

### THE PLAYERS Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes



**85 weeks:** Since 2007, there has been 58 different players who have ranked #1 in the FedExCup standings in at least one week of FedExCup era. Two-time FedExCup champion (2007 & 2009) and two-time PLAYERS champion (2001 & 2013) Tiger Woods has spent 17% of all weeks in the FedExCup ranked first in the standings.

**242 weeks:** 2007 PLAYERS champion Phil Mickelson currently ranks ninth in the FedExCup standings and has spent 242 total weeks inside the top-10 of the standings in the FedExCup era, most of any player.

#### Most Weeks Ranked #1 in FedExCup Standings Since 2007

	Weeks # 1
Tiger Woods	85
Jimmy Walker	48
Dustin Johnson	39
Justin Thomas	25
Jordan Spieth	25
Ernie Els	22

### Most Weeks Ranked Inside Top 10 FedExCup Standings Since 2007

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	# of Weeks			
Phil Mickelson	242			
Dustin Johnson	213			
Bubba Watson	163			
Tiger Woods	137			
Matt Kuchar	131			
Steve Stricker	128			

### Players Making FedExCup Playoffs in Every Season PGA TOUR Since 2007

	Current Rank
Matt Kuchar	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Charles Howell III	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Phil Mickelson	9 <sup>th</sup>
Justin Rose	13 <sup>th</sup>
Adam Scott	27 <sup>th</sup>
Brandt Snedeker	40 <sup>th</sup>
Ryan Moore	57 <sup>th</sup>
Bubba Watson	65 <sup>th</sup>
Zach Johnson	118 <sup>th</sup>
Charley Hoffman	171 <sup>st</sup>

**9 of the 10** players who have qualified for the FedExCup playoffs in all 12 seasons currently rank inside the top-125 in the FedExCup standings.

This season, Kevin Tway is the only player who has ranked inside the top-30 of the FedExCup in all 17 weeks.

Number of Players Ranked Inside Top 125, Top 70, Top 30 of FedExCup Every Week This Season

	# of Players
Inside Top 125	28
Inside Top 70	12
Inside Top 30	1*

<sup>\*</sup>Kevin Tway

## Total Grouped Ages With Average Age

	20s	30s	40s	Average Age
Total	51	59	15	31.95

## Youngest Average Age of Players to Qualify for FedExCup Playoffs

Year	Average Age	20s	30s	40s	50s
2019	31.95	51	59	15	0
2018	32.23	47	61	17	0
2017	32.26	49	58	17	1
2016	32.99	42	66	16	1
2013	33.02	38	68	19	0





#### **Tiger Woods**

Tiger Woods is set to make his 19<sup>th</sup> appearance at THE PLAYERS and is the only past PLAYERS champion to win this event in both March (2001) and May (2013). Woods currently ranks 107<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup standings of one top 10 (WGC-Mexico).

#### Most Under Par THE PLAYERS Since 2000

	Score to Par
Tiger Woods	-58
Adam Scott	-43
Henrik Stenson	-36
Sergio Garcia	-35
Matt Kuchar	-32
Francesco Molinari	-27

Since 2000, Tiger Woods is a combined 58-under par at THE PLAYERS, 15 shots better than the next best player Adam Scott (2004 PLAYERS champion).

#### Best Par 5 Scoring THE PLAYERS Since 1997

Since 1997, Tiger Woods has the Best Par 5 Scoring of any player. Tiger Woods is a combined 134-under on the par 5s at THE PLAYERS Stadium Course and has made 143 birdies or better in 268 par 5s played (Birdie or Better Percentage: 53.4%).

	Score to Par
Tiger Woods*	-134
Sergio Garcia	-121
Phil Mickelson	-105
Vijay Singh	-90

<sup>\*143</sup> Birdies or Better in 268 Par 5s Played (53.4%)

In the round three last season, Tiger Woods recorded his lowest round at THE PLAYERS in 67 career rounds with a seven-under 65. Woods recorded rounds of 65-69 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final rounds marking the first time since 2001 to post two rounds in the 60s at THE PLAYERS.

