



## 2019 PGA Championship

(The 30<sup>th</sup> of 46 events in the PGA TOUR season)

Farmingdale, New York

May 13-19, 2019

Purse: \$11,000,000 (\$1,980,000 to the winner)

Bethpage State Park Black Course

Par/Yards: 35-35—70/7,459

### First-Round Notes – Thursday, May 16, 2019

*Weather: Partly cloud and breezy. High of 68. Wind NW 10-15 mph.*

#### First-Round Leaderboard

Brooks Koepka	63 (-7)
Danny Lee	64 (-6)
Tommy Fleetwood	67 (-3)

#### Things to Know

- Defending champion Brooks Koepka posts the lone bogey-free round of the day, a 7-under 63
- Koepka becomes the only player with multiple 63s in PGA Championship history
- Koepka's 63 is the 17<sup>th</sup> round of 63 at the PGA Championship, the most of any major
- Koepka sets Bethpage Black course record with 63
- Round one yields three eagles, each on No. 4: Tiger Woods, Max Homa and Tony Finau
- In his first start since winning the Masters, four-time PGA Champion Tiger Woods opens with a 2-over 72
- 16 players are under par, the fewest after the first round at the PGA Championship since 2008 (7)

#### First-Round Lead Notes

- Five first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season, but not since J.B. Holmes at the Genesis Open
- Since 2000, only three first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win the PGA Championship: Tiger Woods/2000, Phil Mickelson/2005 and Jimmy Walker/2016

#### **Brooks Koepka**

**Age:** 29 (May 3, 1990)

#### **Entering the Week**

#5	FedExCup
#3	Official World Golf Ranking
115	PGA TOUR starts
5	PGA TOUR wins
3	Major wins (2017 U.S. Open, 2018 U.S. Open, 2018 PGA Championship)
11	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19
1	Wins in 2018-19 (2019 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES)
4	PGA TOUR top-10s in 2018-19
6	PGA Championship starts

- Third player with two career 63s at majors
  - Greg Norman – 1986 Open Championship (R2), 1996 Masters (R1)
  - Vijay Singh – 1993 PGA Championship (R2), 2003 U.S. Open (R2)
  - Brooks Koepka – 2018 PGA Championship (R2), 2019 PGA Championship (R1)
- Sets course record at Bethpage State Park Black Course, previously 64 by five players: Johnson Wagner (2016), Sung Kang (2016), Pdraig Harrington (2012), Mike Weir (2009), Lucas Glover (2009)
- Holds at least share of lead for 10<sup>th</sup> time in last 32 rounds at major (including four rounds missed at 2018 Masters)
- Marks fifth first-round lead or co-lead on the PGA TOUR; has never converted a first-round lead to victory

- Ninth player to open a major with a 63 (first since Phil Mickelson at 2016 Open Championship); only two of the previous eight players went on to win: Raymond Floyd (1982 PGA Championship at Southern Hills) and Jack Nicklaus (1980 U.S. Open at Baltusrol)
- Was the eighth, and most recent, player to post a 63 in a major and go on to win (2018 PGA Championship)
- Fifth round of 63 or better since the 2018 PLAYERS Championship, tied for most of any player (Webb Simpson)
- Marks 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive under-par round in majors (dating to R4 of the 2018 Open Championship) and sixth consecutive round in the 60s at the PGA Championship
- Making seventh start in PGA Championship; In addition to win in 2018, has two top-fives (2016/T4; 2015/T5) and has finished outside the top 15 just once (T70/2013)
- Looks to become first player to successfully defend PGA title since Tiger Woods in 2007
- No player has ever successfully defended at both the PGA Championship and the U.S. Open in a career

#### **Additional Player Notes**

- In his 10<sup>th</sup> major start, Danny Lee posts a career-best performance in a major round including: career-low round in a major (previous was 68 twice); eight birdies, the most in a major round; 21 putts, the fewest needed in a round on TOUR ; Lee leads the field in Strokes Gained: Putting (3.814) despite entering the week ranked 126<sup>th</sup> on TOUR
- In his third attempt to complete the Grand Slam, Jordan Spieth posts 1-under 69, his first sub-par opening round in a major since the 2018 Masters
- England's Tommy Fleetwood posts best score in 13 rounds at the PGA Championship (67); At No. 16, remains highest-ranked player in the Official World Golf Ranking without a PGA TOUR victory
- Tiger Woods posts 2-over 72, his fourth over-par opening round in last five starts in the event; has not broken 70 in the first round since the 2018 TOUR Championship; records third eagle in 20 starts at the PGA Championship
  - **2019, 1st Rd, 4th Hole, Bethpage State Park Black Course**
  - 2001, 3rd Rd, 9th Hole, The Atlanta Athletic Club
  - 1997, 3rd Rd, 12th Hole, Winged Foot Golf Club
- It takes 18 holes for two-time PGA Championship winner Rory McIlroy to record a birdie (2-over 72); is second in Strokes Gained: Off the Tee (+2.181) and hit 15 of 18 Greens in Regulation.
- Brian Gay withdrew after the round (knee injury)

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

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

R1: Brooks Koepka (63)

<b>Scoring Averages:</b>	<b>Front (35)</b>	<b>Back (35)</b>	<b>Total (70)</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	36.276	36.788	73.064	---

R1: Early scoring average (72.65) vs. Late scoring average (73.47)

##### **Toughest Hole**

R1: Par-4 15<sup>th</sup> (4.577)

##### **Easiest Hole**

R1: Par-5 4<sup>th</sup> (4.628)