Iron | 58 | -24 |
| Total | 144 | -64 |

Hole 12 modifications:

- Extend fairway bunker – improve definition of left edge of approach from tee, and catch balls landing left and short
- Reduce width of the fairway bunker and widen fairway just short of approach – improve visual to right side of approach from tee
- Raise left edge of approach and Lower right edge of approach so that tee shots to not feed as severely towards the water
- Double the width of the rough strip along bulkhead and make half of it primary rough height