



2021 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard Pre-Tournament notes

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Dates: March 1-7, 2021

Where: Orlando, Florida

Course: Bay Hill Club & Lodge (36-36—72/7,466)

Defending champion: Tyrrell Hatton

Purse: \$9,300,000 (\$1,674,000/winner)

FedExCup: 550 points to the winner

Field size: 123

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Things to Know

- The Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard is one of three tournaments on the PGA TOUR schedule with elevated status, along with The Genesis Invitational and the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide
- Elevated events each offer a larger purse (\$9.3 million), a three-year PGA TOUR exemption for the winner, and new in 2021, 550 FedExCup points to the winner
- The 2020 Arnold Palmer Invitational was the last event completed before the suspension of the 2019-20 PGA TOUR Season due to COVID-19
- World No. 6 Tyrrell Hatton set to defend his 2020 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard title
- 11-time PGA TOUR winner and 2015 FedExCup champion Jordan Spieth to make his tournament debut
- Rory McIlroy has finished T6 or better in each of the last four years at the event, including a win in 2018
- A player from outside the United States has won each of the last five years

Notes on the Field

- 15 of the top 30 in the FedExCup standings, led by Viktor Hovland (No. 2) and Harris English (No. 6) A player from outside the United States has won each of the last five years
- 29 of the top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking, led by Tyrrell Hatton (No. 6), Rory McIlroy (No. 8) and Patrick Reed (No. 9)
- 13 winners during the 2020-21 season: Bryson DeChambeau, Harris English, Brian Gay, Branden Grace, Max Homa, Viktor Hovland, Si Woo Kim, Jason Kokrak, Martin Laird, Kevin Na, Patrick Reed, Robert Streb, Hudson Swafford
- 10 past champions of the event (11 wins): Robert Gamez (1990), Paul Goydos (1996), Tim Herron (1999), Martin Laird (2011), Matt Every (2014, 2015), Jason Day (2016), Marc Leishman (2017), Rory McIlroy (2018), Francesco Molinari (2019), Tyrrell Hatton (2020)
- Six FedExCup champions (seven times): Brandt Snedeker (2012), Henrik Stenson (2013), Billy Horschel (2014), Jordan Spieth (2015), Justin Rose (2018), Rory McIlroy (2016, 2019)

A look back at the 2020 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Tyrrell Hatton	68	69	73	74	284 (-4)
2	Marc Leishman	71	69	72	73	285 (-3)
3	Sungjae Im	70	69	74	73	286 (-2)
4	Bryson DeChambeau	73	71	72	71	287 (-1)

- Tyrrell Hatton picked up his first PGA TOUR victory in his 60th start at the age of 28 years, 4 months, 23 days
- Hatton posted the fifth consecutive win at the event by an international player (Jason Day/Australia/2016, Marc Leishman/Australia/2017, Rory McIlroy/Northern Ireland/2018, Francesco Molinari/Italy/2019, Hatton/England/2020)
- Hatton was the first player since Geoff Ogilvy (2006 U.S. Open) to win with two over-par rounds on the weekend
- Matthew Fitzpatrick (69/R4) was the only player to post a sub-70 round on the weekend
- Rory McIlroy (T5) picked up his fourth-consecutive top-6 finish at the event

FedExCup and the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard

- 22nd event of the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season
- Nine of the 14 winners of the event in the FedExCup era have advanced to the season-ending TOUR Championship: Vijay Singh (2007), Ernie Els (2010), Tiger Woods (2009, 2012, 2013), Jason Day (2016), Marc Leishman (2017), Rory McIlroy (2018), Tyrrell Hatton (2020)

- Tiger Woods is the only player to win the event and go on to win the FedExCup in the same season (2009)
- After Tyrrell Hatton's win in 2020, he went on to finish No. 7 in the FedExCup

Current FedExCup standings

Pos.	Player	Points	Wins	Top-10s	Starts
1	Patrick Cantlay	1,234	1	4	9
2	Viktor Hovland	1,196	1	4	9
3	Xander Schauffele	1,110	0	5	9
4	Dustin Johnson	1,105	1	4	6
5	Tony Finau	980	0	5	10
6	Harris English	965	1	5	11
7	Brooks Koepka	960	1	4	9
8	Justin Thomas	897	0	4	9
9	Carlos Ortiz	886	1	3	13
10	Joaquin Niemann	870	0	3	10

Player Notes

Tyrrell Hatton

- 2020 champion will attempt to join Loren Roberts (1994, 1995), Tiger Woods (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003; 2008, 2009; 2012, 2013) and Matt Every (2014, 2015) as back-to-back winners of the event
- Seeking to join the following players with multiple titles at the event: Tiger Woods (8), Jerry Heard (2), Gary Koch (2), Tom Kite (2), Loren Roberts (2), Ernie Els (2), Matt Every (2)
- Will make his fifth start in the Arnold Palmer Invitational (T4/2017, T69/2018, T29/2019, Won/2020)
- Enters the week No. 6 in the Official World Golf Ranking

Viktor Hovland

- Highest FedExCup position of any player in the field (No. 2)
- Seven top-15 finishes in nine starts this season, including four top-five finishes in last five starts
 - Mayakoba Golf Classic presented by UNIFIN (won)
 - Sentry Tournament of Champions (T31)
 - Farmers Insurance Open (T2)
 - The Genesis Invitational (T5)
 - WGC-Workday Championship at The Concession (T2)
- Became the first player from Norway to win on the PGA TOUR with his victory at the 2020 Puerto Rico Open; picked up his second title this season at the Mayakoba Golf Classic
- Making third start at the Arnold Palmer Invitational (T40/2019, T42/2020)

