



2019 Desert Classic
(11th of 43 events in the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season)

La Quinta, California
 (SC) Stadium/PGA WEST
 (NT) Nicklaus Tournament/PGA WEST
 (LQ) La Quinta CC

January 17-20, 2019
 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,113
 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,159
 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,060

FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
 Purse: \$5,900,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, January 17, 2019

Weather: Mostly cloudy and rainy. High of 66. Wind SE 6-12 mph. Due to fog, play at La Quinta Country Club was delayed one hour (9:30 a.m. start) and delayed at the Stadium and Nicklaus Tournament Courses one hour, 15 minutes (9:45 a.m. start).

First-Round Leaderboard

Phil Mickelson 60 (-12) LQ
 Adam Long 63 (-9) NT
 Curtis Luck 64 (-8) LQ
 Trey Mullinax 65 (-7) NT
 Adam Hadwin 65 (-7) SC
 Wyndham Clark 65 (-7) LQ
 Martin Laird 65 (-7) NT

Things to Know

- Phil Mickelson becomes the first player in PGA TOUR history with three scores of 60 or better
- Mickelson is 9-for-28 in his career with the 18-hole lead/co-lead
- PGA TOUR rookie Adam Long is making his sixth career start and opens with a 63
- Defending champion Jon Rahm is T8 and six shots back of the lead

First-Round Lead Notes

- 4 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Desert Classic (since 2000)
(most recent: Jon Rahm/2018)
- 3 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2018-19
(most recent: Charles Howell III/The RSM Classic)

Phil Mickelson – LQ (1st/-12)

Age: 48 (June 16, 1970)

Entering the week

#136 FedExCup
 #34 OWGR
 15 Starts at Desert Classic
 2 Wins at Desert Classic
 595 PGA TOUR starts
 43 PGA TOUR wins
 1 Start in 2018-19
 1 Top-25 in 2018-19

43 wins; most recent: 2018 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship

2018-19 results: T17/Safeway Open

- Becomes the first player in PGA TOUR history with three scores of 60 or better (60/R1/2019 Desert Classic, 60/R1/2013 Waste Management Phoenix Open, 60/R2/2005 Waste Management Phoenix Open); went on to win each of the other two events

- Is 9-for-28 in his career with the 18-hole lead/co-lead (most recent: solo/2016 The Open Championship/finished second)
- Shoots lowest score on PGA TOUR since Brandt Snedeker's 59 (R1/2018 Wyndham Championship)
- 10 birdies; career-best: 11/R1/2013 Waste Management Phoenix Open
- 21 putts; career-low: 20/twice (most recent: R1/2009 WGC-Mexico Championship)
- With 30 on both the front and back nine, records his third and fourth nine-hole scores of 30 at the event (won in each previous two instances: R1/2002/Tamarisk CC, R2/2004/Indian Wells)
- Making 16th start at the event, highlighted by wins in 2002 and 2004 as well as a T3 in 2016
- In only prior start of the 2018-19 season, finished T17 at the Safeway Open

Adam Long – NT (2nd/-9)

- Making sixth career PGA TOUR start and fifth of the 2018-19 season
- 63 is career-low 18-hole score (previous: 66/R1/2018 Safeway Open)
- Round included eight birdies and an eagle (par-5 fourth) after a bogey-5 at No. 1
- Best career PGA TOUR result: T63/2018 Safeway Open (only made cut)
- Making Desert Classic debut
- PGA TOUR rookie (No. 13 on 2018 Web.com Tour Regular Season money list)

Curtis Luck – LQ (3rd/-8)

- Making 19th career PGA TOUR start and sixth of the 2018-19 season
- 64 is career-low 18-hole score (previous: 67/R3/2017 Quicken Loans National)
- Round included eight birdies and no bogeys
- Best career PGA TOUR result: T5/2017 Quicken Loans National
- Making Desert Classic debut
- First-year member on PGA TOUR (No. 18 on 2018 Web.com Tour Finals money list)

Adam Hadwin – SC (T4/-7)

- Played final six holes in 5-under to shoot 7-under 65
- Low score of the day on the Stadium Course
- Holed out for eagle from 60 yards on the par-5 16th
- Making fifth start at the Desert Classic, including top-10s in each of the past three seasons (T3/2018, 2nd/2017, T6/2016)
- Shot course-record 59 at La Quinta CC in 2017, where he will play in round two

Jon Rahm – LQ (T8/-6)

- Defending champion opens with 6-under 66
- Only Johnny Miller (1975, 1976) has successfully defended his title at the Desert Classic
- Making third start of the 2018-19 season (T8/Sentry Tournament of Champions, T22/WGC-HSBC Champions)

Miscellaneous Notes

- **Jhonattan Vegas** (T8), who won the event in 2011, joins **Phil Mickelson** (2002, 2004) and **Jon Rahm** (2018) as former champions currently in the top 10
- **Martin Laird** (T8) matches career-bests in total birdies (9) and birdie streak (five holes); did each most recently at the 2018 Valero Texas Open
- **Adam Svensson's** two lowest scores on the PGA TOUR have come in the first round of the last two TOUR events (61/Sony Open in Hawaii, 66/Desert Classic)
- 2017-18 FedExCup champion and World No. 1 **Justin Rose** stands T31 after an opening 68 at La Quinta CC

Bogey-free rounds

R1 (20): Phil Mickelson (60/LQ), Curtis Luck (64/LQ), Trey Mullinax (65/NT), Wyndham Clark (65/LQ), Jhonattan Vegas (66/SC), Alex Cejka (66/NT), Abraham Ancer (66/LQ), Robert Streb (66/LQ), Adam Svensson (66/LQ), Talor Gooch (67/SC), Charles Howell III (67/NT), Kramer Hickok (67/NT), Chez Reavie (67/LQ), Nick Watney (68/SC), Max Homa (68/NT), John Huh (68/NT), Harold Varner III (68/LQ), Aaron Wise (68/LQ), Beau Hossler (69/LQ), Ryan Armour (69/LQ), Peter Malnati (70/LQ)

First-round scoring averages

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
SC	35.096	35.788	70.885	--
NT	34.673	35.038	69.712	--
LQ	33.827	35.596	69.423	--