



**2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open**  
*(The 13th of 48 events in the PGA TOUR Season)*

**Scottsdale, Arizona**                      **Feb. 1-4, 2018**                      **Purse: \$6,900,000 (\$1,242,000 winner)**  
**TPC Scottsdale**    **Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,266 yards**                      **500 FedExCup points to winner**

**First-Round Notes – Thursday, February 1, 2018**

*Weather: Sunny, with a high of 80. Wind SW 5-10 mph.*

**First-Round Leaderboard**

Pos.	Name	Score
1	Bill Haas	64/-7
T2	Rickie Fowler	66/-5
T2	Billy Horschel	66/-5
T2	Bryson DeChambeau	66/-5
T2	Chris Kirk	66/-5
T2	Chesson Hadley	66/-5

**Bill Haas**

Making his 10<sup>th</sup> start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open, 2011 FedExCup champion Bill Haas made five birdies and an eagle-3 at No. 15 en route to a bogey-free 64. The 64 is his lowest score on the PGA TOUR since a second-round 64 at the 2017 Wyndham Championship.

Haas has previously held an 18-hole lead/co-lead seven times, but not since the 2014 Masters (T20). The only one of those events which resulted in victory was the 2010 Sanderson Farms Championship.

Haas previously collected top-10 finishes at the Waste Management Phoenix Open in 2008 (T9) and 2013 (T6). In his most recent start at TPC Scottsdale before this week, he posted scores of 71-72-72-77—292 (+8) to finish 76<sup>th</sup>.

Haas, a six-time winner on the PGA TOUR, is in search of his first victory since the 2015 CareerBuilder Challenge.

**First-Round Lead Notes**

Since 2000, only three first-round leaders of the event have emerged victorious; 2000/Tom Lehman, 2013/Phil Mickelson, 2016/Hideki Matsuyama.

After last year’s first round, Matt Kuchar led Matsuyama and Brendan Steele by a stroke at 7-under 64.

Through 12 events in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, five players have managed to convert an 18-hole lead/co-lead into victory. Most recently, Jon Rahm did so at the CareerBuilder Challenge.

**Chris Kirk**

Chris Kirk made six birdies and one bogey, at his last hole of the day (No. 18), good for a 5-under 66.

Kirk is making his seventh-consecutive start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open this week, having never finished better than T24 (2013).

Kirk, a four-time winner on TOUR, is in search of his first win since the 2015 DEAN & DELUCA Invitational.

**Rickie Fowler**

Following five straight pars to begin his round (No. 10), Rickie Fowler carded an eagle-3 at the 15<sup>th</sup>. He followed a bogey at No. 16 with birdies at Nos. 17, 18, 4 and 8, good for a 5-under 66.

Fowler’s 66 in round one marks his 10<sup>th</sup>-consecutive round in the 60s at TPC Scottsdale, dating to round four of 2015.

Fowler is making his 10<sup>th</sup> start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open this week, where he has collected three top-10 finishes; 2<sup>nd</sup>/2010, 2<sup>nd</sup>/2016 (playoff), T4/2017.

Fowler, a four-time winner on the PGA TOUR, is in search of his first win since the 2017 The Honda Classic. Prior to that, he won the 2012 Wells Fargo Championship, 2015 PLAYERS Championship and 2015 Dell Technologies Championship.

### **Billy Horschel**

2014 FedExCup champion Billy Horschel made five birdies and no bogeys in round one to open with a 66, his lowest opening-round score by three shots in six starts at TPC Scottsdale.

Horschel comes into the week ranked T108 in first-round scoring average on the PGA TOUR (70.33).

Horschel is making his sixth start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open, having finished T24 in both 2016 and 2017.

Horschel is the winner of four TOUR events, most recently at last year's AT&T Byron Nelson.

### **Jon Rahm**

Jon Rahm, who moved to No. 2 in the FedExCup standings and No. 2 in the Official World Golf Ranking after his win at the CareerBuilder Challenge, birdied his final hole of the day, No. 9, to post a 4-under 67 in his third start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open (2015/T5 as an amateur, 2017/T16).

Rahm, a 2016 Arizona State University grad, hit 12 of 14 fairways in regulation and 14 of 18 greens.

### **Hideki Matsuyama**

2016 and 2017 Waste Management Phoenix Open champion Hideki Matsuyama birdied his final hole of the day, No. 9, to open with a 2-under 69.

With today's 69, Matsuyama is now a perfect 17-17 in rounds of par-or-better at TPC Scottsdale. His only round of even par came in round two of 2015 (T2).

Matsuyama is making his fifth-consecutive start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open, where he has yet to finish outside the top five; T4/2014, T2/2015, 1<sup>st</sup>/2016, 1<sup>st</sup>/2017.

### **Phil Mickelson**

Making his 29<sup>th</sup> start in the Waste Management Phoenix Open, tying the all-time record for most (Gene Littler, Jim Ferrier and Jerry Barber), Phil Mickelson opened with a 1-under 70.

Mickelson, who will begin round two six strokes back, was also six strokes back en route to his 1996 and 2005 victories at TPC Scottsdale. Following an opening-round, 11-under 60 in 2013, he held a four-stroke lead after 18 holes before winning his third Waste Management Phoenix Open title.

Mickelson is hoping to become the first four-time winner of this event. Mark Calcavecchia, Gene Littler and Arnold Palmer also captured three tournament titles.

Mickelson's 10 top-10 finishes in the event is the tournament record by one over Mark Calcavecchia.

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

Six past Waste Management Phoenix Open champions are in the field: Hideki Matsuyama/2016, 2017 (69), Phil Mickelson/1996, 2005, 2013 (70), Kyle Stanley/2012 (73), Hunter Mahan/2010 (71), J.B. Holmes/2006, 2008 (72) and Aaron Baddeley/2007 (72).

J.J. Spaun withdrew during round one with an injury.

In the Ford "Drive for Your Ride" competition, the combined closet-to-the-pin tee shots on No. 16 in rounds one and two will win a 2018 Ford Expedition. Cameron Smith leads with his tee shot to 1' 6".

### **First-round Scoring Averages**

<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
35.382	35.511	70.893	---

### **Bogey-free rounds at TPC Scottsdale:**

R1: Bill Haas (64), Bryson DeChambeau (66), Billy Horschel (66), Chez Reavie (68), Ben Martin (69).