

2018 World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play (*The 20th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR Season*)

 Austin, Texas
 March 21-25, 2018
 Purse: \$10,000,000 (\$1,700,000 to the winner)

 Austin County Club
 Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,108
 Purse: \$10,000,000 (\$1,700,000 to the winner)

Third-Round Notes – Friday, March 23, 2018

Friday Weather

Mostly cloudy. High of 85. Wind S 15-25 mph.

Group format

The 64-player Dell Technologies Match Play field is divided into 16 four-player groups. Each group played round-robin matches within their group on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Players received one point for a victory, ½ point for a draw and zero points for a loss.

The player with the best record in each of the four-player groups advanced to the Round of 16 for single-elimination match play. In the event two players were tied in points following the completion of group play, those players had a sudden-death hole-by-hole playoff starting on No. 1. The Round of 16 will be played Saturday morning, followed by the Quarterfinals on Saturday afternoon. The Semifinals will be Sunday morning, followed by the Championship Match and Consolation Match on Sunday afternoon.

The top seed for each of the 16 four-player groups are the top 16 players in order of their position in the Official World Golf Ranking. The remaining three players in each group were determined by a blind draw from each of three pools depending on their standing in the OWGR.

Round of 16 Matchups

Kevin Kisner (32) vs. Matt Kuchar (16) Louis Oosthuizen (25) vs. Ian Poulter (58) Patrick Reed (19) vs. Alex Noren (13) Cameron Smith (46) vs. Tyrrell Hatton (12) Justin Thomas (2) vs. Si Woo Kim (50) Sergio Garcia (7) vs. Kyle Stanley (45) Kiradech Aphibarnrat (28) vs. Charles Howell (59) Brian Harman (18) vs. Bubba Watson (35)

Miscellaneous Notes

Five matches occurred Friday in which each player was guaranteed to advance with a win.

- Justin Thomas defeated Francesco Molinari, 7 and 5, to win group 2
- Patrick Reed defeated Jordan Spieth, 2 and 1, to win group 4
- Sergio Garcia defeated Xander Schauffele, 3 and 1, to win group 7
- Alex Noren defeated Tony Finau, 1 up, to win group 13
- Si Woo Kim defeated Webb Simpson, 2 up, to win group 15

Three players advanced to the round of 16 after sudden-death playoffs were required to determine the group winner.

- Louis Oosthuizen defeated Jason Dufner with a par on the first extra hole to win group 8
- Kyle Stanley defeated Paul Casey with a birdie on the second extra hole to win group 10
- Tyrrell Hatton defeated Brendan Steele with a birdie on the first extra hole to win group 12

With a victory, Justin Thomas would move to No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking. The last three winners of the Dell Technologies Match Play have either been No. 1 in the world (Dustin Johnson/2017, Rory McIlroy/2015) or moved to No. 1 in the world by winning the event (Jason Day/2016).

Ian Poulter advanced to the round of 16 with his 26th career win at the event, good for second-most all-time (Tiger Woods/33). Poulter, Sergio Garcia and Paul Casey each played in their 40th match in their history at the event and are in a three-way tie for second-most all time (Woods/43).

Eight of the top-10 seeds failed to advance from group play. The only top-10 seeds to earn a berth in the round of 16 were Justin Thomas (No. 2) and Sergio Garcia (No. 7).

Of the 15 players making their first appearance at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, only Brian Harman and Cameron Smith are advancing to the round of 16.

In total, seven players recorded a perfect 3-0-0 record in group play: Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Sergio Garcia, Charles Howell III, Alex Noren, Ian Poulter, Patrick Reed and Justin Thomas.

2017 champion Dustin Johnson and runner-up Jon Rahm both will not advance after a combined 0-5-1 record in group play, with Rahm accounting for the half-point.

