



PROUD PARTNERS

2018 THE PLAYERS Championship

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

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

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

Second-Round Notes – Friday, May 11, 2018

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 91. Wind variable 7-14 mph.

36-Hole Cut: 80 players at 1-under 143 from a field of 144 professionals.

Second-Round Leaderboard

Webb Simpson	66-63 (-15)
Charl Schwartzel	68-66 (-10)
Patrick Cantlay	66-68 (-10)
Danny Lee	68-66 (-10)
Three players	(-9)

Six Things To Know

- Webb Simpson tied the course record at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass with a 9-under 63. He's the seventh player to accomplish the feat and the first since Colt Knost in the second round in 2016.
- Simpson tied the 36-hole scoring record at 15-under with Jason Day (2016).
- Simpson's five-shot lead through 36 holes is the largest in THE PLAYERS history, eclipsing the previous four-stroke margin set by Jason Day in 2016.
- This is the fourth time the 36-hole leader at THE PLAYERS has led by at least three shots, and each of the first three leaders went on to win (Jason Day/2016, Greg Norman/1994, Lanny Wadkins/1979).
- Patrick Cantlay will enter the weekend in the top 5 for the second straight year.
- Tiger Woods made the cut on the number at 1-under 143. His third-round tee time is 9:00 a.m.

Second-Round Lead Notes

- 12 Second-round leaders/co-leaders at THE PLAYERS Championship to win (most recent: Jason Day/2016)
- 6 Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win on PGA TOUR in 2017-18 (most recent: Patrick Reed/Masters Tournament)

The largest 36-hole come-from-behind victory at THE PLAYERS was seven shots in 2010. Tim Clark was T23 at 5-under at the halfway mark, and he closed with rounds of 66-67 to win by one at 16-under.

Webb Simpson (1st)

Age: 33 (8/8/1985)

Joined TOUR: 2009

Entering this week

#36	FedExCup
#41	OWGR
249	PGA TOUR starts
4	PGA TOUR wins
8	Starts at THE PLAYERS
0	Top-10s at THE PLAYERS

13 PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18
4 Top-10s in 2017-18

Wins (4): 2011 Wyndham Championship, Dell Technologies Championship; 2012 U.S. Open; 2014 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

Best 2017-18 results: T4/Sony Open in Hawaii, T5/The Honda Classic, T5/RBC Heritage

- Tied the course record with a 9-under 63
- Tied the low 36-hole score at 15-under
- Tied the record for the most birdies or better (16) through 36 holes at THE PLAYERS since 1983
- Tied the best birdie streak at THE PLAYERS (6) on Nos. 11-16
- Best finish at THE PLAYERS in eight previous appearances is a T15 in 2013
- 11th time he's held at least a share of the 36-hole lead on the PGA TOUR; Converted the victory once in 10 previous occurrences
- Ranks T133 of 144 players in Driving Distance (274) and T7 in Driving Accuracy through two rounds.
- Made 142' 8" of putts in R2, nearly double his 2017-18 average of 76' 3" entering the week. His R1 total was 139' 2".
- Five-stroke lead is the largest through 36 holes in THE PLAYERS history
- Represents the largest 36-hole lead of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season through 27 events

Charl Schwartzel (T2)

Age: 33 (8/31/1984)

Joined TOUR: 2010

Entering this week

#108 FedExCup
#62 OWGR
173 PGA TOUR starts
2 PGA TOUR wins
7 Starts at THE PLAYERS
0 Top-10s at THE PLAYERS
12 PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18
2 Top-10s in 2017-18

Wins (2): 2011 Masters Tournament; 2016 Valspar Championship

Best 2017-18 results: 3/Zurich Classic of New Orleans

- Two top-10s on the 2017-18 season have come in his last two starts (3rd/Zurich Classic, T9/Wells Fargo Championship). Previous best finish this season was T28.
- 66 is lowest career score in 26 rounds at THE PLAYERS (previously 67/one time)
- First bogey-free round at TPC Sawgrass
- One finish inside the top 40 in seven previous starts at THE PLAYERS (T26/2011)
- Looking to become the eighth international player to win THE PLAYERS in the last 11 years

Patrick Cantlay (T2)

Age: 26 (3/17/1992)

Joined Tour: 2014

Entering this week

#16 FedExCup
#34 OWGR
52 PGA TOUR starts
1 PGA TOUR win
1 Start at THE PLAYERS (2017/T22)
11 PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18
4 Top-10s in 2017-18

Wins (1): 2017 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

- Was T5 (69-70) through 36 holes last year at THE PLAYERS Championship; closed with rounds of 72-77 and finished T22.
- Shared the lead after two rounds at the Genesis Open. Shot 69-71 on the weekend and finished T4.
- Finished T7 in his last two starts (Zurich Classic of New Orleans, RBC Heritage).
- Including this week, he has made 24 of 25 cuts since returning from injury at the 2017 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Danny Lee (T2)

