



THE PLAYERS Championship 2021

(23rd of 50 events in the 2020-21 PGA TOUR season)

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida March 11-14, 2021 Purse: \$15,000,000 (\$2,700,000/winner)
 TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS Stadium Course) Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,189 FedExCup: 600 points (winner)

Final-Round Notes – Sunday, March 14, 2021

Weather: Mostly sunny. High of 78. Wind ESE 6-12 mph.

Final Leaderboard

Justin Thomas	71-71-64-68—274 (-14)
Lee Westwood	69-66-68-72—275 (-13)
Brian Harman	67-71-69-69—276 (-12)
Bryson DeChambeau	69-69-67-71—276 (-12)
Talor Gooch	71-68-71-67—277 (-11)
Paul Casey	73-67-67-70—277 (-11)

Things to Know

- Justin Thomas wins THE PLAYERS Championship by one stroke over Lee Westwood, earning his 14th PGA TOUR victory and first PLAYERS title
- Thomas is the fourth player since 1960 to win 14 times on the PGA TOUR before turning 28, joining Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus and Johnny Miller
- Thomas becomes the fourth player to win THE PLAYERS, a major championship, a World Golf Championships event, and a FedExCup title, joining Tiger Woods, Henrik Stenson and Rory McIlroy
- With scores of 64-68 in the final two rounds, Thomas ties the tournament record for closing 36-hole score (132)
- Lee Westwood is the first player to finish solo-second in consecutive PGA TOUR events since Webb Simpson in 2019

Justin Thomas (Winner/-14)

Statistic	With the victory
Age	27 years, 10 months, 13 days
FedExCup	No. 2
OWGR	No. 2
Starts at THE PLAYERS	6
Wins at THE PLAYERS	1
Top-10s at THE PLAYERS	2
Career PGA TOUR starts	165
Career PGA TOUR wins	14
Career PGA TOUR top-10s	59
PGA TOUR starts in 2020-21	10
PGA TOUR wins in 2020-21	1
PGA TOUR top-10s in 2020-21	5

- Earns 14th PGA TOUR title in his 165th start at the age of 27 years, 10 months, 13 days
- Becomes fourth player since 1960 to win 14 times on the PGA TOUR before turning 28, joining Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus and Johnny Miller

- Becomes the fourth player to win THE PLAYERS, a major championship, a World Golf Championships event and a FedExCup title, joining Tiger Woods, Henrik Stenson and Rory McIlroy
- Ties THE PLAYERS Championship record for lowest closing 36-hole score (132, Fred Couples and Rocco Mediate, 1996)
- Played the par 5s in 14-under for the week, tied for the lowest in THE PLAYERS Championship history (Geoff Ogilvy, 2004) and the lowest by a champion in tournament history (previous: -13, Webb Simpson, 2018)
- Becomes the third player to win THE PLAYERS in the ShotLink era (since 2003) despite hitting a ball into the water on No. 17 (Matt Kuchar/2012 and Webb Simpson/2018); did so in the first round
- Had one top-10 in five prior starts at the event (T3/2016)
- Started the third round seven strokes off the lead, tying the largest 36-hole comeback victory of his PGA TOUR career (2020 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational)
- Moves to No. 2 in the FedExCup standings with a win (THE PLAYERS) and a runner-up (T2/ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP @ SHERWOOD) in 10 starts on the season
- Sixth consecutive PGA TOUR season with a win

Lee Westwood (2nd/-13)

- Made birdie on No. 18 to post an even-par 72 and finish solo-second; becomes the first player to post solo second-place finishes in consecutive weeks since Webb Simpson did so at the 2019 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational and Wyndham Championship
- Marks the third time a player has finished runner-up in consecutive weeks this season
 - Joaquin Niemann – Sentry Tournament of Champions (2nd), Sony Open in Hawaii (T2)
 - Xander Schauffele – Farmers Insurance Open (T2), Waste Management Phoenix Open (T2)
- Posts his sixth top-10 in 15 starts at THE PLAYERS; previously, his best finish was T4 in 2010 when he was also the 54-hole leader
- A birdie on No. 1 extended his lead to three strokes; a bogey on No. 2 ended a streak of 45 consecutive holes without a bogey
- Entered the Florida Swing (beginning at the WGC-Workday Championship at The Concession) at No. 153 in the FedExCup standings; is now 22nd after his runner-up finish

Other Notes

- **Brian Harman's** T3 finish is his best on TOUR since he finished T3 at the 2019 A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier
- **Bryson DeChambeau** posts a T3 finish for his fifth top-10 in eight starts in 2020-21; retains the No. 1 spot in the FedExCup for the 10th week this season
- **Paul Casey** was 2-over through 13 holes on Thursday, including a quadruple-bogey on No. 17; he was 13-under over his last 59 holes and finished T5 at 11-under
- **Talor Gooch** closed with a 5-under 67 for a T5 finish, the seventh top-10 and sixth top-five finish of his career
- The lowest final-round was 6-under 66, shot by four players: **Corey Connors** (7th), **Charles Howell III** (T9), **Sungjae Im** (T17) and **Collin Morikawa** (T41)

Course Statistics

	Toughest Hole	Easiest Hole
R1:	Par-4 18 th (4.416)	Par-5 16 th (4.610)
R2:	Par-4 14 th (4.346)	Par-5 11 th (4.536)
R3:	Par-3 8 th (3.239); par-4 14 th (4.239)	Par-4 12 th (3.507)
R4:	Par-3 17 th (3.352)	Par-5 11 th (4.563)

Scoring Averages

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	36.896	36.909	73.805	-
R2:	36.072	35.967	72.039	72.925
R3:	35.634	35.451	71.085	72.310
R4:	36.324	35.254	71.577	72.421

Bogey-free rounds:**R1 (1):** Tom Hoge (69)**R2 (2):** Lee Westwood (66), Doug Ghim (67) (Note: Westwood and Ghim were also the only two players with bogey-free rounds in R1 last week at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard)**R3 (2):** Lee Westwood (68), Abraham Ancer (68)**R4 (1):** J.T. Poston (70)**Balls in the water at No. 17 (since 2003)**

Year	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
2021	35	13	8	10	66
2019	14	6	8	17	45
2018	24	21	6	3	54
2017	19	29	10	11	69
2016	6	9	17	4	36
2015	21	16	3	5	45
2014	12	12	1	3	28
2013	15	9	7	13	44
2012	18	11	4	6	39
2011	12	14	8	6	40
2010	7	8	5	9	29
2009	16	6	4	6	32
2008	20	18	10	16	64
2007	50	21	10	12	93
2006	19	17	12	9	57
2005	7	8	25	28	68
2004	9	10	4	7	30
2003	6	10	3	10	29
Average	17.22	13.24	8.06	9.72	48.22

Morgan Stanley Eagles for Impact Challenge

As part of its Eagles for Impact Challenge, Morgan Stanley will donate 1,500 books for every eagle made at THE PLAYERS to Book Trust—an early literacy non-profit that works to engage every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy rich communities. Here’s a breakdown of eagles made and books donated:

Round	Eagles	Books
1	14	21,000
2	14	21,000
3	8	12,000
4	12	18,000