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Third-Round Leaderboard

| Pos. | Name | Scores |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Zecheng Dou | 67-66-67-200(-16) |
| 2 | John Oda | 63-68-72-203(-13) |
| 3 | Billy Kennerly | 68-70-66-204(-12) |
| | Austin Smotherman | 66-69-69-204(-12) |

Zecheng Dou takes lead after 54 holes in the Bahamas

GREAT EXUMA, Bahamas – Despite isolated showers during the afternoon, 21-year-old Zecheng Dou tallied seven birdies during a 5-under 67 to take the 54-hole lead. Dou leads by three over UNLV product John Oda at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay.

“I played really consistently today and didn’t make many mistakes,” said Dou. “Only two bogeys for the round, and that is expected out here. It looks easy on television, but this course is pretty tight and when the wind picks up and the fairways are narrow, it’s tough. I think I’m doing a good job so far.”

Dou played full-time on the Web.com Tour in 2017, competing in 25 events and earning a third-place finish and a win at the KC Golf Classic.

“I haven’t played in a leader group in about two years, so that will be different,” said Dou. “But thinking about it, I’ve done it before and I won, so I feel more relaxed doing it for the first time. From that week [in Kansas City], I remember telling myself to be patient. Even if I don’t win, I at least want to play well enough to where I won’t be disappointed.”

Dou referred to staying aggressive off the tee as a key to his strong start.

“A lot of tees out here guys are taking irons off the tee to keep it in play,” said Dou, who turns 22 next week. “But if I have a chance with driver, then I’ll go for it. I don’t like to keep it safe or anything, I like to go for it...It would be a nice gift [to get a win a week before his birthday]. I don’t really want to think about it because even playing well next week would be an awesome gift. Two years ago I was playing there on my birthday and finished T3 so that was a pretty good birthday as well.”

After leading the tournament after 36 holes, Oda slipped to second after a third-round 72. The 22-year-old did birdie three out of his final five holes to get back into contention heading into the final round.

Clemson University alum Billy Kennerly tied for the round of the day with a 6-under 66. Kennerly posted three birdies on each nine to ascend the leaderboard and sits T3 entering the final group.

“It’s always nice to be in the hunt,” said Kennerly, whose little sister Wilton is caddying for him this week. “I’ve been driving it pretty well and wedging it pretty well which is key around here.”

Willy Wilcox posted his second-consecutive 3-under 69 to remain four shots off the lead at 12-under (T3). The Birmingham native enjoyed an adventurous 13th hole when he flew the green and his ball was



suspended in the bushes. Wilcox popped it out with a left-handed stab, chipped up onto the green and made the putt to save bogey.

Play was suspended for 17 minutes in the middle of the round due to heavy rain. Players remained on the course until play resumed.

Final-round tee times will range from 7:20 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. on Wednesday.

TUESDAY NOTES:

- * Tuesday's weather: Isolated showers, High of 76, Winds light and variable.
- * This week's purse is \$600,000, with \$108,000 going to the champion.
- * The cutline fell at even-par 144, matching last year's cut on the number. Seventy players made the cut. The distance between the leader and the cut (13 strokes) was larger than any distance on the Web.com Tour last year.
- * After battling wind and rain over the last two years, the first three rounds have had ideal playing conditions. In 2017, the tournament's inaugural year, weather conditions led to the highest cut in Web.com Tour history at 11-over.
- * Last year's champion, Sungjae Im, is the most recent player to win in his Web.com Tour debut. Im went on to win Web.com Tour Rookie of the Year in 2018 and became the first player to lead the money list wire-to-wire in the Tour's history.
- * Web.com Tour veteran Rob Oppenheim solo fifth at 11-under 205 after a third-round 5-under 67. Oppenheim is looking for his first top-five finish since the 2017 Web.com Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance.
- * Austin Smotherman (T6) and Carl Yuan (T14) lead the contingent of players making their debut this week on the Web.com Tour.
- * The par-4 fifth (499 yards) played as the toughest hole on the course during the second round by scoring average (4.271). The hole tallied 18 bogeys or worse and yielded only two birdies for the second day in a row. The course overall ranked as the third toughest on the Web.com Tour in 2018.
- * The par-5 first hole (532 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Tuesday. The hole played to an average of 4.471 and relinquished four eagles and 36 birdies.
- * Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course is a Greg Norman design on the ocean at Sandals resort. Norman played in the Pro-Am on Saturday and hit a ceremonial tee shot to open the tournament on Sunday.
- * Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course Scoring Averages:

| | Front (36) | Back (36) | Total (72) | Cumulative |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| R1 | 36.292 | 36.570 | 72.862 | |
| R2 | 35.626 | 36.191 | 71.817 | 72.337 |
| R3 | 35.129 | 35.486 | 70.614 | 71.760 |

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