

2018 The RSM Classic Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes



ShotLink Keys to Victory for Austin Cook

In his 14th career PGA TOUR start, Austin Cook earned 500 points and moved to the third position in the FedExCup standings with his first career victory at the 2017 RSM Classic. Cook's victory marked the fourth consecutive first-time winner at this event. Cook lead the field in SG: Tee-to-Green, outperforming the field by +3.058 strokes per round on the Seaside Course. Austin Cook went a stretch of 49 consecutive holes without a bogey stretching from his first hole in the first round to the 13th hole in round three.

Strokes Gained Statistics vs. The Field

	Rank	Avg
Off-the-Tee	12th	+0.775
Approach-the-Green	5th	+1.516
Around-the-Green	9th	+0.767
Putting	13 th	+1.126
Total	1 st	+4.184

73% (+3.058) of Austin's total strokes gained for the week were a result of his tee to green performance on the Seaside Course (host course).

Austin Cook ranked fifth in SG: Approach-the-Green, outperforming the field by +1.516 strokes per round on all approach shots on the Seaside course. Cook hit 83.33% (60 of 72) Greens in Regulation, 12.07% more greens hit in regulation than the field average (71.26%) and only missed four greens in regulation on holes 7 thru 18 on the Seaside Course.

Par 4 Performance vs. The Field

	Cook	Field
Scoring Average	3.76	4.0
Birdie or Better PCT.	28.26	16.58
Performance	-11	Even

Approach the Green vs. The RSM Classic Field

	Cook	Field
SG: Approach-the-Green	+1.516 (5th)	---
Greens in Regulation PCT.	83.33% (T2)	71.26%
Fairway Proximity	27' 11" (T9)	32' 5"
Approaches 50-125 yards	11' 7" (5 th)	19' 3"

Fewest Bogeys or Worse in a 72-hole PGA TOUR Event Since 2015-16 PGA TOUR Season

		Bogeys/Worse
2018 Quicken Loans National	Francesco Molinari	2
2017 The RSM Classic	Austin Cook	2
2017 Dell Technologies Champ.	Justin Thomas	2
2016 John Deere Classic	Ryan Moore	2
2016 Sentry TOC	Jordan Spieth	2
2015 The RSM Classic	Kevin Kisner	2

Cook's two bogeys for the week marked the fifth PGA TOUR winner (6 total) and second RSM Classic champion to make two bogeys or worse en route to their respective victories since the start of the 2015-16 PGA TOUR season (72-hole event).

Course & Hole Statistics Sea Island Resort (Seaside)

The Seaside course at Sea Island resort has statistically ranked as one of the Shortest Driving Distance - All Drive averages and lowest percentage of drives over 300 yards of any course on TOUR (Since 2010).

Seaside Course Driving Distance - All Drives Ranks PGA TOUR Since 2010

Year	Rank on TOUR	Distance
Last Season	6th Shortest	278.8
2016-17	7 th Shortest	277.3
2015-16	3 rd Shortest	273.3
2014-15	7 th Shortest	276.4
2013-14	4 th Shortest	271.3
2012	6 th Shortest	273.6
2011	6 th Shortest	272.6
2010	7 th Shortest	273.7

Seaside Course Driving Pct. Over 300+ Yds Ranks PGA TOUR Since 2010

Year	Rank on TOUR	PCT.
Last Season	6th Lowest	18.56
2016-17	5 th Lowest	14.87
2015-16	3 rd Lowest	11.03
2014-15	7 th Lowest	12.12
2013-14	3 rd Lowest	8.63
2012	5 th Lowest	8.76
2011	4 th Lowest	10.05
2010	5 th Lowest	9.36

Lowest Percentage of Drives Over 300 Yards PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT.
Harbour Town GL	11.12
GC of Houston	14.06
PGA National (Champion)	16.39
Stadium Course (<i>PGA West</i>)	17.61
Keene Trace GC	17.93
Sea Island Resort (Seaside)	18.56

Last season, **782** of 4,214 (18.56%) of the drives carried over 300 yards at the Seaside course, ranking as the sixth lowest Driving Pct. Over 300+ of any course on TOUR.