GROUP 1

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Kevin Kisner | (32) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 5-3-1 |
| Adam Hadwin | (38) | 1-0-2 | 2 | 1-0-2 |
| Bernd Wiesberger | (52) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 4-7-2 |
| Dustin Johnson | (1) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 14-12-0 |

Group 1 round-by-round

RD. 1 - Wiesberger defeated Johnson, 3 and 1; Kisner halved with Hadwin

RD. 2 - Hadwin defeated Johnson, 4 and 3; Kisner defeated Wiesberger, 5 and 4

RD. 3 - Kisner defeated Johnson, 4 and 3; Hadwin and Wiesberger halved

Kevin Kisner defeated Dustin Johnson, 4 and 3, to finish 2-0-1 in group play and advance to the round of 16. Kisner is making his third start at the event and is advancing from group play for the first time.

Kisner has made nine starts this season with the best result being a T4 at The RSM Classic.

Johnson recorded a 489-yard drive on the par-5 12th. While stats do not officially count at WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, by comparison, the official longest drive in the ShotLink era (since 2003) is 476 yards by Davis Love III at the 2004 Sentry Tournament of Champions.

For the second consecutive year, the defending champion did not advance beyond the group stage with 2017 champion Dustin Johnson falling 4 and 3 to Adam Hadwin in the second round. Tiger Woods will remain the only player in Dell Technologies Match Play history to win in back-to-back years with his wins in 2003 and 2004.

| GROUP 2 | | | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Justin Thomas | (2) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 4-5-0 |
| Francesco Molinari | (21) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 4-11-0 |
| Patton Kizzire | (48) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 2-3-2 |
| Luke List | (60) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 0-3-0 |

Group 2 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Justin Thomas defeated Luke List, 2 up; Francesco Molinari defeated Patton Kizzire, 3 and 1

RD. 2 - Thomas defeated Kizzire, 3 and 1; Molinari defeated List, 3 and 2

RD. 3 – Thomas defeated Molinari, 7 and 5; Kizzire defeated List, 4 and 2

Justin Thomas made seven birdies through the first 12 holes and defeated Francesco Molinari, 7 and 5, to advance to the round of 16. The match was one of five on Friday in which each player was guaranteed to advance with a win.

Thomas, currently No. 1 in the FedExCup, would move to No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking if he wins the tournament. Thomas is one of seven players with a perfect 3-0-0 record this week and came into the event with a career mark of 1-5-0 at the event.

Thomas defeated Patton Kizzire Thursday, 3 and 1, in a matchup of the top two in the FedExCup standings and the only players with multiple wins during the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season.

Thomas has won seven of his last 32 starts on the PGA TOUR, including two victories during the 2017-18 season. The reigning FedExCup champion has four total top-10s this season and four additional top-25s.

GROUP 3

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|----------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Kiradech Aphibarnrat | (28) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 4-2-0 |
| Chez Reavie | (43) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 1-1-0 |
| Keegan Bradley | (63) | 0-1-2 | 1 | 1-7-0 |
| Jon Rahm | (3) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 6-3-1 |

Group 3 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Rahm and Bradley halved; Aphibarnrat defeated Reavie, 3 and 2

RD. 2 – Reavie defeated Rahm, 1-up; Aphibarnrat defeated Bradley, 1-up

RD. 3 – Aphibarnrat defeated Rahm, 4 and 3; Reavie and Bradley halved

Thailand's Kiradech Aphibarnrat defeated Jon Rahm, 4 and 3, and will advance to the round of 16. Aphibarnrat, winner of the European Tour's Saltire Energy Paul Lawrie Match Play in 2015 and the 2018 ISPS HANDA World Super 6 Perth (which includes the match-play format), is one of seven players to record a perfect 3-0-0 record in group play.

Last year's runner-up Jon Rahm, who stands at No. 5 in the FedExCup and No. 3 in the Official World Golf Ranking, had a record of 0-2-1 on the week.

GROUP 4

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Patrick Reed | (19) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 9-5-1 |
| Jordan Spieth | (4) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 11-5-1 |
| Charl Schwartzel | (49) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 14-11-0 |
| Hao Tong Li | (34) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 0-3-0 |

Group 4 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Jordan Spieth defeated Charl Schwartzel, 2 and 1; Patrick Reed defeated Hao Tong Li, 3 and 2

RD. 2 – Spieth defeated Li, 4 and 2; Reed defeated Schwartzel, 1-up

RD. 3 – Reed defeated Spieth, 2 and 1; Schwartzel defeated Li, 3 and 2

Patrick Reed, entering the 17th hole 2 up against Jordan Spieth, matched Spieth's birdie with one of his own to close the match and advance from group play. The Reed-Spieth matchup was one of five deciding matches on Friday.