Sungjae Im

- Recipient of the Arnold Palmer Award as 2019 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year
- In two starts at the event, finished T3 in 2019 and third in 2020
- Enters the week in the top 25 of the FedExCup standings (No. 22) and Official World Golf Ranking (No. 17)

Rory McIlroy

- 2018 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard winner
- 2016 and 2019 FedExCup winner
- Seeking 19th PGA TOUR victory and first since the 2019 WGC-HSBC Champions
- Finished in the top six in last four starts at Bay Hill (2017/T4, 2018/Won, 2019/T6, 2020/T5)

Francesco Molinari

- 2019 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard winner
- Has 24 of 28 par-or-better rounds at Bay Hill
- Has not missed the cut in seven starts at the event and has four top-10s (T5/2014, T9/2016, T7/2017, Won/2019)
- In title defense in 2020, withdrew before the first round due to a back injury

Additional Player Notes

- **John Augenstein**, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, will make his seventh PGA TOUR start; lone made cut came at the 2020 Masters Tournament (T55); 2020 Southeastern Conference Player of the Year and a two-time participant in the Arnold Palmer Cup
- **Jason Day** is making his 11th start at the event, with 2016 wire-to-wire win his only top-10 finish at Bay Hill (withdrew in 2019 and 2020); looking for 13th TOUR win and first since the 2018 Wells Fargo Championship

- 2014 and 2015 champion **Matt Every** can become the first player to earn his first three PGA TOUR victories at the same event since Leonard Gallett (1929, 1933, 1934 Wisconsin PGA); has missed the cut in four of his last five starts at the event
- **Rickie Fowler** will make his 10th start at Bay Hill, where he has one top-10 (T3/2013); making his 24th start since his last top-10 finish on TOUR (T10/2020 The American Express)
- **Branden Grace** will make his 150th PGA TOUR start one week after winning the Puerto Rico Open
- Playing this week on a sponsor exemption, **Kamaiu Johnson** missed the cut at the 2021 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am in his only other TOUR start; former Advocates Pro Golf Association (APGA) Tour player
- **Matthias Schmid** received a sponsor exemption and will make his second PGA TOUR start (missed cut as an amateur at the 2019 Open Championship); University of Louisville senior from Germany won the 2019 and 2020 European Amateur Championship; two-time participant in the Arnold Palmer Cup
- **Jordan Spieth** will make his tournament debut; coming off T15 in his last start at The Genesis Invitational (200th start on TOUR); in search of 11th PGA TOUR victory and first since the 2017 Open Championship

Tournament notes

- For the seventh consecutive season, the winner of the Arnold Palmer Invitational will receive a three-year exemption, instead of the two-year exemption awarded at most other PGA TOUR events; for the first time, the winner will receive 550 FedExCup points
- The following players have made the Arnold Palmer Invitational their maiden PGA TOUR win: Ken Still (1969), Bob Byman (1979), Mike Nicolette (1983), Loren Roberts (1994), Paul Goydos (1996), Matt Every (2014), Tyrrell Hatton (2020)
- The Arnold Palmer Invitational has had nine international winners (10 wins): Ernie Els (1998, 2010), Rod Pampling (2006), Vijay Singh (2007), Martin Laird (2011), Jason Day (2016), Marc Leishman (2017), Rory McIlroy (2018), Francesco Molinari (2019), Tyrrell Hatton (2020)

About Arnold Palmer (excerpts from PGATOUR.COM)

Arnold Palmer, whose magnetic personality and bold style of play combined to make him one of golf's greatest players, the sport's most revered figure and the most influential athlete of his generation, died September 25, 2016 of complications due to a heart condition with his two daughters and wife, Kit, at his side. He was 87.

The winner of 62 career TOUR titles, including seven major championships, Mr. Palmer rose from his modest Western Pennsylvania roots to become a towering figure with appeal that transformed and transcended the sport of golf.

Mr. Palmer's first PGA TOUR victory came at the RBC Canadian Open in 1955. Just as he began to collect dramatic victories, America's fascination with television was exploding. TV sets, which numbered only 3.8 million in 1950, were in almost 46 million U.S. homes by 1960. Arnold Palmer's go-for-broke style made him the ideal leading man for the new medium. He leapt off the small screen with a winning smile, affable manner and bare-knuckled athleticism. He produced drama. A very large audience, including his competitors, noticed. "When he hits the ball, the earth shakes," said Hall of Famer Gene Littler.

The temblors reached everywhere, and Arnold Palmer became a hit with Hollywood's biggest stars and show business icons, like John Wayne, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra. He was friendly with the 10 U.S. Presidents from Dwight D. Eisenhower to George W. Bush, and played golf with six of them – Eisenhower, George H.W. Bush, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, and Bill Clinton. He was the first golfer to receive both the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Palmer reigned over golf as the game's No. 1 player and influencer in the 1960s and '70s. Until recently, he regularly oversaw the operations of his far-flung business empire and many charitable interests, hosting the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard at his Bay Hill Club & Lodge in Orlando, Florida.

In the more than 40 years since his last PGA TOUR victory at the 1973 Bob Hope Desert Classic, Mr. Palmer actively oversaw his companies – which included the Arnold Palmer Design Company, Arnold Palmer Enterprises, Arnold Palmer Motors and Arnold Palmer Golf Tournament Services. Even as his playing skills waned, Mr. Palmer remained relevant and visible in golf, transitioning to the Ryder Cup captaincy in 1975, Presidents Cup captaincy in 1996, elder statesman and global business icon.

Mr. Palmer funded numerous charity ventures during his lifetime and founded the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and the Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies in Orlando, both of which have been listed among the nation's top hospitals.