



2019 Zurich Classic

(The 27th of 46 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Avondale, Louisiana
TPC Louisiana

April 25-28, 2019
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,425

Purse: \$7,300,000/\$1,051,200 each winner
FedExCup points: 400 each winner

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, April 27, 2019

Weather: Sunny, with a high of 81. Wind SE 8-16 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Scott Stallings/Trey Mullinax	61-70-62—193 (-23)
Jon Rahm/Ryan Palmer	64-65-64—193 (-23)
Branden Grace/Justin Harding	65-68-61—194 (-22)
Brian Gay/Rory Sabbatini	60-70-66—196 (-20)
Peter Malnati/Billy Hurley III	63-67-66—196 (-20)

Things to Know

- Format: Four-ball (first and third rounds), Foursomes (second and fourth rounds)
- 54-hole co-leaders Scott Stallings/Trey Mullinax and Jon Rahm/Ryan Palmer's score of 23-under 193 marks the new 54-hole tournament record since the Zurich Classic became a team event in 2017
- In two previous years since team event began, the 54-hole leader/co-leader has gone on to win once, with Cameron Smith/Jones Blixt converting a four-shot lead after 54 holes into a playoff victory over Kevin Kisner/Scott Brown in 2017. Billy Horschel and Scott Piercy, the 2018 champions, entered the final round Foursomes format T5, three shots back of the lead, but recorded a 5-under 67 for a one-shot victory
- Branden Grace/Justin Harding posted the round of the day with an 11-under 61 in Four-ball format
- Third-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win 12 out of 25 times so far this season on the PGA TOUR, with Graeme McDowell being the most recent at the Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship

Jon Rahm/Ryan Palmer (T1/-23)

- The 36-hole solo leaders recorded nine birdies and one bogey for a 8-under 64 and a share of the 54-hole lead
- After playing the first 52 holes without a bogey, Rahm and Palmer made their first bogey of the tournament on the par-3 17th after each hit their tee shots into the water
- Rahm's lone previous 54-hole lead on the PGA TOUR came this year at THE PLAYERS Championship, where he finished T12 after closing in 4-over 76
- Of three previous 54-hole leads/co-leads, Palmer has converted for the win once (2010 Sony Open in Hawaii)
- In Rahm's only previous start at the Zurich Classic, he missed last year's cut with Wesley Bryan
- Palmer is making his 11th start at the Zurich Classic, having collected top-5 finishes in 2012 (T4) and 2017 (4th, with Jordan Spieth). Palmer and Spieth missed last year's cut
- Rahm, a two-time winner on the PGA TOUR, last posted a victory at the 2018 Desert Classic. Palmer, a three-time TOUR winner, is in search of his first victory since the 2010 Sony Open in Hawaii

Scott Stallings/Trey Mullinax (T1/-23)

- In the third round Four-ball format, Mullinax opened birdie-eagle for the duo on their way to a 10-under 62
- Two top-10s for three-time PGA TOUR winner Stallings in 14 starts this season (3rd/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T9/Valspar Championship). Stallings' most recent TOUR victory came at the 2014 Farmers Insurance Open
- Mullinax, seeking his first TOUR win, has four top-25s in 15 starts this season with T15/Waste Management Phoenix Open his best result. Mullinax has one victory on the Web.com Tour (2016 Rex Hospital Open)
- T2/2018 Valero Texas Open is Mullinax's career-best in 70 starts on TOUR
- Stallings has held the 54-hole lead three times previously and converted one of the three into victory (2012 Sanderson Farms Championship). Mullinax has never held the 54-hole lead or co-lead previously
- Stallings missed the cut at the Zurich Classic with Aaron Baddeley (2017) and Roberto Castro (2018)
- Mullinax partnered with Jonathan Randolph for T31/2018 and with Bobby Wyatt for MC/2017

Branden Grace/Justin Harding (3rd/-22)

