



2019 Houston Open pre-tournament notes

On-site PGA TOUR media contact: Jack Ryan | (973) 738-6092 | jackryan@pgatourhq.com

Dates: October 7-13, 2019

Where: Humble, Texas

Course: Golf Club of Houston (36-36—72/7,441 yards)

Field size: 144

2018 champion: Ian Poulter

Purse: \$7,500,000 (\$1,350,000/winner)

FedExCup: 500 points to the winner

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Things to Know

- Houston Open returns to the PGA TOUR schedule after a one-season hiatus
- Two-time Houston Open runner-up Henrik Stenson plays a domestic fall event for the first time in wraparound season
- Cameron Champ and FedExCup leader Sebastian Munoz look to become the first two-time winner of the season
- Houston native and University of Texas sophomore Cole Hammer set to make second career start on the PGA TOUR and first since the 2015 U.S. Open at Chambers Bay at age 15

Notes on the field

- Two FedExCup champions: Bill Haas (2011), Henrik Stenson (2013)
- 16 of the top 30 players in the FedExCup standings, including leader Sebastian Munoz and No. 3 Cameron Champ
- Six past champions: Johnson Wagner (2008), Hunter Mahan (2012), D.A. Points (2013), Matt Jones (2014), Jim Herman (2016), Russell Henley (2017)

A look back at the 2018 Houston Open

Pos.	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Ian Poulter	73	64	65	67	269 (-19)
P2	Beau Hossler	65	68	69	67	269 (-19)
T3	Emiliano Grillo	69	68	67	68	272 (-16)
T3	Jordan Spieth	68	67	71	66	272 (-16)
5	Sam Ryder	66	68	71	68	273 (-15)

- Ian Poulter (73/+1) entered the second round T123 and nine strokes off the lead before going on to defeat Beau Hossler in a playoff
- The win was the third of Poulter’s PGA TOUR career and came a week after he advanced to the quarterfinals of the 2018 Dell Technologies Match Play
- Jordan Spieth finished T3 and would go on to finish T3 at the Masters Tournament the following week
- Henrik Stenson earned his fourth top-10 in seven starts at the event with a T6

FedExCup and the Houston Open

- The Houston Open is one of a record 11 official FedExCup events held in the fall portion of the 2019-20 season, providing players more opportunities to get off to a strong start in the FedExCup
- Last season, six of the eight fall winners went on to qualify for the season-ending TOUR Championship, the highest success rate since the start of the wraparound season
- For the first time since the inception of the FedExCup in 2007, all 30 players who advanced to the TOUR Championship made starts in the fall
- In six of 12 seasons, the winner of the Houston Open has qualified for the season-ending TOUR Championship: Adam Scott (2007), Phil Mickelson (2011), Hunter Mahan (2012), D.A. Points (2013), J.B. Holmes (2015) and Russell Henley (2017)
- No player has ever won the Houston Open and gone on to win the FedExCup in the same season

Current FedExCup standings

The top 10 in the FedExCup at the conclusion of the PGA TOUR Regular Season will be recognized through the Wyndham Rewards Top 10 program and be well-positioned entering the FedExCup Playoffs

Position	Player	Points	Wins	Top-10s	Points Behind	Starts	Projected Bonus
1	Sebastian Munoz	605	1	2	--	4	\$2 million
2	Kevin Na	553	1	1	52	3	\$1.5 million
3	Cameron Champ	526	1	1	79	3	\$1.2 million
4	Joaquin Niemann	506	1	1	99	3	\$1.1 million
5	Adam Hadwin	415	0	2	190	2	\$1.0 million
6	Sungjae Im	352	0	1	253	3	\$850,000
T7	Patrick Cantlay	315	0	1	290	2	\$700,000
T7	Tom Hoge	315	0	1	290	3	\$600,000
9	Harris English	240	0	2	365	3	\$550,000
10	Brian Harman	229	0	1	376	3	\$500,000

Top player notes

Henrik Stenson

- Two-time runner-up (T2/2013, 2nd/2016) and has two additional top-10s (T3/2009, T6/2018)
- Making a start in the United States during the fall portion of the season for the first time since the TOUR went to a wraparound schedule in 2013-14
- Six-time PGA TOUR winner, most recently winning the 2017 Wyndham Championship
- One of only three players to win a major, THE PLAYERS Championship and the FedExCup

Cameron Champ

- Winner of the 2019 Safeway Open two weeks ago, earning his second career PGA TOUR title
- At age 24, became the first player since Bryson DeChambeau in 2018 to reach two career wins before turning 25
- Led the PGA TOUR in Driving Distance in 2018-19
- Rookie in 2018-19; makes his tournament debut at the Houston Open

Keegan Bradley

- Four-time PGA TOUR winner, including the 2011 PGA Championship in his rookie season; most recently won the 2018 BMW Championship
- Member of the 2013 Presidents Cup Team for the United States
- Has made two starts during the 2019-20 season, highlighted by a T24 at A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier
- Two top-fives in eight starts at the Houston Open (T4/2012, T5/2015)

Notable exemptions

- University of Texas sophomore **Cole Hammer** (No. 2 in World Amateur Golf Ranking) is set to make his second career start on the PGA TOUR (first: MC/2015 U.S. Open); Houston native was a member of the winning 2019 Walker Cup team and won the Mark H. McCormack Medal as 2019's top amateur
- **Braden Bailey**, a recent graduate of Baylor University, makes his PGA TOUR debut; Bailey attended Port Neches-Groves High School, which produced PGA TOUR winners Chris Stroud and Andrew Landry

Tournament notes

- This is the third time the Houston Open will be played in the fall; previous two: November 1966 (won by Arnold Palmer) and October 1991 (won by Fulton Allem)
- From 2007 through 2018, the Houston Open was played the week prior to the Masters Tournament every year except 2013
- While the Houston Open has been played at the Golf Club of Houston since 2003, the Tournament Course has served as the Host Course since 2006. Beginning in 2020, the tournament will be played at Memorial Park, a city-owned park in downtown Houston
- Current Course Record: 63 Sung Kang (2017), Scott Piercy (2015), Jimmy Walker (2011), Phil Mickelson (2011), Johnson Wagner (2008), Adam Scott (2008)
- Playoffs: 24 (most recent: 2018, Ian Poulter def. Beau Hossler)