



2018 World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions
(4th of 46 events in the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season)

Shanghai, China
Sheshan International Golf Club

October 25-28, 2018

Purse: \$10 million, \$1.7m to the winner
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,261

First-Round Notes – Thursday, October 25, 2018

Weather: Mostly sunny and a high of 71F. Wind ESE 5-10 mph

First-Round Leaderboard

Patrick Reed	64 (-8)
Xander Schauffele	66 (-6)
Tony Finau	66 (-6)
Matthew Fitzpatrick	67 (-5)
Billy Horschel	68 (-4)
Tommy Fleetwood	68 (-4)
Rafa Cabrera Bello	68 (-4)
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	68 (-4)
C.T. Pan	68 (-4)

Five Things to Know

- Patrick Reed took sole possession of the first-round, two-stroke lead over Xander Schauffele and Tony Finau following an 8-under-par 64 hitting 12/14 fairways and 18/18 greens. The seven-time champion on the PGA TOUR is vying for his second victory at a World Golf Championships event having won the 2014 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship.
- Reed still holds the distinction of being the youngest player ever to win a World Golf Championships event with his victory at the 2014 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship at age 23 years, 7 months, 4 days.
- Defending champion and current FedExCup champion Justin Rose shot a 3-under-par 69.
- Xander Schauffele shot a bogey-free 66 to match his best first-round standing on the PGA TOUR (T2).
- Thailand's Kiradech Aphibarnrat and Chinese Taipei's C.T. Pan each posted scores of 4-under-par 68 as low players from Asia on the leaderboard. Kiradech became the first player from Thailand to gain full-time membership on the PGA TOUR with his play last season as a non-member.

First-Round Lead Notes

- 1/9 First-round leaders/co-leaders who have gone on to win at the World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions
- 0/3 First-round leaders/co-leaders during the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season to go on to convert the first-round lead to victory

Patrick Reed (-8/64)

Entering this week

N/A	FedExCup
15 th	Official World Golf Ranking
6	PGA TOUR Wins
180	PGA TOUR Starts
0	PGA TOUR Starts in 2018-19
0	Top-10s in 2018-19
4	Starts at World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions
3/4	Wins when holding 18-hole lead/co-lead

- Has held the 18-hole lead/co-lead four times previously in his career, converting into three of his seven PGA TOUR wins –
 - 2014 Humana Challenge – Win

- 2014 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship – Win
- 2016 Sentry Tournament of Champions – 2nd
- 2016 THE NORTHERN TRUST- Win
- Shots his second-lowest first-round score on the PGA TOUR having shot 63 in the first round of the 2014 Humana Challenge.
- Marks his first lead at the end of any round since his victory at the 2018 Masters.
- Making his first start of the 2018-19 PGA TOUR Season, Reed is looking to improve on his 22nd position in the final 2017-2018 FedExCup standings.
- Included in Reed's six career PGA TOUR victories are a major championship, a World Golf Championships event, a FedExCup Playoff event and the Sentry Tournament of Champions.
- Reed shot 64 despite having just one birdie and three pars on the four par 5 holes at Sheshan International.
- Marks his lowest score in 17 rounds at the HSBC Champions, besting his previous low, an opening-round 65 in 2015.

Xander Schauffele (-6/66)

- Playing for the second time in this event, shot an opening-round 66, two off the lead and tied for second with Tony Finau.
- Looking for his first top-10 finish in a World Golf Championships event. In his past five starts at WGCs, his best finish is a T13 at the 2017 World Golf Championships FedEx St. Jude Invitational.
- Making his third consecutive start of the season to complete all three tournaments of the PGA TOUR's Asia Swing with a 25 at the CIMB Classic and a T48 at the CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES.
- The 2016-2017 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year won twice that year capping off the season with a win at the TOUR Championship and finishing 3rd in the FedExCup standings.
- Followed his rookie campaign by again reaching the TOUR Championship and finishing 15th in the FedExCup on the strength of four top-3 finishes.
- His second-place standing after 18 holes matches his best standing following the first round on the PGA TOUR. He has been T2 after round 1 on three previous occasions with his best finish coming at the 2017 CIMB Classic (T3).