Since 2010, the Sea Island Resort (Seaside) course has the second highest Green in Regulation Percentage of any course with 1,000 or more rounds played.

Highest Green in Regulation PCT. PGA TOUR Since 2010

	PCT.
Plantation Course at Kapalua	80.02
Sea Island Resort (Seaside)	73.76
TPC Summerlin	72.50
Sedgefield CC	72.41
TPC Kuala Lumpur	71.68

**min 1,000 rounds*

Last season, the Sea Island Resort (Seaside) course proved to be one of the toughest greens to one-putt ranking as the fourth lowest one-putt percentage at 33.11%. Players made an average of 79' 6" of putts marking the highest average feet of putts made of any course (non-majors).

Lowest One-Putt Percentage PGA TOUR Last Season (Non-Majors)

	PCT.
Club at Nine Bridges	31.04
Monterey Peninsula CC	31.94
Trinity Forest Golf Club	32.92
Sea Island Resort (Seaside)	33.11
Sedgefield CC	33.53

Highest Avg. Feet of Putts Made PGA TOUR Last Season (Non-Majors)

	Ft Made / Rd
Sea Island Resort (Seaside)	79' 6"
Colonial CC	77' 8"
TPC Boston	77' 2"
Ridgewood CC	76' 4"
GC of Houston	75' 11"

FedExCup Notes

First Eight Winners 2017-18 PGA TOUR Season

	Winner	FEC Finish
Safeway Open	Brendan Steele	56 th
CIMB Classic	Pat Perez	39 th
THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES	Justin Thomas	7th
WGC-HSBC Champions	Justin Rose	WON
Sanderson Farms Championship	Ryan Armour	49 th
Shriners Hospitals for Children Open	Patrick Cantlay	20th
Mayakoba Golf Classic	Patton Kizzire	30th
The RSM Classic	Austin Cook	38 th

Last season all eight of the winners from the first eight PGA TOUR events of the season qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs.

Four of the eight players qualified for the TOUR Championship.

Since the beginning of the wrap-around schedule in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR season, all five of the RSM Classic champions entered the new calendar year inside of the top five of the FedExCup standings. Of the five players three of them made the TOUR Championship at seasons end with the highest ranked player being Chris Kirk in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR season.

Winners of the RSM Classic with Final FedExCup Finish

	Rank after RSM	FEC Finish
2017 Austin Cook	3 rd	38 th
2016 Mackenzie Hughes	4 th	36 th
2015 Kevin Kisner	1 st	23 rd
2014 Robert Streb	1 st	18 th
2013 Chris Kirk	4 th	2 nd

45.6%: The percentage of players that played the RSM Classic and made the FedExCup playoffs

Season	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Total
Percentage	51.5%	52.3%	42.9%	41.7%	41.4%	45.6%

Highest Ranked Players in Final FedExCup Standings That Played at the RSM Classic in the Same Season

	Final FedExCup Rank
2013-14 Chris Kirk	2 nd
2016-17 Xander Schauffele	3 rd
2014-15 Zach Johnson	6 th
2013-14 Matt Kuchar	8 th
2015-16 Kevin Chappell	8 th
2014-15 Danny Lee	9 th
2014-15 Charley Hoffman	10 th
2017-18 Bubba Watson	10 th

The highest ranked player in the final FedExCup standings in the same year as playing in the RSM classic was Chris Kirk in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR season.

No player has played in the RSM Classic and has won the FedExCup at seasons end.

Players That Finished Inside Top 30 Final FedExCup Standings Last Season

	Finish
Bubba Watson	10th
Webb Simpson	11th
Aaron Wise	24 th
Patton Kizzire	30 th

Four players qualified for the TOUR Championship that played in the 2017 RSM Classic, including three-time winner last season Bubba Watson and 2018 PLAYERS Champion Webb Simpson.

58.2 Starts: Last season, the average number of PGA TOUR starts need was 58.2 starts for players to win their first event on TOUR and the fourth lowest average of starts needed for a player to win their first PGA TOUR event since 1970. Since the start of the wrap-around schedule in the 2013-14 PGA TOUR season, the average number of starts needed for a player to win their first event is 78.6 starts.

