



**2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard**  
(19<sup>th</sup> of 46 events in the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season)

**Orlando, Florida**  
**Bay Hill Club & Lodge**

**March 7-10, 2019**

**Purse: \$9,100,000 (\$1,638,000)**  
**Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,454**

**Final-Round Notes – Sunday, March 10, 2019**

*Weather: Partly Cloudy. High of 87. Wind S 5-10 mph.*

**Final-Round Leaderboard**

Francesco Molinari	69-70-73-64—276 (-12)
Matthew Fitzpatrick	70-70-67-71—278 (-10)
Sungjae Im	71-69-71-68—279 (-9)
Tommy Fleetwood	69-66-76-68—279 (-9)
Rafa Cabrera Bello	65-75-70-69—279 (-9)

**Things to Know**

- Molinari wins third PGA TOUR title in last 12 starts (nine months)
- Molinari's five-stroke come-from-behind win matches best this season
- Last two winners of Arnold Palmer Invitational have fired final-round 64s
- International players have won the last four Arnold Palmer Invitionals
- The top five finishes were all international players
- Sungjae Im, Keith Mitchell and Sung Kang earn spots in The Open Championship

**Francesco Molinari (1<sup>st</sup>/-12)**

**Age:** 36 (November 8, 1982)

**Following the Arnold Palmer Invitational**

#20	FedExCup
7	Starts at Arnold Palmer Invitational
4	Top-10s at Arnold Palmer Invitational
132	PGA TOUR starts
3	PGA TOUR win
4	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19

- Wins third PGA TOUR title in his 132<sup>nd</sup> start at age 36 years, 4 months, 2 days. Both previous titles came in 2018 at Quicken Loans National and The Open Championship
- Began the week at No. 151 in the FedExCup standings and moved to No. 20 with the victory. Advanced to the season-finales TOUR Championship for the first time in 2018, finishing No. 17 in the FedExCup
- Began the day five strokes back to earn victory, matching the best comeback this season (Xander Schauffele/Sentry Tournament of Champions) and one stroke shy of tournament-best six strokes (Tom Kite/1982, Gary Koch/1984)
- Finished his final round at 4:23 p.m., more than 100 minutes before play concluded for the day
- Bogey-free final-round 64 was lowest round this week and included a birdie putt from 43' 9" on the 72<sup>nd</sup> hole, his longest made-putt of the week and his longest this season
- Final-round 64 matched Rory McIlroy's winning final round last year and was one stroke shy of low final-round by a winner at this event (63/Gary Koch/1984)
- Has never missed the cut in seven appearances at Arnold Palmer Invitational (2019/Won, 2018/T26, 2017/T7, 2016/T9, 2015/T17, 2014/T5, 2013/T34)
- Is a combined 51-under in seven appearances at Bay Hill
- Previous low at Bay Hill before Sunday's 64 was 67/R1/2014. 24 of 28 rounds at Bay Hill are par-or-better
- Was No. 1 in Strokes Gained: Off The Tee with 1.268

- Making his fourth start this season (WGC-HSBC Champions/T43, Sentry Tournament of Champions/T27, WGC-Mexico Championship/T17, Arnold Palmer Invitational/Won)
- Second player this season (and second in the last month) to make an ace and go on to win (J.B. Holmes/Genesis Open)
- Eight of last 14 Arnold Palmer Invitational titles have been won by international players, including the last four (2018/Francesco Molinari/Italy, 2017/Rory McIlroy/Northern Ireland, 2016/Marc Leishman/Australia, 2015/Jason Day/Australia)
- With THE PLAYERS Championship next week, Molinari's record at TPC Sawgrass includes four top-10s and four missed cuts in eight appearances

#### **Matthew Fitzpatrick (2<sup>nd</sup>/-10)**

- Was seeking first PGA TOUR win in his 46<sup>th</sup> start aged 24 years, 6 months, 9 days
- By earning 300 FedExCup points, earned Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR. Entered the week with 39 non-member FedExCup points needing 227 points, equivalent of No. 150 on the 2017-18 FedExCup points list (Ben Martin/266). Once he accepts Special Temporary Membership, he will be eligible for unlimited sponsor exemptions for the remainder of the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season as he attempts to earn a 2019-20 PGA TOUR card through the Non-member FedExCup Points List. *Please note: Special Temporary Members are not eligible for the FedExCup Playoffs, but Special Temporary Members or non-members who subsequently become regular PGA TOUR members by winning an official event during the season will be counted on the FedExCup points list, along with any FedExCup points earned as a non-member (excluding those won at World Golf Championships events as a non-member) and thus be eligible for the FedExCup Playoffs.*
- Was seeking to be the first non-member to win on TOUR since Satoshi Kodaira (2018 RBC Heritage)
- Sheffield, England native was in the field via his Official World Golf Ranking (44)
- Best PGA TOUR finishes: 2<sup>nd</sup> (2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational), T7 (2015 WGC-HSBC Champions), T7 (2016 Masters Tournament)
- Has five international victories, most recently back-to-back titles at the Omega European Masters (both via playoffs)
- Competed on the 2016 Ryder Cup European Team