- After opening with three consecutive pars in third round Four Ball format, pairing made birdies on 11 of next 13 holes from Nos. 4-16 before a bogey-birdie finish for the round of the day – 11-under-par 61
- In his lone previous appearance at the Zurich Classic in 2017, Grace partnered with Louis Oosthuizen for a T24 finish. Harding is making his first career start at the Zurich Classic
- Grace has made 13 starts on the PGA TOUR this season with two top-10s, including a season-best runner-up finish at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Sits 53rd in the FedExCup standings
- Justin Harding needs a two-way tie for second or better to gain Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR this week. Harding has 137 FedExCup non-member points and needs to get up to 266 – 129 points shy – to gain Special Temporary Membership
- Over the last year, Harding has five professional victories on three different tours with two wins on the Sunshine Tour, two wins on the Asian Tour and his latest victory coming on the European Tour at the 2019 Commercial Bank Qatar Masters in early March
- Harding has made four cuts in six starts on the PGA TOUR this season, with his best finish coming in a T12 at The Masters Tournament
- The South African duo of Harding and Grace are currently ranked Nos. 7 and 15 in the Presidents Cup standings for the International Team. Grace has played for the International team in each of the last three Presidents Cups, while Harding is attempting to make the team for the first time

Rory Sabbatini/Brian Gay (T4/-20)

- Duo carded four birdies and an eagle to post 20-under 196 and get within three shots of the 54-hole lead
- Gay missed last year's cut at the Zurich Classic, paired with 2018 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Aaron Wise
- Sabbatini, who finished T2 in the 2009 event, missed the cut with Bryson DeChambeau in 2017 and with John Daly in 2018
- Sabbatini's last win came at the 2011 The Honda Classic. Gay most recently won the 2013 Desert Classic
- Sabbatini has one top-10 (T10 at the RBC Heritage last week) in 13 starts on TOUR this season and is 107th in the FedExCup standings. Gay is 99th in the FedExCup standings with one top-10 – T7 at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am
- Team's 12-under 60 in the opening round in Four-ball remains the lowest round of the tournament thus far

Peter Malnati/Billy Hurley III (T4/-20)

- Coupled for birdies at Nos. 1, 2, 7, 9, 16, and 18 for a 6-under 66 to get within three shots of the 54-hole co-lead
- Since becoming a team event in 2017, Malnati missed the cut with Mark Wilson in 2017 and with Billy Hurley III in 2018. In his only other start in the event, missed the cut in 2014
- In four previous starts at the Zurich Classic, Hurley missed the 36-hole cut in 2012, 2016 and 2018 and 54-hole cut in 2014
- Malnati is in search of his first top-10 finish of the season in his 14th start (No. 108 FedExCup)
- Playing out of the Past Champion category this season, Hurley is making just his fifth start of the season, with a T30 at the Valspar Championship his best showing (No. 210 FedExCup)
- Both players are in search of their second career win on the PGA TOUR (Hurley/2016 Quicken Loans National, Malnati/2015 Sanderson Farms Championship)

Miscellaneous Notes

- Starting on the back nine, Austin Cook and Andrew Landry made birdies in the Four-ball format on 10 of their first 13 holes but made five consecutive pars to close with a 10-under 62
- Defending champions Billy Horschel/Scott Piercy are at 16-under 200 (T21)
- Four Zurich Ambassadors (**bold**): **Jason Day**/Adam Scott (MC), **Sergio Garcia**/Tommy Fleetwood (T6/-19), **Billy Horschel**/Scott Piercy (T21/-16)
- Rookie duo Hank Lebioda and Curtis Luck are in T6 at 19-under 197 after carding 8-under 64 in the third round. Lebioda and Luck are each in search of their first top-10 of the season
- Brian Stuard, the 2016 Zurich Classic champion, is teamed up with Russell Knox and currently T6 entering the final round at 19-under 197

Scoring Averages:

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Format
R1	32.350	33.225	65.575	Four-ball
R2	35.100	36.125	71.225	Foursomes
R3	32.872	32.923	65.795	Four-ball

Bogey-free rounds:

R1: 51 teams

R2: 5 teams - Jon Rahm/Ryan Palmer (65), Peter Malnati/Billy Hurley (67), Billy Horschel/Scott Piercy (68), Tom Hoge/J.J. Henry (68),
Russell Knox/Brian Stuard (69)

R3: 18 teams