**Average Number of Starts Needed for
1st PGA TOUR Win Since Start of 2013-14 Season**

	Avg. # of Starts
Last Season	58.2
2016-17	69.5
2015-16	84.8
2014-15	78.7
2013-14	107.4

**First Time Winners Stats
PGA TOUR Last Season**

	Value
Total Winners	11
Average Starts Needed	58.2
Average Age	29.6

**Longest Streak of First-Time Winners
PGA TOUR Since 2003**

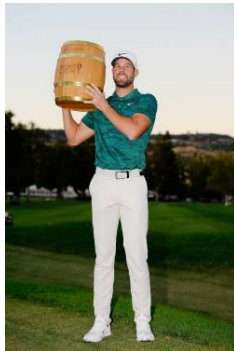
Since the start of the ShotLink era (2003), The RSM Classic is one of six PGA TOUR events that have been won in four or more consecutive seasons.

	Streak	Years
Shriners Hospitals for Children Open	6	2004 to 2009
Sanderson Farms Championship*	5	2014-15 to Current
The RSM Classic*	4	2014-15 to Current
Puerto Rico Open	4	2013 to 2015-16
Travelers Championship	4	2010 to 2013
Zurich Classic of New Orleans	4	2005 to 2008

*Active Streaks

This season, there have been two first-time winners through the first seven PGA TOUR events (Kevin Tway, Safeway Open & Cameron Champ, Sanderson Farms).

First-Time Winners This Season



Kevin Tway		Cameron Champ	
2018 Safeway Open	Event	2018 Sanderson Farms Champ.	
91 st	# of Starts Needed	9 th	
30 02 14	Age	23 04 13	
2 nd	Current FEC Rank	9 th	

Broadcast Window Notes

2018-19 The RSM Classic *(featured groups)*

Webb Simpson

Webb Simpson is set to make his seventh start at The RSM Classic. Simpson has played 20 of 22 rounds at par or better at The RSM Classic (both courses).

Best Scoring Average The RSM Classic Since 2010

	Avg.
Webb Simpson	67.73
David Toms	67.78
Kevin Kisner	67.79
Kevin Chappell	68.00
Chris Kirk	68.00

**Min 13 Rds*

Since 2010, Webb Simpson's 67.73 stroke average is the lowest scoring average of any player at The RSM Classic (min 13 rounds).

Most Under Par Sea Island Resort (Seaside Course) Since 2010

	Score to Par
Kevin Kisner	-48
Webb Simpson	-47
Chris Kirk	-46
Charles Howell III	-45
Brendon de Jonge	-45

Since 2010, Webb Simpson is 47-under par on the Seaside course at Sea Island Resort, the second-best of any player at this course (Kevin Kisner, -48).

Zach Johnson

Zach Johnson is set to make his ninth start at The RSM Classic. Johnson is one of eight players to play in all eight years of The RSM Classic. Six of the eight players are in the field this week.

Most Appearances The RSM Classic Since 2010

	# of Appearances
Chris Kirk	8
Heath Slocum	8
Chad Campbell	8
Brendon de Jonge	8
Charles Howell III	8
Zach Johnson	8
Davis Love III	8
Mark Wilson	8

**In the Field This Week*

Best Driving Accuracy PCT. Sea Island Resort (Seaside Course) Since 2010

	PCT.
Heath Slocum	79.93
Roberto Castro	79.12
David Toms	78.97
Zach Johnson	78.90
Ben Curtis	78.57

Since 2010, Zach Johnson has hit 78.90% (243 of 308) of the fairways on the Seaside Course, marking the fourth-best Driving Accuracy percentage of any player (min 170 fairways played).

Jim Furyk

2010 FedExCup Champion Jim Furyk is set to make his fourth start at the RSM Classic and his 594th career start on the PGA TOUR. Furyk is one of six players in the field this week who have made 500 or more official starts on the PGA TOUR.

