



2018 Mayakoba Golf Classic

(7th of 43 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Playa del Carmen, Mexico
El Camaleón Golf Club at Mayakoba Resort

November 8-11, 2018
Purse: \$7,200,000

Par/Yards: 36-35—71/6,987
FedExCup Points: 500 (winner)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, November 8, 2018

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 85. Wind E at 6-12 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Matt Kuchar	64 (-7)
Kramer Hickok	64 (-7)
Dominic Bozzelli	64 (-7)
15 players	65 (-6)

Things to Know

- Matt Kuchar's 64 marks his lowest opening round on TOUR in 49 starts (644 days)
- Kramer Hickok holds first lead/co-lead of his PGA TOUR career
- Dominic Bozzelli needs to finish solo third or better this week to fully satisfy his Medical Extension
- Mexico's Abraham Ancer sits T4, one stroke off the lead, one of 29 players within two strokes of the lead
- 10 players within one stroke of the lead are seeking their first PGA TOUR victory
- Nine different countries are represented among the players within a stroke of the lead
- Kuchar's wife, Sybi, steps in as emergency caddie for playing partner Zach Johnson

First-Round Lead Notes

- 2 First-round leaders/co-leaders at the Mayakoba Golf Classic to win; Fred Funk (2007), Patton Kizzire (2017)
- 1 First-round leader/co-leader to win this season; Cameron Champ/Sanderson Farms Championship

Matt Kuchar (T1/-7)

Age: 40 (June 21, 1978)

Joined TOUR: 2001

Entering the week

#173	FedExCup
#40	OWGR
3	Starts at Mayakoba Golf Classic
427	PGA TOUR starts
7	PGA TOUR wins
98	Top-10s on PGA TOUR
1	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19: T57/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

- Hit 12/14 fairways, 15/18 greens and required 28 putts en route to a bogey-free 7-under 64 and share of the lead
- Marks 10th time with first-round lead/co-lead on PGA TOUR, winning once in nine previous times (2014 RBC Heritage)
- Most recent first-round lead was 2018 THE PLAYERS Championship where he finished T17
- Matched his low score in 13 rounds at El Camaleón Golf Club (64/R3/2008)
- Marks his lowest round on PGA TOUR since third-round 64 at 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open
- Marks his lowest opening round on PGA TOUR since 64 at 2017 Waste Management Phoenix Open
- Making fourth appearance at Mayakoba Golf Classic (T68/2015, T3/2008, T18/2007)
- Finished No. 76 in FedExCup last season, his worst performance since 115th in 2008
- One of 10 players who has advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs all 12 seasons
- Four top-10s in 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season marked fewest in a season since 2007 (2)

Kramer Hickok (T1/-7)

Age: 26 (April 14, 1992)

Joined TOUR: 2018-19

Entering the week

#109	FedExCup
#148	OWGR
0	Starts at Mayakoba Golf Classic
7	PGA TOUR starts
0	PGA TOUR wins
0	Top-10s on PGA TOUR
3	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19

Best 2018-19 result: T23/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

- Hit 10/14 fairways, 16/18 greens and required 27 putts en route to a bogey-free 7-under 64 and share of the lead while making first appearance at Mayakoba Golf Classic
- First time holding lead/co-lead after any round on PGA TOUR (previous-best position after any round was T5 after first round last week at Shriners Hospitals for Children Open)
- Best result in seven PGA TOUR starts is T19 at 2017 RBC Canadian Open
- Making fourth start this season (MC/Safeway Open, MC/Sanderson Farms Championship, T23/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open)
- 64 marks his career-low round in 19 rounds on the PGA TOUR
- Owns victories on Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada and Web.com Tour
- Finished third in the final priority-ranking order after the 2018 Web.com Tour season, highlighted by a win at the DAP Championship. Secured his PGA TOUR card for the 2018-19 season by finishing No. 23 on the Web.com Tour Regular Season money list

Dominic Bozzelli (T1/-7)

Age: 27 (May 22, 1991)

Joined TOUR: 2017

Entering the week

#156	FedExCup
#444	OWGR
1	Starts at Mayakoba Golf Classic
46	PGA TOUR starts
0	PGA TOUR wins
3	Top-10s on PGA TOUR
2	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19: MC/Safeway Open, T41/Shriners Hospitals for Children Open

- 64 matches career-low round on TOUR (R1/2017 Desert Classic, R2/2018 Travelers Championship)
- Holds at least a share of the first-round lead for the second time in his career (64/R1/2017 Desert Classic – finished 5th)
- Finished No. 169 in the FedExCup standings last season. Entered the 2018-19 campaign on a Major Medical Extension, with five starts to earn 187 points (combined with the 190 points he earned during the 2017-18 season) to equal No. 125 on the 2017-18 FedExCup points list (Seamus Power/377). Earned 11 points at TPC Summerlin last week, requiring 176 points (a solo third this week would satisfy his Medical Extension)
- Missed cut with rounds of 71-70 in only other start at Mayakoba Golf Classic (2016)
- Posted three top-10s in his rookie season, including career-best T3 at the 2017 Valspar Championship