Age: 27 (7/24/1990)

Joined TOUR: 2012

Entering this week

#148 FedExCup
 #186 OWGR
 184 PGA TOUR starts
 1 PGA TOUR win
 3 Starts at THE PLAYERS
 17 PGA TOUR starts in 2017-18

Wins (1): 2015 The Greenbrier Classic

- 66 is his lowest career score in 10 rounds at THE PLAYERS (previously 67, one time)
- Best prior 36-hole standing at THE PLAYERS was T20 in 2016. Went on to finish T35, his best finish in three previous appearances.
- Finished T7 at the CIMB Classic in Malaysia last October for his lone top-10 this season. Missed his last two cuts ahead of THE PLAYERS.

Additional Player Notes

Chesson Hadley (T5)

- Six top-10s in 2017-18 (previous best was four in 2013-14)
- Two missed cuts in three starts at THE PLAYERS (T24/2015)
- Qualified for THE PLAYERS by finishing No. 1 on combined 2017 Web.com Tour Regular Season and Finals money list
- 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)
- Closed his second round with double bogey-bogey on Nos. 17 and 18

Charles Howell III (T5)

- Playing his 16th PLAYERS (best result: T32/2003).
- Entering this week, he had just three scores in the 60s in 42 rounds at THE PLAYERS (73.33 average). He had broken par just nine times.
- First time carding consecutive rounds in the 60s at THE PLAYERS.
- His 5-under 67 on Friday matches his career-best score at THE PLAYERS (R2/2013).
- Best 2017-18 result (16 starts): T4/OHL Classic at Mayakoba.

Alex Noren (T5)

- 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
- Best PGA TOUR finishes (44 career starts): P2/2018 Farmers Insurance Open, 3rd/2018 The Honda Classic, 3rd/2018 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play

Steve Stricker (T7)

- His score of 8-under 136 total ties his best 36-hole score at THE PLAYERS (T12/2011)
- Playing in his 21st PLAYERS (best result: T6/1999)
- Best 2017-18 result (five starts): T12/Valspar Championship
- Two wins on PGA TOUR Champions in four starts; second in the Charles Schwab Cup

Record-27 Eagles in R2

27 eagles in R2 is the most in a round in THE PLAYERS history. Of the 27 eagles made, 12 were on the second hole, which surpasses the previous record of nine (R2/1999).

Year	Round	Eagles
2018	2	27
2018	1	23
2006	1	22
2016	2	18
2010	2	18
2003	2	18
1999	2	18

Through two rounds, 50 eagles have been made. The tournament record for eagles is 54, set in 2006.

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. This goal was surpassed during Friday's second round, but Morgan Stanley will continue to donate 1,500 books for every eagle made. Here's a breakdown of eagles made and books donated:

	Eagles	Books
R1	23	34,500
R2	27*	40,500
Total	50	75,000

*the most in a round in THE PLAYERS history

Billy Horschel – Feeding Northeast Florida

Jacksonville, Florida, resident Billy Horschel will donate \$1000 for every birdie and \$5000 for every eagle he makes at THE PLAYERS 2018 to Feeding Northeast Florida. The organization can provide six meals for every \$1 donated to help the one in six adults and one in four children in the area who are “food insecure” – defined as not always knowing where their next meal will come from.

	Birdies	Eagles	Donation
R1	6	0	\$6,000
R2	3	1	\$8,000
Total	9	1	\$14,000

Course Statistics

Toughest Hole

R1: Par-3 17th (3.264)

R2: Par-4 18th (4.266)

Easiest Hole

R1: Par-4 12th (3.556)

R2: Par-5 16th (4.490)

A Tough Finish

Through two rounds, No. 17 is the second-hardest hole (3.247) and No. 18 is the hardest hole (4.254). The last two holes have been the two toughest twice:

2007

No. 17 - 3.386 (second hardest)

No. 18 - 4.409 (hardest)

1984

No. 17 - 3.368 (second hardest)

No. 18 - 4.571 (hardest)

Scoring Averages at TPC Sawgrass

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	36.208	35.806	72.014	--
R2:	35.545	35.727	71.273	71.643
	Early	Late		
R1:	71.32	72.71		
R2:	70.79	71.75		

Bogey-free rounds

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

R2: Charl Schwartzel (66), Patrick Reed (68), Jason Day (67), Charles Howell III (67), Jamie Lovemark (67)

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

Year	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Cumulative
2018	24	21	--	--	45
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 – R2

Club used	Attempts	Score to par
Driver	26	-7
Fwy wood	38	-14
Iron	79	-20
Total	143	-41

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 do not feed as severely towards the water
- Double the width of the rough strip along bulkhead and make half of it primary rough height