



THE PLAYERS Championship 2019
(20th of 46 events in the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season)

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida March 14-17, 2019
THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass

Purse: \$12,500,000 (\$2,250,000)
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,189

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, March 16, 2019

Weather: Mostly cloudy. High of 66. Wind N 10-20 mph.

36-Hole Cut: 80 players at 1-under 143 from a field of 141 professionals.

54-Hole Secondary Cut: 73 players at even-par-216 from a field of 80 professionals.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Jon Rahm	69-68-64—201 (-15)
Tommy Fleetwood	65-67-70—202 (-14)
Rory McIlroy	67-65-70—202 (-14)
Jason Day	70-66-68—204 (-12)
Abraham Ancer	69-66-70—205 (-11)

Things to Know

- Jon Rahm holds the 54-hole lead/co-lead for the first time in his career with a one-shot lead entering the final round after posting the lowest round of the day with an 8-under 64 on Saturday
- Players from 11 countries have won THE PLAYERS, but none from England (Tommy Fleetwood/T2), Northern Ireland (Rory McIlroy/T2) or Mexico (Abraham Ancer/5th)
- Rory McIlroy and Tommy Fleetwood, the 36-hole co-leaders, are one shot back entering the final round at 14-under after a pair of 2-under 70s
- The top three players this week in Strokes Gained: Tee to Green are Nos. 1-3 on the leaderboard as well: Rahm (+10.593), Rory McIlroy (+10.496) and Tommy Fleetwood (+9.538)
- Seamus Power made the third hole-in-one of the tournament with an ace from 155 yards on the par-3 third, which was the third different hole a player has had a hole-in-one on this week

Third-Round Lead Notes

- 20 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win THE PLAYERS
(most recent: Webb Simpson/2018)
- 10 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win in 2018-19
(most recent: Dustin Johnson/World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship)

Jon Rahm (1/-15)

- Tied the second-lowest third round score in tournament history with an 8-under 64 to take the 54-hole lead by one shot after entering the third round five shots back
- Will play in the final pairing for only the third time in his career – 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open (T11) and 2019 Farmers Insurance Open (T5). Has only been paired twice with Tommy Fleetwood before – 2018 BMW Championship, first and second round
- Has five top-10s in seven starts this season and is ranked 32nd in the FedExCup standings
- Leads the field in SG:Tee to Green (+10.593) and SG: Approach the Green (+8.941) for the week
- Could join Sergio Garcia (2008) as the only Spaniards to win THE PLAYERS Championship
- Would become the third youngest winner in tournament history at age 24 years, 4 months, 7 days, trailing only Si Woo Kim (21 years, 10 months, 16 days) and Adam Scott (23 years, 8 months, 12 days)
- In two prior appearances at THE PLAYERS, Rahm has finished T63 (2018) and T72 (2017)
- Has never held the 54-hole lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR. Both his wins at the 2017 Farmers Insurance Open and 2018 Desert Classic were come-from-behind victories.
- Won the 2018 HERO World Challenge, an unofficial start in December, by four shots over Tony Finau

Rory McIlroy (T2/-14)

- After opening with back-to-back bogeys, played the last 16 holes bogey free for a 2-under 70 to get within one shot of the lead
- Seventh time in the last 11 rounds he's finished in the top 2 on the leaderboard
- Seven of McIlroy's 14 PGA TOUR victories came when he trailed entering the final round
- Recorded four consecutive top-15s from 2013 to 2016 at THE PLAYERS (T8/2013, T6/2014, T8/2015, T12/2016); coming off a missed cut in 2018
- Top-10s in five of six starts this season; runner up at the WGC-Mexico Championship represents his top result
- Leads the field in par-3 scoring this week at 5-under

Tommy Fleetwood (T2/-14)

- 36-hole co-leader opened with a double bogey and was 3-over through seven holes before playing his last 11 holes in 5-under to get within one shot of the 54-hole lead.
- Will play in a final-round pairing for the first time on the PGA TOUR
- Seventh-consecutive under-par round at THE PLAYERS
- Leads the field in SG: Off-the-Tee (+5.343) for the week
- Making third start at THE PLAYERS; tied for seventh in 2018
- Would become the third player to make THE PLAYERS his first PGA TOUR victory (Craig Perks/2002, Tim Clark/2010)
- Highest-ranked player in the OWGR without a win on the PGA TOUR (No. 13)
- Runner-up results in PGA TOUR career: 2017 WGC-Mexico Championship, 2018 U.S. Open

Jason Day (4th/-12)

- 2016 champion is looking to join Jack Nicklaus (1974, 1976, 1978), Steve Elkington (1991, 1997), Hal Sutton (1983, 2000), Fred Couples (1984, 1996), Davis Love III (1992, 2003), and Tiger Woods (2001, 2013) as the only multiple winners of THE PLAYERS Championship
- Making his ninth career appearance at THE PLAYERS with three top-10s – T5 (2018), 1 (2016), T6 (2011)
- Led by four shots after 54 holes during his 2016 victory at THE PLAYERS
- Has three top-fives in only six starts this season but was forced to withdraw at last week's Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard with a back injury