Reed, who is one of seven players with a perfect 3-0-0 record on the week, advances from group play for the second time in his fifth start at the event (lost in round of 16 in 2016).

Making his fifth start at the event, Spieth is yet to advance beyond the quarterfinals. His best appearance came in his inaugural effort in 2014 with a loss in the quarterfinals. Spieth played collegiately at the University of Texas and the 11-time PGA TOUR winner is still searching for his first World Golf Championships victory.

Spieth and Reed have been paired together 12 times between the Presidents Cup and Ryder Cup:

- 2015, 2017 Presidents Cup: 5
- 2014, 2016 Ryder Cup: 7

Their record as a pairing: 8-1-3

- 2017 Presidents Cup: 3-0-1
- 2016 Ryder Cup: 2-1-1
- 2015 Presidents Cup: 1-0-0

2014 Ryder Cup: 2-0-1

GROUP 5

| <u>Player</u> | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Cameron Smith | (46) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 2-0-1 |
| Patrick Cantlay | (30) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 2-1-0 |
| Hideki Matsuyama | (5) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 7-7-1 |
| Yusaku Miyazato | (53) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 0-2-1 |

Group 5 round-by-round

RD. 1- Hideki Matsuyama defeated Yusaku Miyazato, 2 and 1; Cameron Smith defeated Patrick Cantlay, 2 up

RD. 2 – Smith defeated Matsuyama, 1-up, Cantlay defeated Miyazato, 1-up

RD. 3 – Cantlay defeated Matsuyama, 4 and 3; Smith and Miyazato halved

In his first start at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, Cameron Smith went 2-0-1 in group play to advance to the round of 16. Smith, who is one of two group winners making their WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play debuts, made birdie to win the 18th hole and halve his match with Yusaku Miyazato for the deciding half-point.

Smith currently ranks No. 26 in the FedExCup standings with two top-fives and four additional top-25s. His best finish came at the CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, where he finished in third place and one shot outside the playoff between Justin Thomas and Marc Leishman.

Matsuyama has advanced from the group stage once in four attempts (2015; lost to eventual champion Rory McIlroy in round of 16).

GROUP 6

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|-----------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Brian Harman | (18) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 2-0-1 |
| Peter Uihlein | (57) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 2-1-0 |
| Rory McIlroy | (6) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 24-11-2 |
| Jhonattan Vegas | (44) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 2-3-1 |

Group 6 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Peter Uihlein defeated Rory McIlroy, 2 and 1; Brian Harman and Jhonattan Vegas halved

RD. 2 – McIlroy defeated Vegas, 2 and 1; Harman defeated Uihlein, 3 and 2

RD. 3 – Harman defeated McIlroy, 5 and 3; Uihlein defeated Vegas, 4 and 3

Brian Harman defeated Rory McIlroy, 5 and 3, to advance to the round of 16. Harman is one of two group winners making their WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play debuts.

Harman has made 10 previous starts this season and has six top-10s (T5/THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, 8th/WGC-HSBC Champions, T4/The RSM Classic, 3rd/Sentry Tournament of Champions, T4/Sony Open in Hawaii, T5/WGC-Mexico Championship).

