



2019 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES

(The 6th of 49 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Jeju, South Korea
Club at Nine Bridges

October 17-20, 2019
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,241

FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$9,750,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, October 17, 2019

Weather: Mostly cloudy. High of 62. Wind ENE 10-15 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Byeong Hun An	64 (-8)
Joaquin Niemann	65 (-7)
Jason Day	66 (-6)
Five players tied	67 (-5)

Things to Know

- Byeong Hun An becomes the first South Korean player to lead after any round at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES
- With a 3-under 69, Viktor Hovland's 18th straight round in the 60s is the most by any player on TOUR since 1983
- Defending champion and world No. 1 Brooks Koepka signed for a 3-under 69 after making an eagle at the last
- Both 44-time TOUR winner Phil Mickelson and 2015 FedExCup champion Jordan Spieth opened with a 2-under 70 in their tournament debuts
- Five Korean-born players are in the top 10 after the first round

First-Round Lead Notes

- 1 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES (Justin Thomas/2017)
- 0 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win in 2019-20

Byeong Hun An (1st/-8)

Age: 28 (September 17, 1991)

Turned professional: 2011

Entering the week

- #17 FedExCup
- #48 OWGR
- 2 Starts at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES
- 100 PGA TOUR starts
- 2 Career Best TOUR finish (2016 Zurich Classic of New Orleans/P2, 2018 The Memorial Tournament/P2, RBC Canadian Open/T2)
- 13 Top-10s on PGA TOUR
- 4 PGA TOUR starts in 2019-20
- 1 Top-10 in 2019-20 (3rd/Sanderson Farms Championship)

- Tied the second lowest round of his career with a 8-under 64 to take the first-round lead by one
- Recorded eight birdies for the second lowest first round in tournament history, trailing only Justin Thomas' opening 63 in 2017
- Previously held the 18-hole lead/co-lead once previously at the 2019 Wyndham Championship, where he finished solo third after opening with a 62.
- 8-under 64 ties his lowest round in relation to par on TOUR
- Finished T11 in 2017 and T41 in 2018 in two prior starts at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES
- Leads the field in putting average (1.39)

Joaquin Niemann (2nd/-7)

- Recorded his first career TOUR victory at A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier to open the 2019-20 season with a six-shot victory.
- Following his first TOUR victory, finished T54 at the Sanderson Farms Championship and missed cut at Shriners Hospitals for Children Open
- Finished T36 in 2018 in his lone prior start at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES

Jason Day (3rd/-6)

- 12-time PGA TOUR winner opened with six birdies in his first start of the 2019-20 season
- In two prior appearances at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, finished T11 (2017) and T5 (2018)
- In search of his first top-10 since the 2019 Travelers Championship in June. Best finish of the 2018-19 season was a T4 at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am

Justin Thomas (T9/-4)

- Owns three TOUR wins in Asia – 2015 CIMB Classic, 2016 CIMB Classic, 2017 THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES
- Enters the week with three consecutive top-fives but has never had four consecutive top-fives
- Finished T4 in his lone start of the 2019-20 season at the Safeway Open
- En route to his 2017 victory at THE CJ CUP @ NINE BRIDGES, opened in 9-under 63 for a three-shot lead after the first round

Additional Player Notes

- **Viktor Hovland's** 18th straight round in the 60s is the most by any player on TOUR since 1983. Bob Estes previously held the record with 17 in 2001
- Five Korean-born players are among the top 10 after the first round – **An (1)**, **Danny Lee (T4)**, **Jung Gon-Hwang (T4)**, **Soomin Lee (T9)**, **Sungjae Im (T9)**
- U.S. and International Presidents Cup Team potential candidates have the majority of the fall schedule to impress, before Captains Tiger Woods (United States) and Ernie Els (International) each make their four Captain's Picks the week of November 4. **Byeong Hun An (64)**, **Joaquin Niemann (65)** and **Jason Day (66)** are each in the top three after the first round and vying for Els to pick them to join the team
- **Danny Lee**, who was born in South Korea but grew up in New Zealand, began on the back nine with a 5-under 31 on his way to a 5-under 67. Hit 17/18 greens in regulation in round 1, tied for the most in the field
- **Sungjae Im**, the 2019 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year, who is from Jeju, opened with a 4-under 68
- **Brooks Koepka** opened with a 1-under 71 in his victory in 2018 and was three shots back after the opening round.

Course Statistics

Toughest Hole

R1: Par-4 6th (4.449)

Easiest Hole

R1: Par-5 18th (4.385)

Scoring Averages

R1: 35.629 35.256 70.885

Bogey-free rounds

R1 (5): Byeong Hun An (64), Joaquin Niemann (65), Jason Day (66), Graeme McDowell (68), Ryan Moore (69)