



2018 Zurich Classic of New Orleans
(The 26th of 44 events in the PGA TOUR season)

Avondale, La.
TPC Louisiana

April 26-29, 2018
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,425

FedExCup Points: 400 (each)
Purse: \$7,200,000/\$1,036,800

Second-Round Notes – Friday, April 27, 2018

With the team format beginning in 2017, a change was made at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans this year, with the two formats switching rotations. In 2018, rounds one and three in the two-player team event will feature the Four-ball (best ball) format, while the second and fourth rounds will use the Foursomes (alternate shot) format.

The Zurich Classic awards FedExCup points and official money, and counts as an official victory for the members of the winning team.

Weather: Partly cloudy and breezy. High of 75. Wind NW 10-15 mph, with gusts to 20 mph.

Second-Round Leaderboard (Foursomes format)

Michael Kim/Andrew Putnam	62-69—131 (-13)
Kevin Kisner/Scott Brown	62-70—132 (-12)
Chad Campbell/Matt Jones	63-70—133 (-11)
Nate Lashley/Rob Oppenheim	64-69—133 (-11)

Michael Kim/Andrew Putnam

Entering the day T3 following a 10-under 62 in the Four-ball format, Michael Kim and Andrew Putnam recorded a 3-under 69 in the second round to take a one-shot lead over Kevin Kisner and Scott Brown. The pair recorded three birdies on the back nine after making the turn at even-par.

By virtue of his 100th-place finish in the final 2016-17 FedExCup standings, Michael Kim is qualified for THE PLAYERS Championship, while Andrew Putnam is not. Putnam would qualify with a win.

Kim and Putnam made a double bogey at the par-4 fifth in the second round, the pair's only score of bogey-or-worse through two rounds.

Kim has one top-25 this season, a T23 at the Farmers Insurance Open. His best career PGA TOUR result is a T3 at the 2016 Safeway Open. Kim played with Brandon Hagy in the 2017 Zurich Classic, finishing 36th.

Putnam has top-10s in two of his last three events (T5/Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship, T8/Valero Texas Open), his first two career top-10s. He is making his 40th PGA TOUR start and second at the Zurich Classic (MC/2015).

Second-Round Lead Notes

In 2017, Jonas Blixt/Cameron Smith held a one-stroke lead after 36-holes before going on to win.

In 24 stroke-play events during the 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season, six players have carried a second-round lead/co-lead on to victory, most recently Patrick Reed at the Masters Tournament.

Kevin Kisner/Scott Brown

Kevin Kisner and Scott Brown, who lost in a Monday playoff in the 2017 Zurich Classic, shot a 2-under 70 and stand in second place after 36 holes. Kisner and Brown recorded scores of 70 (R1) and 67 (R3) in the Foursomes format in 2017.

The last time the loser of a playoff won the same event the following year was Ryuji Imada at the AT&T Classic in 2008 (lost to Zach Johnson in a playoff in 2007). Earlier that season, Phil Mickelson accomplished the same feat at the Genesis Open.

Kisner seeks his third PGA TOUR title (2017 Forth Worth Invitational, 2015 The RSM Classic) while Brown searches for his second victory (2013 Puerto Rico Open).

Kisner lost the championship match to Bubba Watson (7 and 6) at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play last month, one of three top-10s this season.

After two top-10 results in his first five starts this season (T5/CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, T6/OHL Classic at Mayakoba), Brown has not posted a top-45 finish since.

Nate Lashley/Rob Oppenheim

Nate Lashley and Rob Oppenheim shot a bogey-free 69 in round two, the only team without a bogey in the second round. They are tied for third after 36 holes.

In the first round, Oppenheim made an albatross, holing a 261-yard for a 2 on the par-5 seventh.

Neither player has won on the PGA TOUR, but both have claimed victory on the Web.com Tour (Oppenheim/2015 Wichita Open, Lashley/2017 Corales Puntacana Resort and Club Championship).

Oppenheim is in search of his first top-10 of the 2017-18 season. His best result in 14 starts to date is T18 at the Sanderson Farms Championship.

Lashley, a PGA TOUR rookie, has one top-25 (T18/2018 Houston Open) in 14 career starts.

Bubba Watson/Matt Kuchar

The team of Bubba Watson and Matt Kuchar shot a 5-under 67, the low round of the day, to move into a tie for seventh place. Watson and Kuchar recorded seven birdies on the day, including one at each of the four par-5s.