Mcllroy, making his 10th appearance at the event, failed to advance to the round of 16 for the second consecutive season. He won the event in 2015 and finished second in 2012. McIlroy was coming off a victory at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard.

| GROUP / | | | | |
|-------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Sergio Garcia | (7) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 22-17-1 |
| Xander Schauffele | (20) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 2-1-0 |
| Dylan Frittelli | (41) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 1-2-0 |
| Shubhankar Sharma | (62) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 0-3-0 |

Group 7 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Sergio Garcia defeated Shubhankar Sharma, 1 up; Xander Schauffele defeated Dylan Frittelli, 1 up

RD. 2 – Garcia defeated Frittelli, 2-up; Schauffele defeated Sharma, 3 and 1

RD. 3 – Garcia defeated Schauffele, 3 and 1; Frittelli defeated Sharma, 1 up

Spain's Sergio Garcia, making his first start since the birth of his daughter last week, advanced to the round of 16 with a 3and-1 victory against Xander Schauffele. The match was one of five on Friday in which each player was guaranteed to advance with a win.

Garcia, who is one of seven players in the field with a 3-0-0 record in group play, is advancing to the round of 16 for the first time since the tournament moved to the group format in 2015. Garcia's best finish at the event came in 2010 when he advanced to the consolation match and finished fourth.

GROUP 8

| <u>Player</u> | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Louis Oosthuizen | (25) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 19-9-0 |
| Jason Dufner | (42) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 6-10-1 |
| Jason Day | (8) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 22-11-0 |
| James Hahn | (56) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 1-2-0 |

Group 8 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Jason Day defeated James Hahn, 4 and 2; Louis Oosthuizen defeated Jason Dufner, 1 up

RD. 2 – Dufner defeated Day, 3 and 1; Hahn defeated Oosthuizen, 3 and 1

RD. 3 – Oosthuizen defeated Day, 2-up; Dufner defeated Hahn, 3 and 2

*Oosthuizen defeated Dufner in a sudden-death playoff with a par on the first extra hole

Louis Oosthuizen defeated Jason Dufner in a sudden-death playoff with a par on the first extra hole to advance to the round of 16. Oosthuizen and Dufner forced the playoff by winning their third-round matches, with each player in the group tied at 1 point entering the day.

Oosthuizen's 2-up victory over Jason Day on Friday came in a rematch of the 2016 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play final, won by Day. Oosthuizen is making his ninth appearance in the event and has been as far as the quarterfinals three times, including his runner-up in 2016 and twice losing in the quarterfinals (2014, 2015).

Day was making his eighth start at the event, including wins in 2014 and 2016.

| GROUP 9 | |
|-------------|------|
| Player | Seed |
| Ian Poulter | (58) |

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|-----------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| lan Poulter | (58) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 26-14-0 |
| Tommy Fleetwood | (9) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 6-5-0 |
| Kevin Chappell | (33) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 2-3-0 |
| Daniel Berger | (26) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 1-8-0 |

Group 9 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Ian Poulter defeated Tommy Fleetwood, 3 and 2; Kevin Chappell defeated Daniel Berger, 3 and 2

RD. 2 – Fleetwood defeated Chappell, 7 and 6; Poulter defeated Berger, 2 and 1

RD. 3 – Fleetwood defeated Berger, 2 and 1; Poulter defeated Chappell (concession)

Ian Poulter advanced to the round of 16 after Kevin Chappell withdrew (back). Poulter, the 2010 Dell Technologies Match Play champion, earned his 26th win at the event, good for second-most all-time (Tiger Woods/33). Poulter could join Jason Day (2014, 2016), Geoff Ogilvy (2006, 2009) and Tiger Woods (2003, 2004, 2008) as multiple winners of the event.

Poulter is one of seven players to post a 3-0-0 record in group play. After losing the first hole to Chappell on Friday, Poulter won each of the next four holes to take a 3-up lead and held it until Chappell conceded.

| GROUP 10 | | | | |
|---------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Kyle Stanley | (45) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 3-2-0 |
| Paul Casey | (10) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 25-14-1 |
| Russell Henley | (51) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 3-5-0 |
| Matthew Fitzpatrick | (31) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 4-5-0 |

Group 10 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Paul Casey defeated Russell Henley, 1 up; Kyle Stanley defeated Matthew Fitzpatrick, 1 up

RD. 2 – Casey defeated Stanley, 4 and 2; Henley defeated Fitzpatrick, 2 and 1

RD. 3 – Fitzpatrick defeated Casey, 3 and 2; Stanley defeated Henley, 1 up

*Stanley defeated Casey in a sudden-death playoff with a birdie on the second extra hole.

