



ROCKET Mortgage Classic

2021 Rocket Mortgage Classic

(The 40th of 50 events in the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season)

Detroit, Michigan
Detroit Golf Club

July 1-4, 2021
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,370

FedExCup Points: 500
Purse: \$7,500,000/\$1,350,000

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, July 3, 2021

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 83. Wind SW 8-14, gusting to 18 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Troy Merritt	67-68-67—202 (-14)
Joaquin Niemann	65-69-68—202 (-14)
Hank Lebioda	67-70-66—203 (-13)
Cam Davis	68-68-67—203 (-13)
Brandon Hagy	65-71-68—204 (-12)

Things to Know

- Troy Merritt cards his first career PGA TOUR ace at the par-3 11th hole en route to his fourth 54-hole lead/co-lead
- Merritt is two-for-three with the 54-hole lead/co-lead in stroke-play events on the PGA TOUR
- Co-leader Joaquin Niemann is bogey-free through 54 holes in bid for second career PGA TOUR victory
- Last player player 72 holes without a bogey and go on to win was J.T. Poston at the 2019 Wyndham Championship

Third-Round Lead Notes

- 1 Third-round leader/co-leader at the Rocket Mortgage Classic to win (Nate Lashley/2019)
- 15 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win on PGA TOUR in 2020-21 (most recent: Phil Mickelson/PGA Championship)

Comparing the co-leaders (entering the week)

Category	Troy Merritt	Joaquin Niemann
Age	35 (10/25/1985)	22 (11/7/1998)
FedExCup	101	25
OWGR	129	30
Starts at Rocket Mortgage Classic	2	1
Wins at Rocket Mortgage Classic	0	0
Top-10s at Rocket Mortgage Classic	1	1
Career PGA TOUR starts	252	87
Career PGA TOUR wins	2	1
Career PGA TOUR top-10s	19	16
PGA TOUR starts in 2020-21	27	21
PGA TOUR wins in 2020-21	0	0
PGA TOUR top-10s in 2020-21	3	4

Troy Merritt (T1/-14)

- On his way to a 5-under 67, used a 5-iron from 219 yards on No. 11 to make his first career PGA TOUR ace
- The last player to make an ace and go on to win the event was Webb Simpson at the 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Putting through 54 holes (6.659)
- Marks his fourth 54-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR; previous results: 2015 RBC Heritage/3rd, 2015 Quicken Loans National/won, 2018 Barbasol Championship/won

- Held the 54-hole lead after the 2019 and 2020 Barracuda Championship (Modified Stableford format), before finishing runner-up on both occasions
- Previous finishes at the Rocket Mortgage Classic: 2019/MC, 2020/T8
- Seeks a third PGA TOUR title and first since the 2018 Barbasol Championship
- Seeks a fourth top-10 finish this season and first since the Charles Schwab Challenge (7th)

Joaquin Niemann (T1/-14)

- Kept his bogey-free streak alive through 54 holes with a 4-under 68
- Last player to go bogey-free in all four rounds of a PGA TOUR event and win was J.T. Poston (2019 Wyndham Championship)
- Andrew Putnam (2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open) was the last player to play all four rounds without a bogey (T7)
- On only other occasion to hold a 54-hole lead/co-lead, converted for his lone TOUR title at A Military Tribute at the Greenbrier in 2019
- In his only previous start at the Rocket Mortgage Classic, finished T5 in 2019
- Two runner-up finishes this season (P2/Sentry Tournament of Champions, T2/Sony Open in Hawaii)

Additional Player Notes

- Following missed cuts in the 2019 and 2020 Rocket Mortgage Classic, **Hank Lebioda** (T3/-13) has three top-10 finishes in his career, including a T5 at last week's Travelers Championship; best finish in 62 TOUR starts is T3/2019 Bermuda Championship
- Seeking his first career TOUR victory in his 71st start, **Cam Davis** (T3/-13) posted a 5-under 67 in bid to improve on best TOUR finish of solo-third from The American Express earlier this season
- 36-hole co-leader **Tom Lewis** (T6/-11) shot 1-under 71, trails by three strokes in bid for first PGA TOUR title
- After making the cut on the number, Flint, Michigan native **Willie Mack III** (T70/-3) made four birdies and four bogeys to post an even-par 72

Hole statistics

	Toughest hole	Easiest hole
R1:	Par-4 18 th (4.212)	Par-5 17 th (4.551)
R2:	Par-3 11 th (3.239)	Par-5 17 th (4.658)
R3:	Par-4 6 th (4.169)	Par-5 7 th (4.364)

Scoring Averages

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.045	35.340	70.385	--
R2:	35.161	36.206	71.368	70.875
R3:	34.974	35.169	70.143	70.729

Bogey-free rounds

R1 (17): Davis Thompson (63), Brandon Hagy (65), Tom Lewis (65), Joaquin Niemann (65), Roger Sloan (65), Seamus Power (66), Chris Kirk (67), Kevin Kisner (67), Robert Streb (67), Garrick Higgo (68), Chez Reavie (68), Scott Stallings (68), Brendon Todd (68), Charles Howell III (69), Sebastian Munoz (69), Curtis Thompson (69), Rickie Fowler (70)

R2 (11): Keegan Bradley (68), Chesson Hadley (70), Max Homa (65), Beau Hossler (69), Hank Lebioda (70), Tom Lewis (69), Joaquin Niemann (69), Alex Noren (70), Sean O'Hair (66), Nick Taylor (68), Vaughn Taylor (71)

R3 (9): Jason Kokrak (67), Alex Noren (67), Curtis Thompson (67), Joaquin Niemann (68), Chris Baker (68), J.J. Spaun (68), Cameron Tringale (68), Jason Day (69), Seamus Power (69)