



2018 World Golf Championships–Mexico Championship
(The 17th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Mexico City, Mexico
Club de Golf Chapultepec

March 1 - 4, 2018

Purse: \$10,000,000
Par/Yards: 71/7,345

Final-Round Notes – Sunday, March 04, 2018

Weather: Mostly sunny with a high of 79. Gentle ENE winds at 5-10 mph.

Note: Elevation is a factor at Club de Golf Chapultepec. According to ShotLink mapping data, the lowest part of the course is 7,603 feet above sea level and the highest part of the course is 7,835 feet above sea level.

Final-Round Leaderboard

*Phil Mickelson	69-68-65-66—268 (-16)
Justin Thomas	72-70-62-64—268 (-16)
Rafa Cabrera Bello	66-67-69-67—269 (-15)
Tyrrell Hatton	70-68-64-67—269 (-15)
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	66-69-71-65—271 (-13)
Brian Harman	68-67-68-68—271 (-13)

*Phil Mickelson won the sudden-death playoff with a par at the first extra hole (par-3 17th).

Seventeen of 19 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championships have been decided by two strokes or less, including the last eight.

Phil Mickelson

Phil Mickelson fired a final-round 5-under 66 to match Justin Thomas (64), already in the clubhouse on 16-under 268, forcing a playoff at the WGC-Mexico Championship. Mickelson won the sudden-death playoff on the first extra hole with a two-putt par when Thomas failed to get up-and-down from behind the green at the par-3 17th hole.

Mickelson won his 43rd PGA TOUR event in his 578th career start at the age of 47 years, 8 months, 16 days. Mickelson becomes the oldest winner of a World Golf Championships event, supplanting Vijay Singh, who captured the 2008 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational at 45 years, 5 months, 12 days. Before Mickelson, Ernie Els, aged 40 years, 4 months, 25 days in 2010, was the oldest winner of the WGC-Mexico Championship.

Mickelson moved from No. 17 to No. 3 in the FedExCup standings. Since the FedExCup's 2007 inception, the winner of the WGC-Mexico Championship has made it all the way to the TOUR Championship all but once, with Geoff Ogilvy missing the 30-player event in 2008 after victory at Doral. The WGC-Mexico Championship also has the longest current streak of past champions advancing to the TOUR Championship with nine, tied with the Sentry Tournament of Champions and the Valspar Championship.

With his win, Mickelson was the first member of the World Golf Hall of Fame to win on TOUR since he won The Open Championship in 2013, the year after he was inducted.

Mickelson's playoff record on the PGA TOUR is now 8-4 with the win over Thomas. Mickelson had lost the three most recent playoffs he'd been in;
Lost to Charles Howell III, 2007 Genesis Open
Lost to J.B. Holmes, 2008 Waste Management Phoenix Open
Lost to Bill Haas, 2012 Genesis Open

Mickelson moved from No. 34 to inside the top 20 in the Official World Golf Ranking with the win.

Mickelson has now won 16 of his 43 victories after trailing heading into the final round.

The WGC-Mexico Championship win, his third WGC title, is Mickelson's first victory since the 2013 Open Championship – a 96-event drought. In 16 starts at the WGC-Mexico Championship, Mickelson has two victories (2009, 2018) and two top-five finishes (5th/2016, T3/2013).

After taking The Honda Classic off last week, Mickelson continued a streak of four consecutive top-10 finishes on the PGA TOUR (T5/Waste Management Phoenix Open, T2/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T6/Genesis Open, 1st/WGC-Mexico Championship). The last time Mickelson had four consecutive top-10 finishes on the PGA TOUR was in 2005 (1/Waste Management Phoenix Open, 1/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T9/WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, 2/Ford Championship at Doral).

Mickelson has now recorded his 192 top-10 finishes on the PGA TOUR (578 career starts).

Mickelson, who had brother, Tim, on the bag, is the first player since Dustin Johnson at the 2018 Sentry Tournament of Champions to win with his brother as his caddie.

Mickelson was one of four players (Rafa Cabrera Bello, Brian Harman, Dustin Johnson) to post four sub-70 rounds this week. Last year, Thomas Pieters was the only player in the field with four sub-70 rounds at Club de Golf Chapultepec. During the 10 years that Doral hosted the WGC-Mexico Championship (2007-2016), only three players completed the tournament with all four rounds below 70 – Mickelson (65-66-69-69/1st) and Jim Furyk (68-68-69-67/3rd) in 2009, and Steve Stricker (67-67-69-68/2nd) in 2013.