Kyle Stanley forced a sudden-death playoff with Paul Casey and won with a birdie on the second extra hole to advance to the round of 16.

After Casey was defeated by Matthew Fitzpatrick and fell to 2-1-0 in group play, Stanley tied Casey at 2 points by defeating Russell Henley, 1 up. Stanley, who is making his second appearance at the event, is advancing to the round of 16 for the first time.

Casey, a two-time runner-up at the event, had advanced out of the group stage two of the last three years, including a fourth-round loss to Hideto Tanihara in 2017 and a quarterfinal loss to Rory McIlroy in 2015, which went 22 holes.

GROUP 11

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|---------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Bubba Watson | (35) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 16-8-3 |
| Branden Grace | (23) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 6-8-1 |
| Julian Suri | (64) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 1-1-1 |
| Marc Leishman | (11) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 5-8-2 |

Group 11 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Julian Suri defeated Marc Leishman, 3 and 2; Bubba Watson defeated Branden Grace, 5 and 3

RD. 2 - Watson defeated Leishman, 3 and 2; Grace defeated Suri, 2 and 1

RD. 3 – Leishman and Grace halved; Watson and Suri halved

Bubba Watson halved his match with Julian Suri, good for a 2-0-1 record over three rounds and a berth in the round of 16. Suri held a 2-up lead with two holes to play, but Watson made birdie at Nos. 17 and 18 to advance.

Watson's best finish in the event came in his first appearance in 2011, when he reached the consolation match and finished fourth.

Watson earned his 10th career victory earlier this season at the Genesis Open. Last season, Watson had his lowest finish in the final FedExCup standings (No. 75) and recorded six top-25s.

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|-----------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Tyrrell Hatton | (12) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 4-2-0 |
| Brendan Steele | (36) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 2-2-1 |
| Alexander Levy | (55) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 1-5-0 |
| Charley Hoffman | (22) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 4-6-0 |

GROUP 12

Group 12 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Tyrrell Hatton defeated Alexander Levy, 3 and 2; Brendan Steele defeated Charley Hoffman, 1 up

RD. 2 - Hatton defeated Steele, 3 and 2; Levy defeated Hoffman, 1-up

RD. 3 – Hoffman defeated Hatton, 3 and 2; Steele defeated Levy, 3 and 1

*Hatton defeated Steele in a sudden-death playoff with a birdie on the first extra hole

Tyrrell Hatton fell 3 and 2 to Charley Hoffman Friday but was able to advance with a sudden-death playoff victory over Brendan Steele. Hatton earns a spot in the round of 16 for the first time in his second appearance at the event.

After Hatton was defeated by Hoffman, Steele forced the playoff with a 3 and 1 victory against Alexander Levy. Hatton made birdie on the first extra hole, while Steele made bogey. Hatton made 15 consecutive pars to start his match with Hoffman and recorded a birdie at 16, but lost 3 and 2.

Hatton lost a deciding Friday match in 2017 against Rafa Cabrera Bello, 2 and 1, in his first appearance in the event. Hatton is coming off his best result in a World Golf Championships event, finishing third at the WGC-Mexico Championship.

| GROUP 13 | | | | |
|----------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Alex Noren | (13) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 8-3-0 |
| Tony Finau | (29) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 2-1-0 |
| Thomas Pieters | (39) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 2-4-3 |
| Kevin Na | (61) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 5-8-2 |

Group 13 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Alex Noren defeated Kevin Na, 4 and 2; Tony Finau defeated Thomas Pieters, 2 and 1

RD. 2 - Noren defeated Pieters, 5 and 4; Finau defeated Na, 3 and 2

RD. 3 - Noren defeated Finau, 1 up; Pieters and Na halved

Sweden's Alex Noren defeated Tony Finau in one of five Friday matches that decided their respective groups. After taking a 1-up lead with a birdie at No. 17, Noren made a 14-foot par putt at the 18th to seal the match.