### Weekend Performance 2018 THE PLAYERS

	Value	Career Rank at THE PLAYERS
Score to Par	-10	2nd Best
Scoring Average	67.0 (65-69)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Best
Total Birdies	14	Most
Total Bogeys/Worse	3	Tied-Fewest





#### Webb Simpson

Defending PLAYERS champion Webb Simpson is set to make his 10<sup>th</sup> appearance at THE PLAYERS. Simpson is seeking to be the first defending PLAYERS champion to successfully defend their title at this event.

Since 1983, Webb Simpson is the only player to lead the field in Driving Accuracy while ranking last in the field in Driving Distance and go onto win. Last season, Webb Simpson hit 82.14% of his fairways and had an average Driving Distance of 280.5 on the two measured holes, ranking 71st in the field en route to victory at the 2018 PLAYERS.

Best Driving Accuracy Rank by Winner
Ranking Last in the Field in Driving Distance PGA TOUR Since 1983

		Accuracy Rank	Distance Rank
2018 THE PLAYERS	Webb Simpson	1 <sup>st</sup>	71
2001 Charles Schwab Challenge	Sergio Garcia	3	71
2009 FedEx St. Jude Classic	Brian Gay	9	76
1989 Charles Schwab Challenge	Ian Baker-Finch	20	71
2006 Milwaukee	Corey Pavin	41	81
1999 B.C. Open	Brad Faxon	61	66

Longest Hole Outs from a Greenside Bunker TPC Sawgrass Since 2003

	Year	Rd	Hole	Shot Sq#	Distance
Shigeki Maruyama	2007	1 <sup>st</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	3	130' 5"
Craig Perks	2007	1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	3	111' 9"
Webb Simpson	2018	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	3	100' 5"
Chris Kirk	2013	3 <sup>rd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	3	96' 11"

**100' 5":** Last season in round three, Webb Simpson holed-out for eagle on the par-5 11<sup>th</sup> hole from 100' 5", marking the third longest hole out from the greenside bunkers at TPC Sawgrass since 2003.

Since 2010, Webb Simpson has the most rounds of 63 or better on the PGA TOUR of any player.

In this timeframe, Simpson has 16 rounds of 63 or better, three more than the next best player (Walker, 13).

Webb Simpson is one of seven players with at least one round of 63 or better in each of the last three seasons.

# Most Rounds of 63 or Better PGA TOUR Since Start of 2010 Season

	# of Rds
Webb Simpson	16
Jimmy Walker	13
Justin Thomas	11
Jason Day	10
Dustin Johnson	10
Matt Kuchar	10
Kevin Na	10
Brandt Snedeker	10





#### **Patrick Reed**

Patrick Reed is set to make his sixth start at THE PLAYERS, making the cut in three of his five previous starts. In his last five rounds, Patrick Reed has outperformed the field by +7.04 total strokes from tee to green and is a combined nine-under par, compared to losing -4.80 total strokes from tee to green and a combined six-over par in his first 11 rounds at TPC Sawgrass.

First 11 Rounds vs. Last 5 Rounds at THE PLAYERS

	First 11	Last 5
Score to Par	+6	-9
Rounds Under Par	3	3
Total Strokes Gained: Tee-to-Green	-4.80	+7.04

The par-4 14<sup>th</sup> hole at TPC Sawgrass is one of five holes on the PGA TOUR that Patrick Reed has played a combined nine-under par or worse. In his career on this hole, Reed has made six bogeys or worse and hasn't made a birdie in 16 rounds. Patrick Reed has hit the fairway on the 14<sup>th</sup> hole in each of his last three rounds at TPC Sawgrass and only found the fairway off the tee in three of his previous 13 rounds.