Phil Mickelson Stats

Stat	Strokes Gained	Rank
Off the Tee	1.918	19
Tee to Green	6.086	15
Approach the Green	3.278	18
Around the Green	0.885	22
Putting	7.305	4
Total	13.391	4

Phil Mickelson Bio

WORLD GOLF HALL OF FAME MEMBER (2012)

FULL NAME: Philip Alfred Mickelson

HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 200

BIRTHDATE: June 16, 1970

BIRTHPLACE: San Diego, California

RESIDENCE: Rancho Santa Fe, California

FAMILY: Wife, Amy; Amanda Brynn (6/21/99), Sophia Isabel (10/23/01), Evan Samuel (3/23/03)

EDUCATION: Arizona State University (1992, Psychology)

SPECIAL INTERESTS: All sports, especially football; flying

TURNUED PROFESSIONAL: 1992

CLUB AFFILIATION: Grayhawk GC (Scottsdale, Arizona)

JOINED TOUR: 1992

Third-Round Leader Stats

Eight of 16 third-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win on the PGA TOUR this season, most recently Bubba Watson at the Genesis Open.

Since 1999, the 54-hole leader/co-leader has converted the victory at the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship 11 times with the most recent in 2014 (Patrick Reed).

Last year, Justin Thomas held a one-shot lead over eventual champion Dustin Johnson through 54 holes. Thomas carded a final-round 72 to finish T5.

Justin Thomas

Justin Thomas was seeking his third title of the season, and second in as many weeks before being defeated by Phil Mickelson in a playoff. Last week, Thomas won The Honda Classic in a playoff. Earlier this season he claimed THE CJ CUP NINE BRIDGES in Korea, also in a playoff.

Thomas was seeking to become the first player since David Duval (1997 Michelob Championship at Kingsmill, Walt Disney World Resort/Oldsmobile Classic) to win consecutive PGA TOUR events in playoffs.

Justin Thomas Playoff Record

Defeated Marc Leishman, 2017 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES

Defeated Luke List, 2018 The Honda Classic

Lost to Phil Mickelson, 2018 World Golf Championship-Mexico Championship

Thomas began the final round in 10th position, four strokes back of leader Shubhankar Sharma, and immediately made his mark with birdies at the first two holes. Thomas added four additional birdies to reach 15-under before dropping a shot at the par-3 17th hole when he failed to get up-and-down from the fringe. After finding the fairway on the 72nd hole, Thomas jarred a sand-wedge from 119 yards for an eagle 2, shooting a final-round 64, and waited for Mickelson to force the playoff. It was the second eagle of the week on a par-4 for Thomas. He eagled No. 1 while shooting a course-record 9-under 62 in the third round.

Thomas' 7-under 64 was his 15th straight par-or-better final round. He's a combined 48-under par in those final rounds.

The reigning FedExCup champion retained his No. 1 position in the FedExCup standings.

Thomas' runner-up finish marks his second top-10 in nine WGC starts. He finished T5 at this event last year.

After rounds of 72-70, Thomas trailed 36-hole leader Shubhankar Sharma by 11 strokes. Mike Weir won the 2000 WGC-Mexico Championship after trailing by eight strokes at the halfway stage, the most in tournament history. Since 2010 on the PGA TOUR, the only player to win from 11 strokes back through 36 holes is Aaron Baddeley at the 2016 Barbasol Championship.

Thomas' 62 in the third round eclipsed the previous course record set by Jordan Spieth (63) in the third round of last year's event. It also tied the 18-hole tournament record shared by Retief Goosen (2002), Bubba Watson (2012), Sergio Garcia (2002) and J.B. Holmes (2015).

Rafa Cabrera Bello

Seeking his first PGA TOUR win in his 57th career start, Spain's Rafa Cabrera Bello posted three 2s in the final round, including an eagle 2 at the par-4 first hole. Three birdies in the final six holes lifted Cabrera Bello into T3, matching his best result in a WGC event (third at the 2016 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play when he defeated Rory McIlroy 3 and 2 in the Consolation Match at Austin CC).

Cabrera Bello made his fifth start in the WGC-Mexico Championship (T38/2017, T11/2016, T63/2013, 65th/2012). In 16 previous rounds at this event, he'd posted just two rounds in the 60s (69/R2/2017, 67/R3/2016) before four sub-70 rounds this week (66-67-69-67).

In 14 WGC appearances, Cabrera Bello now owns three top-five results. Along with his third at the WGC Dell Technologies Match Play in 2016 he finished T5 at the WGC-HSBC Champions earlier this season.

In seven PGA TOUR starts this season, Cabrera Bello has finished inside the top-30 in each start. Cabrera Bello holds three European Tour titles, his most recent at the 2017 Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open.

Tyrell Hatton

England's Tyrell Hatton challenged the lead in the final round, reaching 16-under with an eagle at the par-5 15th hole, however, a final-hole bogey (missed a 10-foot par putt) extinguished his chance to win.

In 26 starts on the PGA TOUR, Hatton's T3 represents his best finish on TOUR, bettering his previous-best T4, coming at both the 2017 Honda Classic and Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard.

Hatton made his third start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season (T11/WGC-HSBC Champions, CUT/The Honda Classic) and his second appearance at the WGC-Mexico Championship.

In seven WGC appearances, Hatton owns four top-20 results. His previous-best finish was solo 10th in his first appearance at Club de Golf Chapultepec a year ago.

On the European Tour, Hatton is a three-time winner, having captured the 2016 and 2017 Alfred Dunhill Links Championship, as well as the 2017 Italian Open. He qualified for the 2018 WGC-Mexico Championship by virtue of being inside the top 20 in the final Race to Dubai standings (5th).