Tony Finau (-6/66)

- Making his first start of the 2018-2019 season, shot an opening round 66 to sit two shots off the lead.
- Finished No. 6 in the 2017-2018 FedExCup standings despite not having a victory thanks to 11 top-10 finishes including runner-up finishes at the Safeway Open, the Genesis Open and THE NORTHERN TRUST.
- Playing in the fifth World Golf Championships event of his career, has never finished worse than T27 at a WGC.
- Finished T11 at last year's World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions in his only previous start at the event.

Matthew Fitzpatrick (-5/67)

- Playing in the 12th World Golf Championships event of his career, Fitzpatrick shot a 5-under-par 67 and is alone in 4th following round 1.
- Playing in the HSBC Champions for the fourth time in his career with two top-10 finishes in the past with a T9 last year and at T7 in 2016.
- The five time European Tour winner last won at the 2018 Omega European Masters.
- When he won the U.S. Amateur in 2013, he became the first English winner of the U.S. Amateur since Harold Hilton in 1911.

Justin Rose (-3/69)

- In his last start on the PGA TOUR, Justin Rose won the 2018 FedExCup and \$10 million prize with a T4 finish at the TOUR Championship. Rose birdied the 72nd hole at East Lake to win his first FedExCup title while holding off two-time FedExCup winner Tiger Woods. It was Rose's first FedExCup title.
- Matched the third largest comeback in PGA TOUR history in 2017 at the WGC-HSBC Champions, coming from eight shots back with a final-round 67 to win by two shots after Dustin Johnson posted a final-round 77. The eight-stroke comeback was the largest in the history of the World Golf Championships.
- Trying to become the only player other than Tiger Woods to defend a World Golf Championships title. Tiger has done it on seven occasions.
 - Tiger Woods
 - WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, 2003-2004
 - WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational, 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2005-2006
 - WGC-Mexico Championship, 2002-2003, 2005-2006, 2006-2007
- After missing the cut at THE NORTHERN TRUST in August to open the FedExCup Playoffs, Rose reeled off three consecutive top-four finishes in the Playoffs – Dell Technologies Championship (2nd), BMW Championship (2nd) and TOUR Championship (T4) – to win the FedExCup. Rose was the first player in TOUR history to win the FedExCup without winning a FedExCup Playoffs event.
- Rose has two career WGC victories. Rose has won events on the PGA TOUR, European Tour, Japan Golf Tour, Sunshine Tour, PGA TOUR of Australasia and Asian Tour.

- This is Rose's first start of the 2018-2019 PGA TOUR season as he tries to become the first-ever FedExCup champion to defend his season-long title.

Chinese Players in the field

Zhang Xinjun	T27	(E/72)
Liang Wengchong	T27	(E/72)
Li Haotong	T41	(+1/73)
Wu Ashun	T41	(+1/73)
Liu Yanwei	T59	(+3/75)
Xiao Bowen	T68	(+4/76)
Yuan Yechun	76	(+6/78)

Miscellaneous Notes

- Eddie Pepperell (back injury) and Chris Wood (neck injury) each withdrew before the start of the first round. Pepperell was replaced by Jason Scrivener. There was no replacement for Wood in the field.
- Rafa Cabrera Bello followed his strong final-round 65 at last week's CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES where he finished T3 with an opening-round 68 to finish four shots off the first-round lead.
- Following his victory at the CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, world No. 1 and 2018 PGA TOUR Player of the Year Brooks Koepka shot even par in the opening round.
- Kiradech Aphibarnrat, who became the first player from Thailand to earn PGA TOUR membership thanks to his play as a non-member last season, shot a 4-under-par 68. Aphibarnrat finished T5 at two World Golf Championships last season (Mexico Championship, Dell Technologies Match Play).
- Chinese Taipei's C.T. Pan shot an opening-round 68 in his first time playing in Shanghai's HSBC Champions.
- Patrick Reed was the only player in the field to hit all 18 greens in regulation. China's Xiao Bowen was the only player to hit all 14 fairways.

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Patrick Reed (64), Xander Schauffele (66), Billy Horschel (68), C.T. Pan (68), Patrick Cantlay (70), Kyle Stanley (70)

Scoring Averages at the par-72 The Club at Nine Bridges:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	36.142	36.143	72.285	