#### **Sungjae Im (T3/-9)**

- Climbed 13 spots in the FedExCup standings to No. 26 with T3 finish, his best result in 16 starts on TOUR
- Finished T4 at the 2018 Safeway Open as he sought to win his first PGA TOUR start as a full member, with his only previous PGA TOUR starts coming at the 2018 U.S. Open (MC) and 2018 PGA Championship (T42)
- Won his first start on the Web.com Tour (2018 The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay) and went on to lead the money list wire-to-wire for the entire year – the first person in Web.com Tour history to achieve the feat

#### **Rafa Cabrera Bello (T3/-9)**

- First-round leader made his lone bogey of the day at No. 18 to close with 3-under 69 to finish T3 while making his tournament debut
- Has three T3s in stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR: 2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational, 2018 WGC-Mexico Championship, 2018 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES

#### **Tommy Fleetwood (T3/-9)**

- 36-hole leader posted 76-68 on the weekend to finish T3, his best result after any 36-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR
 

T1	2017 U.S. Open	4
T1	2018 WGC- FedEx St. Jude Invitational	T14
T1	2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational	T3

#### **Rory McIlroy (T6/-8)**

- Posted two birdies and two bogeys for even-par 72 in final round
- Was in search of 15<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR victory and first since the 2018 Arnold Palmer Invitational
- Entered the week with consecutive top-fives in each of his last four PGA TOUR starts, marking the first time in his career he accomplished that feat. Now has five consecutive top-10s in last five starts (Sentry Tournament of Champions/T4, Farmers Insurance Open/T5, Genesis Open/T4, WGC-Mexico Championship/2, Arnold Palmer Invitational/T6)
- Previous two starts at the Arnold Palmer Invitational include a win (2018) and T4 (2017)
- Was seeking to join three players who have won the Arnold Palmer Invitational in back-to-back years: Loren Roberts (1994-95), Tiger Woods (2000-03, 2008-09, 2012-13) and Matt Every (2014-15)
- Has entered the final round trailing by one or two strokes on nine occasions; won three times

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

- For the first time, the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard offered three spots into The Open Championship at Royal Portrush (July 14-21). Three players who finished in the top 10 and ties who were not already exempt qualified – Sungjae Im (T3), Keith Mitchell (T6) and Sung Kang (T6)
- In his tournament debut, Keith Mitchell produced eight birdies for a final-round 66 to finish T6 a week after claiming his first title at The Honda Classic. Mitchell led the field with 21 birdies
- Since winning the 2019 Desert Classic PGA TOUR rookie Adam Long (-7/T10) had missed five consecutive cuts. With eagles on Nos. 10 and 16 in a final-round 67, Long joined Tommy Fleetwood (R2/Nos. 6 and 12) as the only players with two eagles in a round this week. Long's eagles marked the 33<sup>rd</sup> time a player had two eagles in a round this season
- Despite a final-round 74, Aaron Baddeley (T17) required 99 putts for the week, the third player this season with less than 100 putts in a tournament (98/Kiradech Aphibarnrat/WGC-HSBC Champions, 98/Adam Long/Desert Classic)
- For the third straight year, no player managed to post four rounds in the 60s (last to do so was Kevin Chappell/2016)

#### **Bogey-free rounds**

R1 (2): Keegan Bradley (67), Tommy Fleetwood (69)

R2 (2): Henrik Stenson (66), Sam Saunders (68)

R3 (2): Matthew Fitzpatrick (67), Jason Kokrak (68)

R4 (3): Francesco Molinari (64), Sam Ryder (69), Jimmy Walker (70)

#### **Balls in the Water**

R1: 94 (the most in any round at Bay Hill since 2003; previous record: 92; R1/2017, R1/2012, R2/2005)

R2: 70

R3: 39 (203 through 54 holes this week, is the second-most through three rounds since 2003)

R4: 36 (239 total for the week)

#### **Scoring averages**

	<b>Front nine</b>	<b>Back nine</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	37.025	35.975	73.000	---
R2:	36.443	35.607	72.049	72.525
R3:	36.286	36.057	72.343	72.464
R4:	36.057	35.843	71.900	72.378