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2018 Valspar Championship pre-tournament notes

Dates: March 5-11, 2018 **Where:** Palm Harbor, Florida

Course: Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club (Copperhead)

Par/Yards: 36-35—par 71/7,340 yards

Field size: 144

2017 champion: Adam Hadwin

Purse: \$6,500,000 (\$1,170,000/winner)

FedExCup: 500 points (winner)
Format: 72-hole stroke play
Twitter: @ValsparChamp
Instagram: @valsparchamp

Glance at the Field

- 12 of the top 30 in the FedExCup Standings
- 20 of the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking
- 10 past Valspar Championship winners
- Eight past FedExCup champions
- Six winners during the 2017-18 season

Players in the Field

Tiger Woods (No. 132 in FedExCup, No. 388 in OWGR)

- Making his first start at the Valspar Championship and fourth start of the 2017-18 season
 - 12/The Honda Classic
 - o MC/Genesis Open
 - o T23/Farmers Insurance Open
- Has announced his intention to play next week's Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard; would make Woods' fourth start in a five-week stretch, which he has not done since doing so twice in 2013, including the FedExCup Playoffs
 - WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play (T33)
 - The Honda Classic (T37)
 - o WGC-Mexico Championship (Won)
 - Arnold Palmer Invitational (Won)
- THE NORTHERN TRUST (T2)
- Dell Technologies Championship (T65)
- BMW Championship (T11)
- o TOUR Championship (T22)
- The 79-time PGA TOUR winner is in search of his first victory since the 2013 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational and first top-10 since the Wyndham Championship in 2015
- One of eight past FedExCup champions in the field (2007, 2009)

Jordan Spieth (No. 52 in FedExCup, No. 4 in OWGR)

- Winner of the 2015 Valspar Championship; first of five wins in the 2014-15 season en route to the 2015 FedExCup
- Finished T7 in 2013, securing Special Temporary Membership while in search of his PGA TOUR card
- Has finished in the top 20 in each of his four previous appearances at the event
- Youngest winner in the history of the tournament (21 years, 7 months, 19 days)
- Making his seventh start of the 2017-18 season
- One of eight past FedExCup champions in the field (2015)

Rory McIlroy (No. 175 in FedExCup, No. 12 in OWGR)

- Making his Valspar Championship debut
- Has made four starts this season and remains in search of his first top-10
- One of eight past FedExCup champions in the field (2016)

Adam Hadwin (No. 35 in FedExCup, No. 44 in OWGR)

- Defending champion, having earned his first career victory at the 2017 Valspar Championship
- Holds 54-hole scoring record (199/2017, tied with K.J. Choi/2002) and his final-round 71 was the high finish by a Valspar Championship winner
- Making his 10th start of the season, coming off back-to-back top-10s (T9/WGC-Mexico Championship, T6/Genesis Open)
- Playing the Valspar Championship for the fourth time in his career (Won/2017, MC/2016, 71/2015)

Justin Rose (No. 15 in FedExCup, No. 5 in OWGR)

- Making 10th start at Valspar Championship (best result: T5/2011)
- In 2011, had two rounds of 65 or lower, the most such rounds by a player in one tournament at the event (65/R2, 65/R3)
- Three previous starts this season (T37/WGC-Mexico Championship, T8/Farmers Insurance Open, Won/WGC-HSBC Champions)

Sergio Garcia (No. 122 in FedExCup, No. 11 in OWGR)

- Making his sixth start at the Valspar Championship and first since 2013 (T7, best finish at the event)
- Has made two starts this season, highlighted by a T7 at last week's WGC-Mexico Championship

Henrik Stenson (No. 81 in FedExCup, No. 14 in OWGR)

- Has finished in the top 15 in each of his three previous starts at the Valspar Championship (T7/2017, T11/2016, 4/2015)
- Making his first domestic start of the season (T2/WGC-HSBC Champions)
- One of eight past FedExCup champions in the field (2013)

Gary Woodland (No. 12 in FedExCup, No. 26 in OWGR)

- Winner in his Valspar Championship debut in 2011
- Has made seven appearances at the event and has two top-10s (T8/2014, Won/2011)
- 72-hole score of 15-under 269 in 2011 is the third lowest in Valspar Championship history
- Won the Waste Management Phoenix Open in February and will be making his 11th start of the season

Steve Stricker (No. 169 in FedExCup, No. 133 in OWGR)

- Making his eighth start at the Valspar Championship and is in search of his fourth top-10
- Has made two starts on the PGA TOUR this season (T26/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T31/Waste Management Phoenix Open)

- Coming off his first PGA TOUR Champions victory at the Cologuard Classic in Tuscon, Arizona on Sunday
- Three players have won on the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions in the same year: Raymond Floyd (1992), Craig Stadler (2003) and Fred Funk (2007)

Notable Tournament Records/History

- 18-hole scoring record: 61 (Padraig Harrington/R1/2012)
- 72-hole scoring record: 18-under 266 (Vijay Singh/2004)
- Youngest winner: Jordan Spieth, 2015 (21 years, 7 months, 19 days)
- Most top-10s: 4 (K.J. Choi, Luke Donald, Charles Howell III; all in the field)
- 10 past Valspar Championship winners are in the field
 - o Adam Hadwin (2017)
 - Charl Schwartzel (2016)
 - o Jordan Spieth (2015)
 - o Kevin Streelman (2013)
 - o Luke Donald (2012)
 - o Gary Woodland (2011)
 - o Jim Furyk (2010)
 - o Retief Goosen (2003, 2009)
 - o Sean O'Hair (2008)
 - o K.J. Choi (2002, 2006)