Noren lost to eventual champion Dustin Johnson in last year's quarterfinal, 5 and 3, to finish T5. Noren, a first-year member on the PGA TOUR, is looking to become the second player from Sweden to win a WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, joining 2007 champion Henrik Stenson.

Noren has two top-fives in seven previous starts this season (P2/Farmers Insurance Open, 3rd/The Honda Classic).

| GROUP 14 | | | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Charles Howell III | (59) | 3-0-0 | 3 | 10-10-0 |
| Phil Mickelson | (14) | 2-1-0 | 2 | 24-14-0 |
| Rafa Cabrera Bello | (17) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 9-6-1 |
| Satoshi Kodaira | (40) | 0-3-0 | 0 | 0-3-0 |

Group 14 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Charles Howell III defeated Phil Mickelson, 3 and 2; Rafa Cabrera Bello defeated Satoshi Kodaira, 2 and 1

RD. 2 – Mickelson defeated Kodaira, 1 up; Howell III defeated Cabrera Bello, 3 and 1

RD. 3 – Mickelson defeated Cabrera Bello, 1 up; Howell III defeated Kodaira, 2 and 1

No. 59 seed Charles Howell III defeated Satoshi Kodaira, 2 and 1, to advance out of group play for the second consecutive year. Howell is one of seven players to record a perfect 3-0-0 record in group play and is the lowest seed to advance.

Howell advanced from his group last year by winning a three-man playoff against Tyrrell Hatton and Rafa Cabrera Bello on the fifth playoff hole, but went on to lose to Jon Rahm, 6 and 4, in the quarterfinals. Howell has made nine previous starts at the event and has now advanced to the round of 16 three times (2018, 2017, 2007). Howell has never made it to the quarterfinals of the event.

This is Howell's 13th start of the 2017-18 season. He has two top-10s (T4/OHL Classic at Mayakoba, T6/Farmers Insurance Open).

| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
|---------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Si Woo Kim | (50) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 3-1-2 |
| Webb Simpson | (37) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 8-8-0 |
| Gary Woodland | (24) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 8-6-1 |
| Pat Perez | (15) | 0-2-1 | 1/2 | 3-5-1 |

GROUP 15

Group 15 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Pat Perez and Si Woo Kim halved; Gary Woodland and Webb Simpson halved.

RD. 2 – Simpson defeated Perez, 2 and 1; Kim defeated Woodland, 5 and 3

RD. 3 – Woodland defeated Perez, 1 up; Kim defeated Simpson, 2 up

In one of five matches Friday in which each player was guaranteed to advance with a victory, Si Woo Kim defeated Webb Simpson, 2 up, to win group 15. Kim is making his first appearance in the round of 16 in his second start at the event.

Kim, the defending champion of THE PLAYERS Championship, is making his 13th start of the season. His best result came at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba (3rd).

| GROUP 16 | | | | |
|--------------|------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Player | Seed | Record | Points | Career Dell Tech Match Play Record |
| Matt Kuchar | (16) | 2-0-1 | 2.5 | 23-8-3 |
| Yuta Ikeda | (47) | 1-1-1 | 1.5 | 1-1-1 |
| Ross Fisher | (27) | 1-2-0 | 1 | 9-7-0 |
| Zach Johnson | (54) | 0-1-2 | 1 | 14-15-2 |

Group 16 round-by-round

RD. 1 – Matt Kuchar and Zach Johnson halved; Yuta Ikeda defeated Ross Fisher, 2 and 1

RD. 2 – Kuchar defeated Ikeda, 1-up; Fisher defeated Johnson, 2-up

RD. 3 – Kuchar defeated Fisher, 6 and 4; Ikeda and Johnson halved

Kuchar, the 2013 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play champion, made a hole-in-one at the par-3 7th and defeated Ross Fisher, 6 and 4, to advance to the round of 16. Kuchar was bogey-free over the course of the 14-hole match and has posted just two bogeys in 50 holes for the week.

In the first round, Kuchar and Zach Johnson combined for 15 birdies, with Johnson recording birdies on each of the last four holes to halve the match.

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