



## 2021 AT&T Byron Nelson

(33<sup>rd</sup> of 50 events in the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season)

TPC Craig Ranch May 13-16, 2021 FedExCup Points: 500 (winner)

McKinney, Texas Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,468 Purse: \$8,100,000 (\$1,458,000 winner)

First-Round Notes - Thursday, May 13, 2021

Weather: Due to wet course conditions, preferred lies in closely mown areas were in effect for round one. Partly cloudy. High of 73. Wind NE 5-10 mph.

#### First-Round Leaderboard

J.J. Spaun	63 (-9)
Jordan Spieth	63 (-9)
Rafa Cabrera Bello	64 (-8)
Doc Redman	64 (-8)
Aaron Wise	64 (-8)
Joseph Bramlett	64 (-8)

#### Things to Know

- The AT&T Byron Nelson was not contested in 2020; 2019 winner Sung Kang (T34/-5) returns as defending champion
- Jordan Spieth sinks a 55' 1" putt for eagle at the last hole to open with a bogey-free 9-under 63
- Following missed cuts in three of last four TOUR starts, J.J. Spaun opens with nine birdies in bid for first TOUR title
- Aaron Wise looks to make AT&T Byron Nelson his first two TOUR titles after 2018 victory
- Rafa Cabrera Bello birdies first four holes and last two to post career-low score in relation to par (392 rounds)
- Seeking a first TOUR title, Doc Redman birdies last three holes for a bogey-free 8-under 64
- The AT&T Byron Nelson moves to TPC Craig Ranch after two years at Trinity Forest Golf Club

### **First-Round Lead Notes**

- First-round leaders/co-leaders to win the AT&T Byron Nelson (since 2000) (most recent: Sergio Garcia/2016)
- First-round leaders/co-leaders to win during the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season (most recent: Matt Jones/The Honda Classic)

# Comparing the leaders (entering the week)

Category	Jordan Spieth	J.J. Spaun
Age	27 (7/27/1993)	30 (8/21/1990)
FedExCup	8	165
OWGR	28	478
Starts at AT&T Byron Nelson	9	3
Wins at AT&T Byron Nelson	0	0
Top-10s at AT&T Byron Nelson	0	1
Career PGA TOUR starts	205	120
Career PGA TOUR wins	12	0
Career PGA TOUR top-10s	70	10
PGA TOUR starts in 2020-21	15	16
PGA TOUR wins in 2020-21	1	0
PGA TOUR top-10s in 2020-21	6	1

#### Jordan Spieth (T1/-9)

- In his second start since winning the Valero Texas Open, AT&T Ambassador sank a 55' 1" putt for eagle on his last hole of the day, the par-5 18th, to open with a bogey-free 9-under 63
- Marks his first bogey-free round in 35 rounds at the AT&T Byron Nelson
- Needed 26 putts to sink a total of 121' 7" of putts
- Best of nine previous starts at the AT&T Byron Nelson is a T16 from his first start of 2010
- Is three-for-nine when attempting to convert at least a share of an 18-hole lead on TOUR (2015 Masters Tournament, 2017 Travelers Championship and 2017 The Open Championship)
- The AT&T Byron Nelson marks his second start since claiming his 12<sup>th</sup> and most recent victory at the Valero Texas Open in San Antonio
- Finished inside the top-5 in five of his last seven stroke-play events (T9 at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play)

## J.J. Spaun (T1/-9)

- Made nine birdies and no bogeys, tying his record for most in a single round on the PGA TOUR
- Becomes the only player with multiple rounds of 63 or better at the AT&T Byron Nelson since 2011 (2018/R4/63/T3)
- Marks his third time with an 18-hole lead/co-lead: 2017 Sanderson Farms Championship/T34, 2018 Quicken Loans National (after opening with a 7-under 63)/T27
- Making his fourth start in the event: T3/2018, T59/2019, 74<sup>th</sup>/2017
- Lone top-10 finish in 16 starts this season was T9/Fortinet Championship (Napa, California)
- Following three straight missed cuts, finished T18 at last week's Wells Fargo Championship
- Best finish in 120 TOUR starts before this week was solo-second at The RSM Classic in 2017

## **Additional Player Notes**

- Spain's **Rafa Cabrera Bello** birdied his first four holes (Nos. 10-13) en route to an 8-under 64; offset one bogey with nine total birdies; in relation to par, 8-under 64 marks his lowest score in 392 rounds on TOUR; seeks his first career PGA TOUR title in his 121st start this week
- 2018 AT&T Byron Nelson champion **Aaron Wise** reeled off four consecutive birdies (Nos. 5-8) before finishing with a bogey-free 8-under 64; marks his lowest score on TOUR in relation to par since finishing second after a final-round 8-under 63 at the 2020 Mayakoba Golf Classic earlier this season; comes off a T9 at last week's Wells Fargo Championship; is vying for his second TOUR title
- Making his ninth start in the AT&T Byron Nelson, 2007 runner-up Luke Donald hit all 18 greens in regulation en route to a bogey-free 7-under 65; marks his lowest score on TOUR in relation to par since a 7-under 65 in round three of the 2019 the Memorial Tournament; seeks an 80<sup>th</sup> top-10 finish on TOUR and first since the 2019 Valspar Championship (T9)
- Highlighted by an eagle-2 (52 yards) at the sixth hole, 2004 and 2016 AT&T Byron Nelson champion Sergio Garcia
  opened with a bogey-free 7-under 65; claimed his 11<sup>th</sup> career TOUR title earlier this season at the 2020 Sanderson
  Farms Championship
- Additional players of note: reigning Masters Tournament champion Hideki Matsuyama (T54/-4), World No. 3 Jon Rahm, who is making his tournament debut (T54/-4), FedExCup leader Bryson DeChambeau, (T77/-3) and four-time major champion Brooks Koepka (T116/-1)
- Cole Hammer (T54/-4), Tyler Strafaci (T96/-2) and Pierceson Coody (T150/+2) are participating after leading the United States to victory in last week's Walker Cup; Strafaci and Coody are making his professional debuts.
- Defending champion Sung Kang (T34/-5) looks to join Sam Snead (1957-58), Jack Nicklaus (1970-71) and Tom Watson (1978-80) as players to successfully defend their AT&T Byron Nelson title
- There was a total of 25 bogey-free rounds posted in round one

#### **Course Statistics**

Toughest Hole		Easiest Hole	
R1:	Par-3 15 <sup>th</sup> (3.128)	Par-5 18 <sup>th</sup> (4.321)	

## **Scoring Averages**

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	34.353	34.397	68.750	