Abraham Ancer (5th/-11)

- One of 22 first-time participants in the field; two players have won THE PLAYERS in their first appearance, not including the inaugural event (Hal Sutton/1983, Craig Perks/2002)
- Best finish in 61 career PGA TOUR events: T4 (2018 Quicken Loans National, 2018 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open)
- Leading the field in par-4 scoring average (3.77) and total birdies (19) for the week

Tiger Woods (T43/-3)

- Played the first 11 holes in 3-over-par with no birdies before recording closing birdies at Nos. 12, 16 and 17 for an even-par 72.
- Has two birdies and a quadruple-bogey 7 at the par-3 17th hole this week. Entering the final round, Woods has six total water balls at No. 17 and owns an all-time score of 14-over-par on the Island Green

Miscellaneous notes

- **Seamus Power** made his first career hole-in-one on the PGA TOUR with an 8-iron on the 155-yard third hole. It's the first time THE PLAYERS has had three holes-in-one on three different holes after Sungjae Im made a hole-in-one on the 13th in the second round and Ryan Moore made an ace on the 17th in the first round.
- **Justin Leonard** (1998) and **Henrik Stenson** (2009) own the largest come-from-behind victories at TPC Sawgrass at five strokes. **Raymond Floyd's** six-shot, come-from-behind victory is the largest in tournament history but came at Sawgrass Country Club in 1981.
- **Ollie Schniederjans** posted his lowest round of the season with a 7-under 65 to jump 33 spots up the leaderboard into T6 at 10-under 206. Schniederjans is leading the field in driving distance at 320.8 yards.
- **Brandt Snedeker's** bogey-free, third-round 65 is his lowest career round in 29 rounds at TPC Sawgrass.
- After opening with a 2-over 74, 2018 FedExCup champion and World No. 1 **Justin Rose** has posted rounds of 66-68 to get to 8-under 208 (T16).
- Defending champion **Webb Simpson** carded rounds of 70-70-70 and sits T24 through three rounds
- 20-time PGA TOUR winner **Dustin Johnson** has never finished inside the top 10 in 10 career appearances at THE PLAYERS but is currently T6 entering the final round. His best finish at THE PLAYERS came in 2017: T12.

- 48-year-old **Jim Furyk** is T6 entering the final round after a 1-under 71. He is second in proximity but last in the field in driving distance (267)
- **Brian Harman**, T6, hit a field-best 17/18 greens in the third round but needed 34 putts on his way to a 1-under 71

Balls in the water at No. 17 (since 2003)

Year	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
2019	14	6	8	-	28
2018	24	21	6	3	54
2017	19	29	10	11	69
2016	6	9	17	4	36
2015	21	16	3	5	45
2014	12	12	1	3	28
2013	15	9	7	13	44
2012	18	11	4	6	39
2011	12	14	8	6	40
2010	7	8	5	9	29
2009	16	6	4	6	32
2008	20	18	10	16	64
2007	50	21	10	12	93
2006	19	17	12	9	57
2005	7	8	25	28	68
2004	9	10	4	7	30
2003	6	10	3	10	29

Morgan Stanley Eagles for Impact Challenge

As part of its Eagles for Impact Challenge, Morgan Stanley will donate 1,500 books for every eagle made at THE PLAYERS to Book Trust—an early literacy non-profit that works to encourage students to become lifelong readers and learners—with the goal of providing students with greater access to books. Here’s a breakdown of eagles made and books donated:

Round	Eagles	Books
R1	22	33,000
R2	17	25,500
R3	12	18,000
TOTAL	51	76,500

Billy Horschel – Feeding Northeast Florida

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Billy Horschel will donate \$1,000 for every birdie and \$5,000 for every eagle he makes at THE PLAYERS 2019 to Feeding Northeast Florida, a community food bank that connects millions of pounds of rescued food to a network of over 150 social service agencies and programs. Just \$1 can provide six meals for those in need. Horschel is encouraging fans and supporters to join the campaign by going to www.feedingnefl.org, clicking on “take action,” choosing “Billy Horschel’s #DriveOutHunger Campaign” and then selecting their donation amount.

Round	Birdies	Eagles	Total Donation
R1	4	0	\$4,000
R2	4	0	\$4,000
R3	3	0	\$3,000
TOTAL	11	0	\$11,000

Bogey-free rounds

- R1 (6):** Tommy Fleetwood (65), Vaughn Taylor (67), Rory McIlroy (67), HaoTong Li (69), Rory Sabbatini (68), Kyle Stanley (68)
R2 (4): Martin Trainer (69), Jason Kokrak (68), Scott Piercy (68), Jim Furyk (64)
R3 (2): Brandt Snedeker (65), Rickie Fowler (68)

Course Statistics

	Front Nine	Back Nine	Total	Cumulative
R1	36.517	35.287	71.804	
R2	36.057	35.291	71.348	71.576
R3	36.538	34.975	71.513	71.555