Players With 500 or More PGA TOUR Starts (Entering This Week)

	# of Starts
Davis Love III	760
Jim Furyk	593
Stewart Cink	567
Brian Gay	552
Charles Howell III	528
J.J. Henry	526

**In the Field This Week*

Most Seasons Ranked Inside Top 10 in Driving Accuracy - PGA TOUR Since 1997

	# of Seasons
Jim Furyk	14
Joe Durant	13
Fred Funk	11
Olin Browne	9
Heath Slocum	9

Last season, Jim Furyk ranked 10th on TOUR in Driving Accuracy, finding the fairway 69.8% of the time. Since 1997, Jim Furyk has ranked inside the top 10 in this statistics in 14 of 22 seasons, marking the most seasons ranked inside the top 10 of any player.

Since 1994, Jim Furyk has recorded 212 career-bogey-free rounds, 64 more rounds without recording a bogey than Charles Howell III (148 career rounds).

Most Bogey-Free Rounds PGA TOUR Since 1994

	# of Rds
Jim Furyk	212
Charles Howell III	148
Jerry Kelly	140

Most Seasons Ranked Inside Top 20 in Scrambling PGA TOUR Since 1992

	Total seasons
Jim Furyk	14
Corey Pavin	12
Tiger Woods	11
Loren Roberts	11
Steve Stricker	11
Brian Gay	11
Matt Kuchar	11
Kevin Na	10
Phil Mickelson	8
Nick Price	8
Chris Riley	8
Jerry Kelly	8

Since 1992, Jim Furyk has ranked inside the top 20 in Scrambling in 14 seasons on the PGA TOUR, two more than Corey Pavin for the most.

Brian Harman

Brian Harman finished the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season 48th in the FedExCup standings on the strength of eight top 10s and 11 top-25s. This season, Harman ranks 139th in the FedExCup standings and is set to make his fourth start and seventh at the RSM Classic.

Career Best Round 3 & 4 Total PGA TOUR Career

	Total Score
2017 John Deere Classic	130
2017 The RSM Classic	131
2014 John Deere Classic	131
2016 Sony Open in Hawaii	131

Brian finished T-4 at the 2017 RSM Classic shooting 131 on the weekend. His combined 131 total on the weekend was his career t-second best total score in rounds 3 & 4 combined in his PGA TOUR career.

Brian Harman ranked inside of the top-10 in both SG: Around-the-Green & SG: Putting at the 2017 RSM Classic marking only the third time in his career where he has ranked inside of the top-10 in an event in both categories.

Key Stats 2017 RSM Classic

	Rank	Average
Driving Accuracy	T8	82.1%
SG: Around-the-Green	5th	+0.828
Scrambling	6 th	81.3%
SG: Putting	7th	+1.321
Putting 20-25 Feet	1 st	75.0%

Last 5 Rounds at RSM Classic

	Value
Rounds under Par	5
Birdie or Better	24
Bogeys or Worse	9
Score to Par	-15

In his last five rounds at the RSM Classic, Brian Harman has played all five rounds under par and is a combined 14-under par making birdie or better on **26%** of his holes played.

Russell Henley

Russell Henley is coming off his first made cut of the 2018-19 PGA TOUR season. Henley finished T-29 at last week's Mayakoba Golf Classic.

Career on PGA TOUR

	Value
Wins	3
Top 10s	22
FedExCup Appearances	6
TOUR Champ. Appearances	2
Best FedExCup Finish	13 th (2017)

Last season, Henley made the FedExCup playoffs for the sixth consecutive season finishing 96th in the final 2018 FedExCup standings. Henley is one of 36 players who have qualified for the FedExCup playoffs in each of the last six PGA TOUR seasons.

Russell Henley is one of four players who have three top-10s at the RSM Classic, marking the t-most top-10s of any player at this event.

Most Top-10s at RSM Classic

	# of Top 10s	Best Finish
Russell Henley	3	T4 (2014)
Chris Kirk	3	Won (2013)
Kevin Kisner	3	Won (2015)
Charles Howell III	3	T6 (2010)

Hudson Swafford

Hudson Swafford is set to make his sixth start at the RSM Classic. Swafford has made his last two cuts at this event and currently has a consecutive streak of eight consecutive cuts made on TOUR (his career most is 13 in 2016).

