



U.S. Senior Open Championship

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

Third-Round Notes

Saturday, June 29, 2019

Course Setup: Par 70 / 6,927 yards (R3 scoring average: 70.733; Cumulative: 71.538)

Weather: Mostly sunny with a high of 87. Winds out of the NW at 6-12 mph.

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	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Steve Stricker	-18	62-64-66—192
2.	Jerry Kelly	-12	64-64-70—198
3.	David Toms	-11	62-67-70—199
4.	Bob Estes	-10	67-65-68—200

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Final-round tee times](#) (TV coverage: 2-7:30 FOX)
- Media kits: PGATOURMedia.com | [USGA Media](#) (includes transcripts)

Steve Stricker, 62-64-66—192 (-18)

- Stricker has played the last 48 holes bogey-free in effort to card an 18-under 192, bettering the lowest 54-hole score in the history of the U.S. Senior Open by three strokes.
- His six-stroke lead is the second largest 54-hole lead in tournament history (largest: 7, Dave Stockton, 1996).
- It is the second time Stricker leads through 54 holes in a major championship. When he claimed his first major victory at this year's Regions Tradition, he entered Sunday with a two-shot lead.
- 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) and would receive a 10-year exemption into the U.S. Senior Open and an exemption into the 2020 U.S. Open.
- 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. Stricker 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 losing in a playoff to Jerry Kelly 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.

Third-Round Lead Notes

- In last year's five major championships, **Miguel Angel Jimenez** was the only player to convert a 54-hole lead into a victory (Regions Tradition, Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex). This year, **Steve Stricker** converted a 54-hole lead into a victory this year at the first major of the year, the Regions Tradition.

- Since 1990, 14 times a player(s) leading or co-leading the U.S. Senior Open after 54-holes have gone on to win. **Olin Browne** (2011) was the last 54-hole leader to go on to win.
- In the last 10 years, seven times players have come from behind to claim the title, including defending champion **David Toms** (one back), **Kenny Perry** (one back), **Gene Sauers** (one back), **Colin Montgomerie** (four back/playoff), **Kenny Perry** (two back), **Roger Chapman** (four back), and **Brad Bryant** (five back). Allen Doyle's comeback from nine strokes in 2005 is the best come-from-behind win in the U.S. Senior Open championship history.

Jerry Kelly, 64-64-70—198 (-12)

- Kelly carded an even par round on Saturday to enter the final round six strokes off the lead. His 12-under 198 records as his lowest 54-hole total in 11 major championship appearances.
- He has finished all but two of his major championship starts inside the top 15.
- 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.
- He 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, 62-67-70—199 (-11)

- Defending champion Toms carded an even par round on Saturday to enter the final round seven strokes off the lead.
- Toms' 11-under 199 through 54 holes records as his lowest on PGA TOUR Champions.
- In 10 major championship starts on PGA TOUR Champions, Toms has now exited 54-holes in the top 10 six times. He has converted one of those times into a victory (T2/ 2018 U.S. Senior Open).
- 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.

Other Notes

- **Bob Estes** (T4) carded rounds of 67-65-68 at 10-under 200 to record his lowest 54-hole score at a major championship on PGA TOUR Champions. In five major championship starts, Estes owns three finishes in the top 10. His best finish came at the 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship (T5).
- **Stephen Ames** (T5) matched his lowest round in a major championship on PGA TOUR Champions with a 4-under 66 on Saturday. In 18 major championship appearances, this week's 7-under 203 marks his lowest 54-hole total.
- **Miguel Angel Jimenez** rebounded from a 1-over 71 on Friday to card a 3-under 67 and enter the final round T10. It is his 11th top-10 exit after 54-holes in 18 major championship appearances.
- 1982 U.S. Open winner, **Tom Watson** followed shooting his age (69) and bettering his age (68) with a 3-over 73 on Saturday to enter Sunday T38. Watson is making his 17th start at the event and owns 13 finishes in the top 25.