The 67 tied the third-lowest score at the event in the Foursomes format since the switch to team play. Jordan Spieth/Ryan Palmer and Kyle Stanley/Ryan Ruffels each shot 66 to share the first-round lead in 2017.

Watson is one of three two-time winners on the PGA TOUR in 2017-18 (Genesis Open, World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play) and is third in the FedExCup standings. Justin Thomas (No. 1 in FedExCup) and Patton Kizzire (No. 2) are the other multiple winners on TOUR.

With the pair T7 through 36 holes, Kuchar extended his streak of made cuts to 29, the longest active streak on TOUR. His most recent missed cut came at the 2017 Houston Open.

Miscellaneous Notes

Chad Campbell/Matt Jones have just one bogey through 36 holes (No. 14/R2) and stand T3. Neither player has a top-25 entering this week in 26 combined starts during the 2017-18 season. Campbell is a four-time winner on the PGA TOUR (most recently 2007 Sanderson Farms Championship) while Jones has one win to his credit (2014 Houston Open).

Tony Finau/Daniel Summerhays are T5 after shooting an even-par 72 in round two. Finau has four top-10s in the 2017-18 season, while Summerhays is in search of his first.

In his first start since winning the Masters Tournament, Patrick Reed stands T13 with teammate Patrick Cantlay through 36 holes. Reed and Cantlay birdied three of their final four holes today en route to a 1-under 71.

Jordan Spieth/Ryan Palmer, who finished fourth in 2017, finished double bogey-double bogey to miss the cut by one stroke.

There were two holes-in-one during the second round. Due to the format, the stats are unofficial, but the last time there were two holes-in-one in the same round was round two of the 2018 Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship (Shawn Stefani/No. 17, Harris English/No. 17).

Chris Paisley, paired with Tommy Fleetwood, made a hole-in-one from 221 yards with a 5-iron at the par-3 third, while Billy Hurley III used the same club from 223 yards at No. 17.

First-round co-leaders Xinjun Zhang/Zecheng Dou shot an 80 in the second round and missed the cut. The last 18-hole leader/co-leader to miss the cut was Andrew Loupe at the 2016 Travelers Championship.

Reigning U.S. Open champion Brooks Koepka and teammate Marc Turnesa missed the cut after a second-round 78. Koepka, made his return to the PGA TOUR after a four-month absence due to a partially torn tendon in his

wrist, snaps a streak of 18 consecutive made cuts, which was the second-longest active streak on TOUR (Matt Kuchar/29).

Defending champions Cameron Smith/Jonas Blixt missed the cut after a second-round 4-over 76. **Smith/Blixt** (2017) are the only team made up of two past champions at the Zurich Classic. The other nine past champions in the field (in bold) each have teammates who have not won this event: **Brian Stuard**/Chris Stroud (2016), **Justin Rose**/Henrik Stenson (2015), **Billy Horschel**/Scott Piercy (2013), **Jason Dufner**/Pat Perez (2012), **Bubba Watson**/Matt Kuchar (2011), **Jerry Kelly**/Steve Stricker (2009), **Andres Romero**/Fabian Gomez (2008), **Nick Watney**/Charley Hoffman (2007) and **K.J. Choi**/Charlie Wi (2002).

For the first time since the 2017 TOUR Championship, all four current major championship winners are in the same PGA TOUR event: Patrick Reed (2018 Masters Tournament), Justin Thomas (2017 PGA Championship), Jordan Spieth (2017 The Open) and Brooks Koepka (2017 U.S. Open).

The Zurich Classic is the penultimate PGA TOUR event for players, not previously eligible, to earn a start in THE PLAYERS in one of three ways: 1) moving into the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking; 2) winning the Zurich Classic; and 3) moving into the top 10 in the 2017-18 FedExCup standings.

Six Zurich Ambassadors are in the field (in bold): **Jason Day**/Ryan Ruffels (T25), **Justin Rose**/Henrik Stenson (T13), **Sergio Garcia**/Rafa Cabrera Bello (MC), **Tommy Fleetwood**/Chris Paisley (T19), **Jamie Donaldson**/Ross Fisher (MC) and **Billy Horschel**/Scott Piercy (T25).

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: 49 teams recorded bogey-free rounds.

R2: Nate Lashley/Rob Oppenheim (69).

Scoring Averages:	Front	Back	Total	Cumulative
R1:	32.875	33.013	65.887	-
R2:	36.087	37.775	73.863	-