On the Greens Last Season vs. This Season

	Last Season	This Season
SG: Putting	-0.260 (163 rd)	+0.279 (68 th)
Putting Average	1.810 (188 th)	1.711 (61 st)
3-Putt Avoidance	4.39 (189 th)	1.04(24 th)
Best Streak Without a 3-Putt	84 (256th)	Currently 116 (33rd)
Average Feet of Putts Made	70' 10" (T147)	76' 6" (76 th)

Hudson Swafford has gotten off to a good start on the greens this season, improving in several putting stats from last season. Swafford has a current streak of 116 consecutive holes without a 3-putt.

Davis Love III

Davis Love III is set to make his 761st career start on the PGA TOUR and ninth appearance at The RSM Classic. Davis finished tied for fourth in 2012, his best finish at this event.

PGA TOUR Victories in Four Different Decades (All-Time)

	Decades	# of Wins
Sam Snead	30's, 40's, 50's, 60's	82
Raymond Floyd	60's, 70's, 80's, 90's	22
Davis Love III	80's, 90's, 00's, 10's	21

Davis Love III is one of three players (Floyd & Snead) to win a PGA TOUR event in four different decades.

Davis Love III has made 566 official cuts on the PGA TOUR (74.5%), T-4 all time. Davis has won 21 times on TOUR.

PGA TOUR Career Breakdown

	Value	PCT.
Starts	760	---
Wins	21	2.8
Top 5s	109	14.3
Top 10s	179	23.6
Top 25s	318	41.8
Cuts Made	566	74.5

Most Official Cuts Made PGA TOUR (All-Time)

	Cuts Made
Jay Haas	592
Tom Kite	590
Raymond Floyd	582
Davis Love III	566
Gene Littler	566

Cameron Champ

Cameron Champ currently ranks ninth in the current FedExCup standings on the strength of one win (Sanderson Farms Championship) two top 10s and 3 top-25 finishes this season.

Highest Ranked Rookies After Season Opening Events PGA TOUR Since 2013-14 Season

	Rank
2017-18 Cook, Austin	3 rd
2016-17 Hughes, Mackenzie	4 th
2015-16 Kaufman, Smylie	5 th
2016-17 Gribble, Cody	7 th
2015-16 Grillo, Emiliano	8 th

Since the start of the wrap-around schedule, only five rookies have ranked inside of the top-10 in the FedExCup standings after the season opening events. Cameron Champ currently ranks ninth in the FedExCup standings and is seeking to be the sixth.

Cameron Champ has hit 42 drives 340 yards and longer this season, including his longest of the season at 401 yards at the Safeway Open. Champ's 42 total drives is 21 more than the next best player, Seth Reeves with 21.

Most Drives of 340 Yards or Longer PGA TOUR This Season

	# of Drives
Cameron Champ	42
Seth Reeves	21
Wyndham Clark	16
Martin Trainer	14
Kevin Tway	14
Patrick Cantlay	13

Patton Kizzire

Coming off his career best FedExCup finish in the 2017-18 PGA TOUR season where he finished 30th in the final standings. This season, Patton Kizzire currently ranks 109th in the FedExCup standings and is seeking to find his form from the start of last season.

After leading the FedExCup standings after the season opening events last season, Kizzire currently ranks 109th. At this time last season, Patton Kizzire played 10 of his 14 rounds under par and was a combined 34-under par. This season, Kizzire has played six of his 12 rounds under par and is a combined Even par.

Stats Entering RSM Last Season vs. This Season

	Last Season	This Season
Starts/Rounds	4/14	3/12
Wins/Top-10s	1/3	0/0
Rounds Under Par	10	6
Score to Par	-34	Even
FedExCup Rank	1 st	109 th

Austin Cook

Defending RSM Classic champion Austin Cook is set to make second start at this event. Last season, Austin Cook was one of eight PGA TOUR Rookies to qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs.

