



# **U.S. Senior Open Championship**

Warren Golf Course at Notre Dame | South Bend, Indiana | June 27-30, 2019

# Second-Round Notes Friday, June 28, 2019

Course Setup: Par 70 / 6,927 yards (R2 scoring average: 71.947; Cumulative: 71.696)

Weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 91. Winds out of the SW 8-16 mph.

Media Contact: Jackie Servais, (303) 249 – 6439

|     | Player         | To Par | Scores    |
|-----|----------------|--------|-----------|
| 1.  | Steve Stricker | -14    | 62-64—126 |
| 2.  | Jerry Kelly    | -12    | 64-64—128 |
| 3.  | David Toms     | -11    | 62-67—129 |
| 4.  | Retief Goosen  | -9     | 66-65—131 |
| T5. | Chris DiMarco  | -8     | 66-66—132 |
| T5. | Bob Estes      | -8     | 67-65—132 |
| T5. | Kirk Triplett  | -8     | 64-68—132 |

## **Quick Links:**

- Leaderboard
- Third-round tee times (TV coverage: 3-4 p.m. SF1, 4-7:30 p.m. FOX))
- Media kits: PGATOURMedia.com | USGA Media (includes transcripts)

### Steve Stricker, 62-64—126 (-14)

- Stricker carded a bogey-free 6-under 64 to add to a record breaking 8-under 62 in the opening round. His 14under 126 total is a career low by four strokes and sets a new 36-hole record in U.S. Senior Open history (previously: 11-under 129 held by Kirk Triplett and Kenny Perry in 2017).
- It is the second time Sticker leads through 36 holes in a major championship. When he claimed his first major victory at this year's Regions Tradition, he entered the weekend as the solo leader.
- Playing in his first U.S. Senior Open, should Stricker go on to win, he would become the ninth player to win the event in the first start (most recent: Roger Chapman, 2012).
- Stricker attempted to qualify for this year's U.S. Open where he has made 21 appearances and has 13 top-25 finishes. He advanced to the U.S. Open through sectional qualifying in 2017 and 2018. Sticker has made all but two cuts at the U.S. Open and his best finish was fifth place in 1999.
- He entered the week off a runner-up finish at the American Family Insurance Championship. In seven starts this year on PGA TOUR Champions, Stricker has posted four finishes in the top 10, including his first major championship win at the Regions Tradition.
- Stricker owns 15 finishes in the top 10 in 20 starts on Tour and ranks No. 10 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

#### **Second-Round Lead Notes**

- 60 players made the cut at 1-over 141 or better, matching the lowest 36-hole cut in tournament history (2017).
- An amateur didn't make the cut for the first time since 2004.
- Seven second-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this year on PGA TOUR Champions: **Bernhard Langer**, **Mark O'Meara**, **Kevin Sutherland**, **Scott McCarron**, **Tom Pernice Jr.** & **Scott Hoch** (team event), and **Steve Stricker**. McCarron led after 36-holes each of his three victories this season.
- The 36-hole leader/co-leader has won five of the last nine majors:
  - o Steve Stricker, 2019 Regions Tradition
  - o Miguel Angel Jimenez, 2018 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
  - o Kenny Perry, 2017 U.S. Senior Open Championship
  - o Bernhard Langer, 2017 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
  - o Bernhard Langer, 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship

#### Jerry Kelly, 64-64—128 (-12)

- Kelly carded a bogey-free second round and a 6-under 64 for the second day in a row to enter the weekend at 12-under 128, a new 36-hole career low.
- In 12 major championship appearances on PGA TOUR Champions, Kelly has finished all but two inside the top 15 and has never missed a cut.
- Kelly is making his third start at the U.S. Senior Open Championship. He held a solo lead each of the first three rounds at last year's event, but ultimately finished runner-up by one stroke to David Toms.
- Kelly made 10 starts at the U.S. Open in his PGA TOUR career and made the cut in his last appearance in 2012. His best finish at a U.S. Open was T7 in 2007.
- Kelly owns four victories and top-12 finishes in each of his last seven starts. During this span, he has improved from No. 23 to No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

#### David Toms, 62-67—129 (-11)

- Defending champion Toms carded a career-best 36-hole total of 11-under 129 when he carded a record opening round of 8-under 62 followed by a 3-under 67. He will enter the weekend in third place.
- Last year, Toms became just the second player to win the U.S. Senior Open after missing the cut the year prior (Kenny Perry/2013).
- Should Toms go on to win he would join Miller Barber (1984-'85), Gary Player (1987-'88) and Allen Doyle (2005-'06) as the only players to win back-to-back U.S. Senior Opens and become the seventh player with multiple U.S. Senior Open victories.
- This season, Toms ranks first in five of six major categories, including the All-Around Ranking: Greens in Regulation (73.84), Birdie Average (4.52 per round), Putting Average (1.723 putts per GIR), Scoring Average (69.29).
- Toms' lone victory on PGA TOUR Champions was the 2018 U.S. Senior Open and owns four top-10 finishes in major championships.

#### Retief Goosen, 66-65—131 (-9)

- Making his U.S. Senior Open debut, Goosen carded rounds of 66-65, to enter the weekend 9-under 131, his best 36-hole total on PGA TOUR Champions.
- He owns two U.S. Open victories (2001, 2004), and eight finishes in the top 25 in 18 starts at the event.
- Goosen, who turned 50 in February, owns three finishes in the top 10 on PGA TOUR Champions, including a runner-up finish at last week's American Family Insurance Championship. He ranks No. 17 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

#### **Other Notes**

- In his first start at the U.S. Senior Open, **Chris DiMarco** (T5) carded back-to-back rounds of 4-under 66 to make up an 8-under 132 total, his best 36-holes on PGA TOUR Champions. DiMarco has competed in 18 PGA TOUR Champions events since turning 50. His best finish came at this year's Oasis Championship (T30).
- **Bob Estes** carded rounds of 67-65—132 to sit T5, the highest position he has entered the weekend in a major championship. Estes finished third at this year's Oasis Championship, his best finish on PGA TOUR Champions.

- **Kirk Triplett** birdied the last two holes of the second round to enter the weekend T5 at 8-under 132. It is just the third time Triplett has exited Friday of a major championship in the top five.
- 1982 U.S. Open winner, **Tom Watson** (T16) has now made the cut in every attempt at the U.S. Senior Open (17) and birdied three of the last five holes in the second round to better his age by one stroke. Watson shot his age (final round) and bettered his age (second round) at the 2018 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.
- **Gary Nicklaus**, son of Jack Nicklaus, made the cut in his first attempt in a major championship when he carded rounds of 68-71 (T34).
- Four players withdrew prior to the second round, including two-time U.S. Senior Open champion **Kenny Perry** (elbow) and 1992 U.S. Open winner **Tom Kite** (back).
- This week's winner will receive a 10-year exemption into the U.S. Senior Open and exemptions into the 2020 U.S. Open.