



**2019 Sanderson Farms Championship**  
(2<sup>nd</sup> of 49 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Jackson, Mississippi  
Country Club of Jackson

September 19-22, 2019

Purse: \$6,600,000  
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,460

**FINAL First-Round Notes – Friday, September 20, 2019**

*Weather: Partly cloudy, with a high of 88. Wind SE 6-12 mph.*

*The first round resumed at 7:01 a.m. CT, with round two getting underway at 9:30 a.m.*

**First-Round Leaderboard**

Tom Hoge	64 (-8)
J.T. Poston	64 (-8)
Robert Streb	65 (-7)
Cameron Percy	65 (-7)
Seamus Power	65 (-7)
Harris English	65 (-7)
Carlos Ortiz	65 (-7)

**Things to Know**

- For the first time, the Sanderson Farms Championship enjoys standalone date, allocation of full FedExCup points
- Tom Hoge sinks a 46-foot putt for birdie at the last to shoot 64 on Thursday
- Six first-round leaders/co-leaders of the event have converted for the win, including the last two champions
- J.T. Poston makes six birdies, one eagle to shoot 64; claims his third 18-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR
- In his professional debut, 17-year-old Akshay Bhatia opens with 2-under 70
- Defending champion Cameron Champ opens with 68

**Tom Hoge (T1/-8)**

- In his first round since closing with a 5-under 65 to finish solo-second at last week's A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier, made eight birdies and no bogeys to open this week with 64
- Last week's finish at The Greenbrier marked his career-best showing
- Fifth time to claim an 18-hole lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR. Best result was T34 at the 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic
- Highlighted by a 45'9" putt for birdie on No. 18, his last hole of the day, sank 133'2" of putts in round one
- Claimed one top-10 finish in the 2018-19 season (6<sup>th</sup>/Barracuda Championship); finished 159 in the FedExCup
- Twelve players have made the Sanderson Farms Championship their first TOUR win, including each of the last five: Cameron Champ (2018), Ryan Armour (2017), Cody Gribble (2016), Peter Malnati (2015), Nick Taylor (2014), Chris Kirk (2011), D.J. Trahan (2006), Luke Donald (2002), Cameron Beckman (2001), Willie Wood (1996), Ed Dougherty (1995) and Brian Henninger (1994)

**J.T. Poston (T1/-8)**

- On the strength of six birdies and an eagle-3 at No. 5, opened with a bogey-free 64, two strokes shy of his career-low score on TOUR
- Needed 23 putts to sink a total of 105'6" of putts
- Marks his third occasion to hold at least a share of the 18-hole lead on the PGA TOUR. Neither of the first two occasions resulted in a top-25 finish
- Best of three previous appearances in the Sanderson Farms Championship is T29 (2016)
- Among three top-10 finishes last season was his first career PGA TOUR victory at the Wyndham Championship

**Seamus Power (T3/-7)**

- Beginning on No. 10, started birdie-birdie-birdie-par-eagle-birdie
- Made 154'10" of putts in round one (24 putts)

- Has now posted 11 (of 13) sub-par scores at the Country Club of Jackson and finished inside the top 30 in each of his previous three starts; 19<sup>th</sup> (2018), T18 (2017), T29 (2016)
- Opened the 2016 event with a 7-under 65

#### **Cameron Percy (T3/-7)**

- Made birdies on his first three holes and last two holes en route to a 7-under 65
- In six previous Sanderson Farms Championship starts, only top-30 finish was T15 in 2015
- Did not make a start on the PGA TOUR in the 2018-19 season
- Collected a pair of top-10 finishes on last season's Korn Ferry Tour, before ultimately finishing 37<sup>th</sup> in the Priority Ranking
- Seeks his first career PGA TOUR title in his 138<sup>th</sup> start. Best showing was a playoff loss at the 2010 Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. In that event, Jonathan Byrd made an ace on the fourth extra hole to beat Percy and Martin Laird

#### **Robert Streb (T3/-7)**

- Highlighted by four consecutive birdies on Nos. 13-16, posted a bogey-free 7-under 65
- Making his fourth start in the Sanderson Farms Championship, with a solo-eighth in 2014 his lone top-20 finish
- Seeks his second career PGA TOUR win (2014 The RSM Classic)
- Despite a pair of top-5 finishes last season, finished at No. 128 in the FedExCup to miss the Playoffs for a second consecutive season

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

- Eight past Sanderson Farms Championship winners in the field: Cameron Champ/2018 (68), Ryan Armour/2017 (73), Peter Malnati/2015 (70), Nick Taylor/2014 (74), Scott Stallings/2012 (66), Bill Haas/2010 (70), Chad Campbell/2007 (73) and D.J. Trahan/2006 (72)
- 2012 Sanderson Farms championship winner Scott Stallings (T8) followed back-to-back bogeys at Nos. 12 and 13 with back-to-back eagles at the par-5 14<sup>th</sup> and par-4 15<sup>th</sup> en route to a 6-under 66
- Carlos Ortiz, who closed last year's event with an 8-under 64 to finish T3, opened this week with a 7-under 65 (T3)
- Making his second start in the Sanderson Farms Championship (MC/2005), 12-time PGA TOUR winner Zach Johnson opened with a 5-under 67
- In his first appearance in the event, 2012 FedExCup champion Brandt Snedeker posted a 3-under 69

#### **Bogey-free rounds:**

**R1 (8):** Tom Hoge (64), J.T. Poston (64), Robert Streb (65), Harris English (65), Ben An (66), Mark Anderson (67), Alex Cejka (68), Jason Dufner (70)

#### **Scoring Averages at the par-72 Country Club of Jackson:**

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
R1:	35.622	35.564	71.186	---