Rookies to Qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs PGA TOUR Last Season

FEC Finish	
Aaron Wise	24 th
Austin Cook	38th
Keith Mitchell	67 th
Peter Uihlein	64 th
Satoshi Kodaira	94 th
Brandon Harkins	103 rd
Tyler Duncan	113 th
Sam Ryder	101 st

Key Stats vs. 2017 RSM Classic Field

	Cook	Field
Driving Accuracy PCT.	85.7% (T4)	71.2%
Greens in Regulation PCT.	83.3% (T2)	71.3%
Scrambling	91.7% (T1)	58.9%
Putting from 10-15 Feet	66.7% (T1)	31.6%

Last season, Austin Cook ranked inside the top five in Driving Accuracy (85.7%), Greens in Regulation (83.3%), Scrambling (91.7%) and Putting from 10-15 Feet (66.7%).

Putting from 10-15 Feet Leaders 2017 RSM Classic

PCT. Made	
Austin Cook	66.7
Andrew Landry	66.7
Retief Goosen	63.6
Bud Cauley	60.0

*Field Avg: 31.6%

Scrambling Leaders 2017 RSM Classic

PCT.	
Austin Cook	91.7
Kevin Streelman	91.7
Russell Knox	84.6
Andrew Landry	83.3

*Field Avg: 58.9%

Since the start of last season, Austin Cook is one of four PGA TOUR winners to rank inside the top five in Driving Accuracy, Greens in Regulation and Scrambling en route to victory.

Last Four PGA TOUR Winners to Rank Inside Top 5 in Driving Accuracy, Greens in Regulation & Scrambling

		Driving Accuracy	GIR	Scrambling
2018 Shriners Hospitals	Bryson DeChambeau	4	4	3
2018 John Deere Classic	Michael Kim	2	3	1
2018 Quicken Loans National	Francesco Molinari	4	1	1
2017 The RSM Classic	Austin Cook	4	2	1

Mackenzie Hughes

2016 RSM Classic champion Mackenzie Hughes is set to make his third appearance at this event. Hughes is one of only two players (Tommy Gainey/2012-Rd 4) to shoot 61 or better at The RSM Classic.

Lowest First Round Score by Eventual Winner PGA TOUR Since 2013

		Score
2018 Wyndham Champ.	Brandt Snedeker	59
2017 Sony Open in Hawaii	Justin Thomas	59
2016 Shriners Hospitals	Rod Pampling	60
2016 The RSM Classic	Mackenzie Hughes	61
2015 BMW Championship	Jason Day	61

Mac Hughes shot an opening round 61 en route to victory at the 2016 RSM Classic and marked the third lowest opening round score of an eventual winner on the PGA TOUR since 2014-15 season and fifth winner with a first round score of 61 or better.

Mackenzie Hughes defeated four players (Barber, Villegas, Norlander & Horschel) en route to winning the 2016 RSM Classic, marking the last event decided by a five-man playoff.

Last Three Events Decided by a Five-Man Playoff PGA TOUR

Year	Event
2016	The RSM Classic
2015	Puerto Rico Open
2005	BellSouth Classic

Kevin Kisner

Kevin Kisner (2015 RSM Classic champion) is set to make his eighth appearance at The RSM Classic. Kisner is coming off his fifth consecutive season qualifying for the FedExCup Playoffs and fourth consecutive advancing to the BMW Championship (Top 70).

FedExCup Finishes Since 2013-14

Finish	
Last Season	47th
2016-17	12 th
2015-16	23 rd
2014-15	21 st
2013-14	104 th

Most Rounds of 67 or Better The RSM Classic Since 2010

	# of Rds
Kevin Kisner	12
Charles Howell III	12
Webb Simpson	11
Brendon de Jonge	11
Chris Kirk	10

Since 2010, Kevin Kisner has shot 67 or better in 12 of 24 rounds at the RSM Classic, tied with Charles Howell III for the most rounds of 67 or better at this event.

Back-to-back 64s: Kevin Kisner recorded back-to-back rounds of 64 in the third and final round en route to victory at the 2015 RSM Classic and is the last player to post back-to-back rounds of 64 or better on the weekend en route to victory.