Anirban Lahiri (T4/65)

- Made two eagles (Nos. 5 and 13) en route to a bogey-free 6-under 65. Thirteen times players have made two eagles in a single round this season, including eight times at last week's Shriners Hospitals for Children Open
- In two previous appearances here, opened with three rounds in the 60s before final rounds of 72/2016/T28 and 71/2017/T14
- Improved by two strokes in each of his three opening rounds at Mayakoba (69/2016, 67/2017, 65/2018)

Abraham Ancer (T4/65)

- Born in McAllen, Texas, but raised in Reynosa, Mexico, Ancer is the leading Mexican player after a 6-under 65

- Advanced to the FedExCup Playoffs for first time in 2017-18, ending last season No. 60 in the FedExCup while posting five top-10s, highlighted by a T4 at the Quicken Loans National
- Making fourth consecutive start in the Mayakoba Golf Classic (T9/2017, T55/2016, MC/2015). T9 in 2017 joins Oscar Fraustro (2014) and Carlos Ortiz (2014) as the best result of any Mexican players in the history of this event
- Finished T4 at TPC Summerlin in last week's Shriners Hospitals for Children Open
- Currently No. 10 in Presidents Cup International Team standings, seeking to become first Mexican to make the team

Patton Kizzire (T4/65)

- After double bogey at No. 3, defending champion went B-E-E-B on Nos. 4-7 to match best birdie/eagle streak this season (B-B-B-E-B/Paul Casey/CIMB Classic)
- Back-to-back eagles on Nos. 5 and 6 are the first on TOUR since the 2018 FedEx St. Jude Classic (J.B. Holmes/R2)
- Marc Leishman (Nos. 7 and 8/R2) and Aaron Wise (Nos. 4 and 5/R1) also recorded consecutive eagles here in 2016
- Making his third appearance at the Mayakoba Golf Classic. Last year's victory marked his first top-10 showing (T58/2015)
- Won his first two PGA TOUR events in the span of 63 days (2017 Mayakoba Golf Classic, 2018 Sony Open in Hawaii)
- Opening-round 62 (-9) at Mayakoba Golf Classic in 2017 remains his career-low on PGA TOUR

Mexican Player Notes

- Seven Mexican players in the field: Abraham Ancer (65/T4), Roberto Diaz (71/T91), Armando Favela (67/T30), Oscar Fraustro (66/T19), Carlos Ortiz (67/T30), Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (70/T77), Sebastian Vazquez (71/T91)
- Esteban Toledo (2007, 2008, 2009, 2012), Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (2009, 2012), Oscar Fraustro (2013, 2014, 2016, 2017), Carlos Ortiz (2014, 2016, 2017), Rodolfo Cazaubon (2015), Abraham Ancer (2017) and Roberto Diaz (2017) are the only Mexicans to make the cut in the Mayakoba Golf Classic in the 11-year history of the event
- Cesar Sanudo and Victor Regalado are the only native Mexican golfers to win on the PGA TOUR. Regalado won the 1974 Pleasant Valley Classic and 1978 Ed McMahon-Jaycees Quad Cities Open (John Deere Classic). Sanudo won the 1970 Azalea Open Invitational
- The 'Premio Mexico' trophy is awarded to the top Mexican finisher. Past winners include Abraham Ancer (2017/T9), Oscar Fraustro (2016/T10), Rodolfo Cazaubon (2015/T74), Carlos Ortiz & Oscar Fraustro (2014/T9)

Miscellaneous Notes

- Rickie Fowler, runner-up here last year, sits T19 at 5-under 66, while Jordan Spieth, making his first appearance at Mayakoba, offset four birdies with four bogeys to sit T91 at even-par 71
- In the second group out, Keith Mitchell (66) started on No. 10 and opened the tournament with four consecutive birdies. Last year, playing in the first group, Mitchell began with a hole-in-one on No. 10
- Chile's Joaquin Niemann fired a 5-under 66 after celebrating his 20th birthday a day earlier
- Chris Stroud (70/T77) is the only player to play in all 12 editions of the Mayakoba Golf Classic
- Damon Green, caddie for Zach Johnson (71/T91), suffered dehydration after 14 holes and could not continue. Sybi Kuchar, wife of Johnson's playing partner Matt, stepped in and took the bag for the last four holes, during which Johnson made an eagle (No. 7)
- Seven of the 11 past champions of the Mayakoba Golf Classic are in the field this week: Patton Kizzire (2017/T4), Pat Perez (2016/T19), Graeme McDowell (2015/T77), Charley Hoffman (2104/T91), Harris English (2013/T30), John Huh (2012/T123), Brian Gay (2008/T42)

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: 13 players, including co-leaders Matt Kuchar, Kramer Hickok and Dominic Bozzelli

R1: A.M. Scoring Average: 68.52 P.M. Scoring Average: 69.64

Scoring Averages at the par-71 El Camaleón Golf Club:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	34.644	34.432	69.076	--

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