



2021 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
(22nd of 50 events in the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season)

Orlando, Florida
Bay Hill Club & Lodge

March 4-7, 2021
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,466

FedExCup Points: 550 (winner)
Purse: \$9,300,000 (\$1,674,000 winner)

Second-Round Notes – Friday, March 5, 2021

Weather: Mostly sunny. High of 77. Wind NNE 6-12 mph.

36-hole cut: 73 professionals at 2-over 146 from a field of 122 professionals and one amateur

Second-Round Leaderboard

Corey Connors	66-69—135 (-9)
Martin Laird	69-67—136 (-8)
Viktor Hovland	69-68—137 (-7)
Rory McIlroy	66-71—137 (-7)
Lanto Griffin	69-68—137 (-7)
Bryson DeChambeau	67-71—138 (-6)

Things to Know

- First-round co-leader Corey Connors moves into sole possession of the lead following 3-under 69
- Connors takes second 36-hole lead/co-lead of his career (2018 Valspar Championship/T16)
- Of the top 10 players on the leaderboard, seven are from outside the United States; an American has not won the Arnold Palmer Invitational since Matt Every in 2015
- First-round co-leader Rory McIlroy falls to T3 following 1-under 71; 2018 champion has finished T6 or better in four consecutive years at the event
- Viktor Hovland stands T3 in bid for second win and fifth top-five finish in last six starts
- Jordan Spieth enters the weekend T8 or better for the fourth time in his last four starts
- Following third-place finishes in two starts at Bay Hill, Sungjae Im enters weekend T7
- Notables missing the cut: Patrick Reed, Francesco Molinari, Marc Leishman, Billy Horschel

Second-Round Lead Notes

- 5 Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational since 2010 (most recent: Tyrrell Hatton/2020)
- 5 Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win in 2020-21 (most recent: Harris English/Sentry Tournament of Champions)

Comparing Saturday's final pairing (entering the week)

Category	Corey Connors	Martin Laird
Age	29 (January 6, 1992)	38
FedExCup	48	25
OWGR	60	93
Starts at Arnold Palmer Invitational	2	10
Wins at Arnold Palmer Invitational	0	1
Top-10s at Arnold Palmer Invitational	0	1
Career PGA TOUR starts	100	310
Career PGA TOUR wins	1	4
Career PGA TOUR top-10s	9	41
PGA TOUR starts in 2020-21	12	11
PGA TOUR wins in 2020-21	0	1
PGA TOUR top-10s in 2020-21	3	1

Corey Connors (1st/-9)

- Second 36-hole lead/co-lead of his PGA TOUR career and first since the 2018 Valspar Championship (led outright after each of the first three rounds before finishing T16)
- Eagled the par-5 16th hole each of the first two rounds, becoming one of seven players to do so at the Arnold Palmer Invitational since 1992
- Missed the cut in both prior appearances at the event
- In search of his second PGA TOUR victory (2019 Valero Texas Open) in his 101st start
- 29-year-old Canadian would become the sixth consecutive international winner of the event

Martin Laird (2nd/-8)

- 2011 Arnold Palmer Invitational champion leads the field in Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (+8.576)
- Picked up his fourth TOUR win earlier this season at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, but missed the cut in his three starts prior to this week
- Final round this week will be his 1,000th round on TOUR

Rory McIlroy (T3/-7)

- First-round co-leader fell to T3 following 1-under 71
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Putting (+5.417)
- Needed just 10 putts on the first nine holes, one shy of his career-best total (2016 THE PLAYERS Championship/R2); followed with 16 putts on the back nine
- Four consecutive finishes of T6 or better at the event (T4/2017, Won/2018, T6/2019, T5/2020)
- In search of first victory on TOUR since the 2019 World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions

Additional Player Notes

- **Viktor Hovland** (T3/-7) in search of second win and fifth top-five finish in last six starts (Mayakoba Golf Classic presented by UNIFIN/Won, Sentry Tournament of Champions/T31, Farmers Insurance Open/T2, The Genesis Invitational/T5, WGC-Workday Championship/T2); made his 22nd consecutive cut on TOUR, second only to Xander Schauffele (23)
- **Lanto Griffin** (T3/-7) finished T36 in his debut start at the Arnold Palmer Invitational (2020); finished season-best T7 at THE CJ CUP @ SHADOW CREEK and Farmers Insurance Open; has one win (2019 Vivint Houston Open) in 67 PGA TOUR starts
- **Bryson DeChambeau** (6th/-6) leads the field in Strokes Gained: Off the Tee (+5.178); has two top-fives in four prior starts at the event (2nd/2018, 4th/2020)
- Following third-place finishes in each of his first two starts at the Arnold Palmer Invitational (T3/2019, 3/2020), **Sungjae Im** (T7/-5) trails Connors by four strokes in bid for second TOUR win (2020 The Honda Classic); eagled the par-5 16th hole each of the first two rounds, becoming one of seven players to do so since 1992
- **Jordan Spieth** (T7/-5) enters the weekend for his fourth-consecutive start at T8 or better: Waste Management Phoenix Open (T8/finished T4), AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am (1st/T3), The Genesis Invitational (T6/T15)
- Including four straight birdies on Nos. 14-17 en route to a 5-under 67, defending champion **Tyrrell Hatton** (T38/E) had a 10-stroke turnaround from opening-round 5-over 77; the last player to win back-to-back at Bay Hill was Matt Every in 2015
- **Robert Gamez** was disqualified for failing to sign his scorecard
- No American has won the Arnold Palmer Invitational since 2015; of the top 10 players on the leaderboard, seven are from outside the United States

Course Statistics

	Toughest Hole	Easiest Hole
R1:	Par-4 18 th (4.398)	Par-5 16 th (4.398)
R2:	Par-3 2 nd (3.322)	Par-5 16 th (4.463)

Scoring Averages

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	36.772	36.390	73.163	-
R2:	36.711	35.959	72.669	72.918

Bogey-free rounds

R1 (2): Lee Westwood (69), Doug Ghim (71)

R2 (1): Paul Casey (69)