



# 2018 Valspar Championship

(The 18th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Palm Harbor, Fla. March 8-11, 2018 Purse: \$6,500,000 (winner: \$1,170,000)

Innisbrook Resort & GC (Copperhead Course) Par/Yards: 36-35 - 71/7,340

Final-Round Notes - Sunday, March 11, 2018

Weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 74. Wind SSW 10-15 mph.

#### **Final-Round Leaderboard**

Position	Name	Score
1	Paul Casey	70-68-71-65—274 (-10)
T2	Patrick Reed	71-69-67-68—275 (-9)
T2	Tiger Woods	70-68-67-70—275 (-9)

#### **Paul Casev**

With his birdie at the par-3 13<sup>th</sup>, his seventh of the day to that point, England's Paul Casey became the first player to get to double digits for the week, 10-under par, and take the outright lead. He would make pars on his final five holes to get in with a 6-under 65 and finish at 10-under 274. When Casey finished, the final group of the day was on the 12<sup>th</sup> hole. Casey began the final round five strokes back at 4-under 209.

With his win, Casey collects his second PGA TOUR victory in his 227<sup>th</sup> start at the age of 40 years, 7 months and 18 days. This week marked his 151<sup>st</sup> start since winning his first title at the 2009 Houston Open.

Casey's win a week after 47-year-old Phil Mickelson's victory at the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship marks the first time the PGA TOUR has produced back-to-back winners in the 40s since 2016 (Rod Pampling/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open and Pat Perez/OHL Classic at Mayakoba).

With the victory, Casey collects 500 points and moves from No. 39 to No. 8 in the FedExCup standings with 842 points. Casey has advanced to the TOUR Championship four times, including each of the last three seasons.

Casey wins in his seventh start of the season, with a T7 at the CIMB Classic and T8 at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am his other top-10 finishes. He has yet to miss a cut this season.

Casey wins in his fifth start at the Valspar Championship, and first since 2014 (MC). His best finish at Innisbrook before this week was a T37 in 2011.

Casey becomes the fifth international winner on the PGA TOUR this season and second to hail from England (Justin Rose/World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions).

Casey becomes the ninth different international winner of the Valspar Championship and third-consecutive (Charl Schwartzel/2016, Adam Hadwin/2017). He joins Luke Donald as Englishmen to win the Valspar Championship.

Casey has now collected 51 top-10 finishes, seven of which were runner-up showings.

Casey struggled off the tee in the first three rounds, hitting six, five and four of 13 fairways, respectively. In Sunday's final round, he improved to nine of 13.

Casey played the "Snake Pit" holes (16-18) in 1-over for the week. Since 2013, no Valspar Championship winner has played the "Snake Pit" holes in better than even par.

Casey is the winner of 11 international victories, most recently being the 2014 KLM Open on the European Tour.

2017-18 starts-made cuts-top-10s-wins: 5-5-1-1

PGA TOUR career starts-made cuts-top-10s-wins: 227-168-51-2

Casey's stats for the week:

R1-6 of 13 fairways, 13 of 18 greens in regulation, 4/5 scrambling, 30 putts. R2-5 of 13 fairways, 10 of 18 greens in regulation, 7/8 scrambling, 25 putts. R3-4 of 13 fairways, 12 of 18 greens in regulation, 4/6 scrambling, 27 putts. R4-9 of 13 fairways, 9 of 18 greens in regulation, 8/9 scrambling, 21 putts.

## **About Paul Casey**

Height: 5-10 Weight: 180

Birthdate: July 21, 1977

Family: Wife, Pollyanna; Lex Samuel, Astaria Noelle

Birthplace: Cheltenham, England

Residence: Phoenix, Arizona / Weybridge, England

Education: Arizona State University

Turned Pro: 2000 Joined TOUR: 2004

### **Tiger Woods**

Tiger Woods made two birdies and one bogey in the final round, good for a 1-under 70 to finish T2 with Patrick Reed at 9-under 275. The finish marked his 30<sup>th</sup> runner-up finish and 187<sup>th</sup> top-10 in 332 PGA TOUR starts.

With his T2 showing, Woods is projected to move to No. 43 in the FedExCup standings.

With rounds of 70-68-67-70—275 (-9), Woods posted four-consecutive, sub-par scores in a tournament for the first time since the 2013 THE NORTHERN TRUST (T2).