### Toughest Holes PGA TOUR Career

	Hole	Par	Score to Par
Bay Hill Club & Lodge	18 <sup>th</sup>	4	+11
TPC Sawgrass	14 <sup>th</sup>	4	+9
Sheshan International GC	15 <sup>th</sup>	4	+9
Doral	18 <sup>th</sup>	4	+9
East Lake GC	16 <sup>th</sup>	4	+9

## Results on the 14<sup>th</sup> Hole Career at TPC Sawgrass

	# of Rds	
Total Birdies	0	
Bogeys or Worse	6	
Driving Accuracy	43.8% (7 of 16)	
Green in Regulation	31.3% (5 of 16)	

\*Entering This Week





#### **Rickie Fowler**

2015 PLAYERS champion Rickie Fowler is set to make his 10<sup>th</sup> start at THE PLAYERS. Fowler has made drastic improvement in several Putting statistics this season compared to last season. This season, Rickie Fowler ranks 23<sup>rd</sup> on the PGA TOUR in Putting from Outside 25 Feet, marking a 161-rank improvement in this statistic from last season (184<sup>th</sup>). So far this season, Fowler has made 10 total putts from outside 25 feet, which is one more than his total putts made from this distance during all of the 2017-18 season (9 total putts made).

### Putting Rank Improvements PGA TOUR Last Season vs. This Season

	Last Season	This Season	Improvement
SG: Putting	43 <sup>rd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	+35
Putting from - 10-15'	45	9	+36
Putting from Outside 25'	184 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	+161
Average Distance of Putts made	T71	2 <sup>nd</sup>	+69
Birdie or Better Conversion Percentage	32	5	+27

This season, Rickie Fowler made two double bogeys or worse in his first 252 holes, averaging one double bogey or worse every 126 holes played. However, in his last 252 holes played, Fowler has made 11 double bogeys or worse and is averaging one every 23 holes played.

### Double Bogeys or Worse PGA TOUR This Season

	First 252 Holes	Last 252 Holes*
Doubles Bogeys or Worse	2	11
Holes Played Per	126 holes per	23 holes per

### Best Strokes Gained: Putting in Final Round by Winner THE PLAYERS Since 2004

THE FEATERS SINCE 2004			
	Year	Total	
Rickie Fowler	2015	+4.011	
Si Woo Kim	2017	+3.971	
Tim Clark	2010	+3.489	
Sergio Garcia	2008	+3.042	
Jason Day	2016	+2.145	

Rickie Fowler's final round Strokes Gained: Putting total of +4.011 marked the best Strokes Gained: Putting final round by a winner at THE PLAYERS since 2004.

Playing 15 through 18 in 11 strokes in Final Round (2015): Fowler closed out his final 4 holes in regulation making birdie, eagle, birdie on holes 15 thru 18 at TPC Sawgrass Stadium course. Fowler played his final 4 holes a total of 11 strokes marking the fewest number of strokes needed on holes 15 through 18 at TPC Sawgrass.





#### **Jordan Spieth**

2015 FedExCup champion Jordan Spieth is set to make his sixth start at THE PLAYERS. This season, Jordan Spieth has the third-best Round One putting average, needing an average of 26.86 putts in the first round.

### Best Putts Per Round Average in Opening Round PGA TOUR This Season

	Avg	
Martin Piller	26.33	
Francesco Molinari	26.75	
Jordan Spieth	26.86	
Martin Kaymer	27.00	
Dominic Bozzelli	27.20	

<sup>\*</sup>TOUR Average: 29.35

#### Largest Stroke Differential Rounds 1 & 2 vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> & Final Rds PGA TOUR This Season

	Rds 1 & 2	3 <sup>rd</sup> & Final	Difference
Jordan Spieth	-33	+17	+50
Matt Kuchar	-58	-19	+39
Wyndham Clark	-49	-14	+35
J.T. Poston	-48	-13	+35
Keegan Bradley	-40	-7	+33

This season, Jordan Spieth has gotten off to a good start in round one and two recording 10 of 14 rounds under par and is 33-under in those 14 rounds. However, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Rounds, Spieth is a combined 17-over par recording two of 10 rounds under par.

