



# **Second-Round Notes**

Fallen Oak | Biloxi, Mississippi | Saturday, March 24, 2018

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,151 yards (R2 scoring average: 73.551, Cumulative: 73.788) **Weather:** Mixture of sunshine and clouds, with breezy conditions. High of 78 with 10-20 mph winds out of the SW with

gusts up to 25 mph.

Note: Lift, clean and place was in effect.

	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Steve Stricker	-7	68-69—137
T2.	Jeff Sluman	-6	71-67—138
T2.	Joe Durant	-6	66-72—138
T4.	Stephen Ames	-5	71-68—139
T4.	Billy Andrade	-5	69-70—139
6.	David McKenzie	-4	69-71—140

#### **Quick Links:**

- <u>Leaderboard</u>
- <u>Tee Times</u> Final-round tee times will run from 10:45 a.m. 12:45 p.m. off the No. 1 and No. 10 tees.
- <u>PGATOURmedia.com</u> (transcripts and other resources available for download)

#### Steve Stricker, 68-69 – 137 (-7)

- This is the second time Stricker has led entering the final round on PGA TOUR Champions. On the PGA TOUR, he is 8-for 14 in converting 54-hole leads/co-leads into victories. The last time he was a 54-hole leader was at the 2012 Sentry Tournament of Champions, which is his last victory on the PGA TOUR.
- Stricker will enter the final round in the top-10 for the sixth time in eight starts in individual tournaments on PGA TOUR Champions. In all, he has six top-three finishes. This season, he is No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup after finishing T2 at the Chubb Classic and winning the Cologuard Classic.
- Stricker has been in Sunday's final group in all three of his starts this season. At the Chubb Classic, he was second and went on to finish T2, and at the Cologuard Classic he was T2 and he went on to win.
- At last year's Rapiscan Systems Classic, Stricker carded a final-round 65 and improved from T18 to T3.
- Saturday's 3-under 69 was his 24th consecutive round of par or better, the longest active streak on Tour. In fact, he has never carded a round over par on PGA TOUR Champions. In his seven previous starts, his final-round scoring average is 68.43.

# Jeff Sluman, 71-67 – 138 (-6)

- Sluman carded the day's best round, a 5-under 67, and improved from T12 to T2. This is his best position entering the final round since he was T2 through two rounds at the 2013 Encompass Championship.
- Sluman has six career wins on PGA TOUR Champions, with the last two coming at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge (2013, 2014). Sluman's last individual win was at the 2011 PURE Insurance Championship.

- On Sunday, Sluman's age will be 60 years, 6 months, 14 days. Should he win, it would be the 27th time a tournament has been won by a player age 60 or older. He would be the 20th player age 60 or older to win, and first since Bernhard Langer won three times after turning 60 on August 27, 2017.
- Sluman has four top-10s in eight starts at the Rapiscan Systems Classic, and his best finish was a T2 in 2011.
- In 2017, Sluman posted two top-10s and finished 32nd in the Charles Schwab Cup.

# Joe Durant, 66-72 - 138 (-6)

- Durant was 3-over through six holes Saturday, but he rebounded with three birdies en route to an even-par 72.
- He will play in Sunday's final group with Steve Stricker for the second time this season. At the Chubb Classic, Durant shot a final-round 67 and won by four, while Stricker closed with a 70 and finished T2.
- His win at the Chubb Classic was the third of his PGA TOUR Champions career. He's coming off a T10 finish at the Toshiba Classic, and he's currently No. 4 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

## **Second-Round Lead Notes**

- Players leading or tied for the lead after 36 holes have won the Rapiscan Systems Classic three times David Eger (2010), Tom Lehman (2011) and Fred Couples (2012). Nobody has ever won this event being worse than T8 after Saturday. All eight of the previous winners of this event were positioned among the top five in the standings after the first round.
- This season, a second-round leader/co-leader has won two of the five tournaments (Mark Calcavecchia Boca Raton Championship, Joe Durant Chubb Classic).
- Four of this year's five winners have played in Sunday's final group. At the Toshiba Classic, champion Vijay Singh played in the second-to-last group.

## **Other Notes**

- When **Billy Andrade** birdied No. 13, he was 7-under and atop the leaderboard. He closed with bogeys on Nos. 14 and 17 and is T4 at 5-under after shooting a second-round 70. He has three PGA TOUR Champions wins, and each of them came during the 2015 season. This week is his 54th start since his last win at the 2015 Charles Schwab Cup Championship.
- Stephen Ames shot a second-round 68 and is T4 at 5-under. It is the fifth time he enters the final round in the top-five, and first time since the 2017 Mitsubishi Electric Classic, a tournament he went on to win.
- **Miguel Angel Jimenez**, the two-time defending champion, is T45 at 4-over.
- Kevin Johnson, who Monday qualified this week, shot 71 for the second day in a row, and he's T8 at 2-under. This is his third start, and it is his highest position after any round on PGA TOUR Champions.
  - The field includes five past champions of the Rapiscan Systems Classic:
    - $\circ$  Tom Lehman: T14, 71-72–143
      - o Michael Allen: T21, 71-73—144
      - o Jeff Maggert: T40, 74-73—147
      - Miguel Angel Jimenez: T45, 72-76—148
      - David Frost: T55, 75-75—150