



2019 World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship
(17th of 46 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Mexico City, Mexico
Club de Golf Chapultepec

February 21-24, 2019
Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,345

Purse: \$10,250,000 (\$1,745,000)
FedExCup Points: 550 (winner)

First-Round Notes – Thursday, February 21, 2019

Weather: Sunny. High of 79. Wind SSW 8-12 mph, with gusts to 16 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Rory McIlroy	63 (-8)
Dustin Johnson	64 (-7)
Justin Thomas	66 (-5)
Matt Kuchar	66 (-5)

Things to Know

- Rory McIlroy has held the 18-hole lead/co-lead 12 times previously in his career and converted three into victories
- Tiger Woods is making his first competitive start in Mexico and opened with an even-par 71
- In his second consecutive start at this event as Mexico's highest-ranked player, Abraham Ancer shot even-par 71
- Defending champion Phil Mickelson opened with an 8-over 79 while seeking to become the first player since 2005-07 to go back-to-back at the event

First-Round Lead Notes

- 6 First-round leaders/co-leaders at WGC-Mexico Championship to win (since 1999)
Most recent: Patrick Reed/2014
- 5 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2018-19
Most recent: J.B. Holmes/Genesis Open

Rory McIlroy (-8/1st)

Age: 29 (May 4, 1989)

Entering the week

#36	FedExCup
#8	OWGR
9	Starts at WGC-Mexico Championship
153	PGA TOUR starts
14	PGA TOUR wins
4	PGA TOUR starts in 2018-19

Best results in 2018-19: T4/Sentry Tournament of Champions, T4/Genesis Open

- Collected one eagle and seven birdies against one bogey en route to an 8-under 63
- Marks his lowest opening round at a World Golf Championships event
- 63 marks lowest opening round on TOUR since 62/2018 BMW Championship (finished 5th)
- Marks 12th 18-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR (most recent: tied at 2018 BMW Championship/finished 5); has converted three into victories (last: 2014 The Open Championship)
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Tee-to-Green (5.865)

Dustin Johnson (-7/2nd)

- Making 10th appearance at the WGC-Mexico Championship, collected seven birdies on his way to a bogey-free 64, the lone bogey-free scorecard in round one

- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (2.784)
- Counts 2017 and 2015 victories among 5 top-10s in 10 starts at WGC-Mexico Championship
- Has two top-10 finishes in four starts during the 2018-19 season (T4/Sentry Tournament of Champions, T9/Genesis Open)

Justin Thomas (-5/T3)

- Carded one eagle and four birdies against one bogey for a 5-under 66
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Around The Green (2.860)
- Holds course record at Club de Golf Chapultepec following third-round 62 in 2018
- Top-five finishes in four of six starts of the 2018-19 season (T5/CIMB Classic, 3rd/Sentry Tournament of Champions, 3rd/Waste Management Phoenix Open, 2nd/Genesis Open)
- Has finished T5 and 2nd in two previous appearances at Club de Golf Chapultepec

Matt Kuchar (-5/T3)

- Collected six birdies against one bogey en route to a 5-under 66
- Making 10th appearance at the WGC-Mexico Championship with best finish a T3 in his tournament debut in 2010
- Has three top-ten finishes in in seven starts in the 2018-19 season, including two wins (2018 Maykoba Golf Classic/ 2019 Sony Open in Hawaii)

Tiger Woods (T25/E)

- Began tournament by hitting opening tee shot out-of-bounds leading to a double bogey
- The last time Woods started an event with a double bogey or worse: 2018 US Open (made triple on opening hole)
- Recorded four birdies against two bogeys and one double-bogey to finish at even-par 71
- Competing in Mexico for the first time in his career. The last time he won at a course he was playing for the first time was the 2006 edition of this event, when he won by eight strokes.
- Mexico is the 22nd country where Woods has competed as a professional

Abraham Ancer (T25/E)

- In his second consecutive start at the WGC-Mexico Championship as Mexico’s highest-ranked player, opened with an even par-71
- Arrived to this tournament in 2018 at No. 260 in the Official World Golf Ranking; returned this week at No. 61
- Became the first player from Mexico to crack the top 100 in the Official World Golf Ranking with a T4 at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in November
- Won 2018 Australian Open

Miscellaneous Notes

- Making his 600th official start on the PGA TOUR, defending champion Phil Mickelson posted an 8-over 79 while seeking to join Tiger Woods (7) as the only players with three or more Mexico Championship victories.
- In his third start at the WGC-Mexico Championship, England’s Tyrrell Hatton collected five birdies against one bogey en route to a 4-under 67 and sits at T5; best finish at the event was T3/2018
- South African George Coetzee collected five birdies against one bogey for a 4-under 67 and sits at T5
- FedExCup points leader, Xander Schauffele notched one eagle, three birdies against three bogeys for a 2-under 69 and sits at T11 in his second consecutive appearance at WGC-Mexico Championship

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: Dustin Johnson (67)

Scoring Averages at Club de Golf Chapultepec:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.681	36.083	71.764	---