#### **Brooks Koepka**

2018 PGA TOUR Player of the Year Brooks Koepka is set to make his fifth start at THE PLAYERS. Last season, Brooks Koepka outperformed the field by +4.779 total strokes on all approach shots en route to a course-record tying 63 in the final round.

### Best Strokes Gained: Approach-the-Green Performance in a Round PGA TOUR Career

	Rd	Total	Score
2018 THE PLAYERS	Final	+4.779	63
2018 U.S. Open	2 <sup>nd</sup>	+4.769	66
2016 BMW Championship	1 <sup>st</sup>	+3.973	68

Last season, Brooks Koepka improved his Final Round score by 11 shots compared to his 3<sup>rd</sup> round 74 at the 2018 THE PLAYERS. This marks his biggest improvement between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Rounds of his PGA TOUR career.

### Biggest Round Improvement Between 3rd & Final Round Score PGA TOUR Career

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	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rd	Final Rd	Difference
2018 THE PLAYERS	74	63	-11
2014 Wyndham Championship	73	64	-9
2016 BMW Championship	76	67	-9





#### **Rory McIlroy**

Rory McIlroy is set to make his 10th start at THE PLAYERS. Rory currently ranks 11th in the current FedExCup standings and is yet to finish outside of the top-10 in 2019.

Top 10s in Every Start in the 2019 Calendar Year

	# of Starts	# Top 10's	%
Rory McIlroy	5	5	100.0%
Jon Rahm	6	5	83.3%
Dustin Johnson	4	3	75.0%
Justin Thomas	6	4	66.7%
Sergio Garcia	3	2	66.7%

<sup>\*</sup>Minimum of two starts

#### **Career at THE PLAYERS** First 3 Starts vs. Last 6

	First 3	Last 6
Best Finish	MC	T6 (2014)
Cuts Missed	3	1
Best Round	72	64 (2016 rd 2)
Top 10s	0	3
Score to Par	+12	-28

After missing his first three consecutive starts at this event, Rory McIlroy has made five of his last six cuts at this event including three top-10s and four top-15 finishes.

#### **Phil Mickelson**

2007 THE PLAYERS champion is set to make his 26th start at this event, marking the t-sixth most all-time.

#### Most Starts Made at THE PLAYERS

	# of Starts
Davis Love III	29
Jay Haas	29
Tom Kite	28
Ben Crenshaw	28
Craig Stadler	27
Phil Mickelson	*26 <sup>th</sup>
Fred Couples	26
Bernhard Langer	26
Corey Pavin	26
Tom Watson	26

<sup>\*</sup>This is his 26th

Toughest Holes in Career on TOUR

Toughest Holes III Career on TOOK		
	Hole	Score to Par
Firestone CC (South)	13 <sup>th</sup>	+33
TPC Sawgrass	18 <sup>th</sup>	+30
Augusta National GC	11 <sup>th</sup>	+26
TPC Scottsdale	12 <sup>th</sup>	+25
Torrey Pines GC (South)	7 <sup>th</sup>	+23

Phil Mickelson is a combined 30-over par on the 18th hole at TPC Sawgrass, marking his second toughest hole on TOUR in his PGA TOUR career.





#### **Matt Kuchar**

2012 THE PLAYERS champion, Matt Kuchar is set to make his 15<sup>th</sup> start at THE PLAYERS. Since 2010, Matt Kuchar's opening round 1 & round 2 scoring average is a combined 69.94 ranking fourth best of any player with at least seven rounds. Kuchar has played 14 of 18 opening two rounds under par.

### Best Opening Two Round Scoring Average THE PLAYERS Since 2010 (min of 7 rds)

	Average
Lee Westwood	69.75
Sergio Garcia	69.78
Zach Johnson	69.83
Matt Kuchar	69.94

### Best FedExCup Position Entering Week #18 PGA TOUR Career

Entering Week 18		Final Finish
2019	2 <sup>nd</sup>	??
2013	4 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
2010	8 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Matt Kuchar is in his best position of the FedExCup standings entering week #18 of his PGA TOUR career. This marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> time he has ranked inside the top-10 in the FedExCup standings at this point of the season.