Miscellaneous Notes

Kiradech Aphibarnrat's final round 6-under 65 matched his low round on the PGA TOUR (65/four times), allowing him to finish T5. The WGC-Mexico Championship marked his 30th PGA TOUR start where his best showing is T3 at the 2013 CIMB Classic. Aphibarnrat matched the best finish by a Thai in a WGC event (Thongchai Jaidee/T5/2010 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play). A T18 at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play in 2016 was Aphibarnrat's previous-best finish in 11 previous WGC appearances. With 150 non-member FedExCup points to his credit this season, Aphibarnrat can seek Special Temporary Membership of the PGA TOUR if he matches the points earned by the player at No. 150 in last season's FedExCup standings (269 by Rick Lamb).

Brian Harman finished T5. The 31-year-old left-hander now has six top-10s this season, the most on TOUR. The two-time PGA TOUR winner made his third WGC appearance with one previous top-10 finish to his credit (8/2017 HSBC Champions). It was his WGC-Mexico Championship debut this week.

Defending champion and world No. 1 Dustin Johnson shot four rounds in the 60s to finish T7. Johnson has five top-10 finishes in WGC-Mexico Championship tournament history – 2nd/2011, T4/2014, 1st/2015, 1st/2017, T7/2018.

Making his second start of the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season after opening with a T33 finish at last week's The Honda Classic, Sergio Garcia captured his second top-10 finish on the PGA TOUR since winning the Masters last year (T10/2017 TOUR Championship, T7/WGC-Mexico Championship). While his last victory on the PGA TOUR came at the 2017 Masters, Garcia has already visited the winner's circle in 2018, with a victory at the Asian Tour's SMBC Singapore Open in late January. Garcia finished T12 in his first appearance at Club de Golf Chapultepec a year ago.

In his first PGA TOUR and World Golf Championships appearance, India's Shubhankar Sharma, the solo leader after 36 and 54 holes, posted a final-round 3-over 74 to slip to T9. The 21-year-old made four bogeys in the last six holes while playing in the final group. Sharma qualified for the 2018 WGC-Mexico Championship by virtue of being inside the top 10 in the European Tour's Race to Dubai standings as of Feb. 19, 2018 (1st).

Adam Hadwin, who will attempt to defend his title at next week's Valspar Championship, began the final-round with three birdies, recording a 5-under 66 to finish T9.

After winning the 2018 Genesis Open to move from No. 117 to No. 40 in the Official World Golf Ranking, Bubba Watson earned a spot in the field at Chapultepec. Watson's T9 marked his fifth top-10 result, including three second-place finishes at the WGC-Mexico Championship (T9/2018, 2/2016, 3rd/2015, T2/2014, 2/2012).

Mexico's Abraham Ancer shot a final-round 69, including a closing 4-under 31 on his final nine holes, to finish T52. Ancer secured his exemption into the WGC-Mexico Championship by finishing as the top-ranked Mexican player in the world (No. 255) as of February 19, 2018.

First-round leader Louis Oosthuizen followed his opening-round 64 with 71-76-71 to finish T30 at 2-under 282.

Spain's Jon Rahm finished T20. Following major earthquakes that hit Mexico City, Rahm pledged to donate US\$1,000 for every birdie and US\$3,000 for every eagle he made during the WGC-Mexico Championship. The funds will be distributed to the Mexican Red Cross to assist with earthquake relief for people in need. Rahm made 21 birdies for the week and will contribute US\$21,000 to the fund. Rahm's sponsors stepped in to match the contribution making the final amount US\$63,000.

Here's how the four past champions of the WGC-Mexico Championship in the field this week finished:

Player (year won)	R4 Standing
Phil Mickelson (2009)	Won
Dustin Johnson (2017, 2015)	T7
Patrick Reed (2014)	T37
Justin Rose (2012)	T37

Of the 21 first-timers at the WGC-Mexico Championship, six players, each from a different country, made their World Golf Championships debut this week: Abraham Ancer (Mexico/T52), Jorge Campillo (Spain/T27), Dylan Frittelli (South Africa/T55), Wade Ormsby (Australia/T50), Chris Paisley (England/T37) and Shubhankar Sharma (India/T9).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Louis Oosthuizen (64), Xander Schauffele (65), Shubhankar Sharma (65), Rafa Cabrera Bello (66).

R2: Xander Schauffele (68), Sergio Garcia (65), Brendan Steele (66), Bubba Watson (66), Kyle Stanley (65), Charley Hoffman (66), Jordan Spieth (67), Tyrrell Hatton (68), Marc Leishman (68).

R3: Tyrrell Hatton (64), Phil Mickelson (65), Adam Hadwin (67).

R4: Bernd Wiesberger (66).

Scoring Average

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1	35.203	35.547	70.750	-
R2	34.938	35.172	70.109	70.430
R3	34.438	35.844	70.281	70.380
R4:	34.734	35.516	70.250	70.348

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