Woods was seeking his 80<sup>th</sup> career victory, which would have brought him to within two of Sam Snead for most wins on the PGA TOUR (82).

This marked the 13<sup>th</sup> occasion on which Woods has entered a final round of a PGA TOUR event trailing by a stroke after 54 holes. He has converted for the win nine times.

This marked the 85<sup>th</sup> time Woods has been T2 or better after 54 holes on the PGA TOUR. He has converted for the win 64 times.

This was Woods' first start at the Valspar Championship. He has won nine titles in his 41 career tournament debuts.

Woods' stats for the week:

R1-7 of 13 fairways, 9 of 18 greens in regulation, 5/9 scrambling, 25 putts. R2-8 of 13 fairways, 11 of 18 greens in regulation, 6/7 scrambling, 26 putts. R3-8 of 13 fairways, 14 of 18 greens in regulation, 3/4 scrambling, 28 putts. R4-8 of 13 fairways, 14 of 18 greens in regulation, 3/4 scrambling, 32 putts.

#### **Patrick Reed**

Three years removed from his playoff loss to Jordan Spieth at the 2015 Valspar Championship, Patrick Reed bogeyed his 72<sup>nd</sup> hole to drop from a share of the 10-under lead, finishing instead at T2 with Tiger Woods at 9-under 275.

Reed, who began the final round three strokes off the lead at 6-under 207, was in search of his sixth PGA TOUR win and first since the 2016 THE NORTHERN TRUST in the FedExCup Playoffs.

At the 2015 Valspar Championship, Reed began the final round four strokes off the lead, before a final-round, 5-under 66 resulted in a spot in the playoff. He finished T2 with 2008 Valspar Championship winner, Sean O'Hair.

#### Sergio Garcia

Reigning Masters Champion Sergio Garcia made eight birdies in the final round, a tournament-best for a single round this week, and two bogeys to post a 6-under 65 and finish at 8-under 276 (4<sup>th</sup>). The 65 marks his lowest score in the event (24 rounds), supplanting a 66 from round two in 2011 (T15).

Garcia was making his sixth start in the Valspar Championship and first since 2013 (T7).

Garcia played the Copperhead Course's four par-5s in 10-under for the week.

Garcia was making his third start of the season on the PGA TOUR this week (T33/The Honda Classic, T7/World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship).

Garcia, a 10-time winner on the PGA TOUR, was making his 323<sup>rd</sup> professional start on TOUR this week. This marks his 98<sup>th</sup> top-10 finish.

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Corey Conners, who led outright in rounds one through three, posted a 6-over 77 in Sunday's final round to finish at 3-under 281 (T16).

Sam Burns came into the week with 122 non-member FedExCup points in his quest for Special Temporary Membership. In order to achieve that this week, he needed to finish no worse than in a 2-way tie for third to earn the necessary 147 points, equaling No. 150 in the FedExCup in 2016-17 (Rick Lamb, 269 points). Burns' T12 finish was worth 59 points, leaving him 88 points shy. Burns will be playing this week's Arnold Palmer Invitational on a sponsor invitation.

Playing on a sponsor invitation, 2010 Valspar Championship winner and 2010 FedExCup champion Jim Furyk made six birdies and one bogey to close with a 5-under 66 and finish solo-seventh at 6-under 278. This marked his first top-10 showing since a T6 at the 2016 The RSM Classic (T6). Furyk was making his 10<sup>th</sup> start in the Valspar Championship this week.

At 4-under 280, defending champion Adam Hadwin finished T12. The best title defense by a Valspar Championship winner belongs to Luke Donald, who finished T4 in 2013.

## Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Jimmy Walker (69), Luke Donald (70).

R2: Tyrone Van Aswegen (65), Aaron Wise (67), Bill Haas (68).

R3: Russell Knox (66), Adam Scott (66), Austin Cook (69).

R4: Jamie Lovemark (68).

Scoring Averages at the par-71 Copperhead Course:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	36.931	35.931	72.861	
R2	36.930	35.357	72.287	72.574
R3	35.744	34.936	70.679	71.942
R4	36.051	34.974	71.026	71.713

## Cumulative Snake Pit Statistics:

Hole	Rank	Scoring Average
16	1	4.300
17	7	3.135
18	5	4.172