#### 2012 THE PLAYERS Win:

**Most Putts Made over 10 feet:** No one made more putts from outside 10 feet than Kuchar. For the week, he converted 13 total putts from outside 10 feet compared to the field average of 4.6 per player (8 more putts made over 10 feet than the field average).

**Only Player to Avoid all Greenside Bunkers:** The 2012 PLAYERS champion was the only player in the field to avoid all greenside bunkers over the 4 rounds on the PLAYERS Stadium Course. Since 1992, Matt Kuchar is the 4<sup>th</sup> player to accomplish this feat at THE PLAYERS and the first player since Tiger Woods in 2001 (also won).

#### **Justin Rose**

The 2018 FedExCup champion, Justin Rose currently ranks 13<sup>th</sup> in the FedExCup standings and is coming off his first over-par final 36-holes this season at last week's Arnold Palmer Invitational. Justin Rose has 15 starts at this event, recording one top-10 in 2014 (T4). This is the only event on TOUR where he has 15 starts and has only one or fewer top-10 finishes.

### Approach the Green Ranks Last Season vs. This Season

	Last Season	This Season
50-125 Yds	T129	5 <sup>th</sup>
150-175 Yds	T29	7 <sup>th</sup>
175-200 Yds	T58	1 <sup>st</sup>
175-200 Yds (Rough)	20 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>
>275 Yds	61 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Justin Rose has improved in his approach the green play over the course of last season to this season. Rose has improved in several distance variations, especially leading the TOUR from 175-200 yards.

Justin Rose has played only two events on TOUR in non-majors over par.

Events Where Justin Rose is Over-Par in PGA TOUR Career (Non-Majors)

	Score to Par
RBC Heritage	+14
THE PLAYERS	+1

\*min 2 starts





#### **Justin Thomas**

Currently ranked sixth in the FedExCup standings, Justin Thomas is set to make his fifth start at THE PLAYERS. Since 2015, Justin Thomas is the only player who has multiple rounds of 65 or better at TPC Sawgrass (16 players with one).

Most Total Birdies TPC Sawgrass Since 2015

	# of Birdies
<b>Justin Thomas</b>	75
Sergio Garcia	74
Adam Scott	71
Ian Poulter	64
Jason Day	62
Billy Horschel	62

In 15 rounds at TPC Sawgrass, Justin Thomas averages five birdies per round. His total of 75 birdies is the most of any player since 2015.

Since 2015, Justin Thomas has the lowest final round scoring average of any player at TPC Sawgrass.

## Best Final Round Scoring Average TPC Sawgrass Since 2015

	Average
<b>Justin Thomas</b>	68.67
Brooks Koepka	69.67
Henrik Stenson	69.67
Dustin Johnson	70.00
Adam Scott	70.25

<sup>\*</sup>Minimum three rounds

#### **Xander Schauffele**

In his only start at THE PLAYERS, Xander Schauffele finished T2 with Charl Schwartzel & Jimmy Walker four shots back of champion Webb Simpson.

#### Key Stats 2018 THE PLAYERS

	Rank	Value
SG: Tee-to-Green	1 <sup>st</sup>	+3.082
SG: Approach-the-Green	5 <sup>th</sup>	+1.373
GFG-Birdie or Better %	3 <sup>rd</sup>	85.7%
Sand Save %	1 <sup>st</sup>	83.3%
Putting Inside 10 Feet	2 <sup>nd</sup>	94.4%

Xander Schauffele led the field in Strokes Gained: Tee-to-Green outperforming the field by +3.082 strokes per round. Schauffele only missed four putts from inside 10 feet going 68 of 72 from inside this distance.

FedExCup leader, Xander Schauffele has a total of 12 weeks in the number one position, marking the most week's number one of any player this season.

#### Players Ranked #1 in FedExCup PGA TOUR This Season

	# of Weeks
Xander Schauffele	12
Kevin Tway	2
Marc Leishman	1
Matt Kuchar	1
Charles Howell III	1