



## **2022 Corales Puntacana Championship**

(The 23<sup>rd</sup> of 47 events in the PGA TOUR Season)

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
Puntacana Resort & Club (Corales Course)

March 24-27, 2022 Purse: \$3,700,000 Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,670 Winner: \$666,000

Third-Round Notes - Saturday, March 26, 2022

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 85. Wind SE 6-12 mph, gusting to 15 mph.

# **Third-Round Leaderboard**

Ben Martin 66-66-70—202 (-14) Chad Ramey 70-65-69—204 (-12) Jhonattan Vegas 70-70-65—205 (-11)

Five players at 10-under

### Things to Know

- Ben Martin holds 54-hole lead/co-lead for second time on TOUR in search of first win since 2014 Shriners Children's Open
- Martin seeks to join Brice Garnett (2018) as second wire-to-wire winner at this event and second this season
- PGA TOUR rookie Chad Ramey seeks first TOUR title in 16<sup>th</sup> career start
- All four past champions of the Corales Puntacana Championship were in their 30s when they won; only two of the eight players at 10-under or better are under 30 (Ramey/29, Thomas Detry/29)
- Five different countries are represented by players at T9 or better

## **Third-Round Lead Notes**

- Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Corales Puntacana Championship (Brice Garnett/2018, Hudson Swafford/2020, Joel Dahmen/2021)
- 7 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2021-22 (most recent: Ryan Brehm, Puerto Rico Open)

# Ben Martin (1st/-14)

Category	Entering the week
Age	34 (August 26, 1987)
Country	USA
FedExCup	235
OWGR	565
Starts – wins – top-10s in TOUR career	191-1-15
Starts – wins – top-10s in 2021-22	3-0-0
Starts – wins – top-10s at Corales	2-0-1

- Holds 54-hole lead/co-lead for second time on TOUR, converting first to victory (2014 Shriners Children's Open)
- Holds lead through 54 holes after holding 18- and 36-hole leads
- Brice Garnett (2018) is the only wire-to-wire winner at Corales Puntacana Championship; Joaquin Niemann (The Genesis Invitational) is the only wire-to-wire winner this season
- Recorded most birdies of any player through 54 holes (21); played the back nine in 10-under for the week, best in field
- Making third consecutive start in the Corales Puntacana Championship: T52/2020, T9/2021
- 10 of his 11 rounds at Corales course under par; lone over-par round: 75/R3/2020
- Advanced to weekend once in three prior starts this season: T51/Butterfield Bermuda Championship
- Seeking second PGA TOUR victory in his 192nd start; making 136th start since his first win at 2014 Shriners Children's Open
- Reached FedExCup Playoffs four consecutive seasons (2014-2017) but has failed to advance since

• Two-time Korn Ferry Tour winner has played two events on Korn Ferry Tour this season with T50 at The Panama Championship marking his best result

## Chad Ramey (2<sup>nd</sup>/-12)

- Highlight of 3-under 69 was holing 146-yard pitching wedge for eagle at par-5 14<sup>th</sup> hole
- 29-year-old PGA TOUR rookie seeks his first win in his 16<sup>th</sup> start on TOUR; with a victory would become eighth first-time winner this season and first PGA TOUR rookie to win on TOUR since Garrick Higgo (2021 Palmetto Championship at Congaree)
- Posted his lone top-10 on TOUR earlier this month at the Puerto Rico Open (T5)
- Collected a win (2021 Live and Work in Maine Open), 11 top-10 finishes, 24 top-25 finishes and 40 made cuts across 43 starts in the extended 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour season

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

- With 7-under 65, **Jhonattan Vegas** (3<sup>rd</sup>/-11) posts his lowest score in 13 rounds at the Corales course; has played the front nine 12-under this week, best of any player in the field
- Cameron Percy (T4/-10) seeks second top-10 in as many starts at this event (T8/2020); best finish among 10 top-10s in 186 starts on TOUR was a playoff loss at 2010 Shriners Children's Open when Jonathan Byrd made an ace at the fourth extra hole to win
- Belgium's Thomas Detry (T4/-10) makes 11<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR start and fourth at Corales Puntacana Championship (2019/T33, 2020/T33, 2021/T13); all 15 rounds at Corales course are par-or-better; played frequently at this venue while on vacation before his PGA TOUR debut here in 2019
- Winner of the 2017 Korn Ferry Tour event held at Corales Puntacana, **Nate Lashley** (T4/-10) seeks second TOUR title (2019 Rocket Mortgage Classic); finished fourth at this event in 2020; posted 71-69-70 in his three final-rounds at this event
- Three-time DP World Tour winner **Rasmus Hojgaard** (T9/-9) posts second-consecutive 5-under 67; looks to improve on his best result in eight previous starts on TOUR (T37/2020 Butterfield Bermuda Championship)
- Alex Smalley (T9/-9) follows second-round 65 with 1-over 73; played as a sponsor exemption in two previous Corales Puntacana Championship appearances (T14/2020, T22/2021)
- **Graeme McDowell** (T18/-7) receives treatment for back spasms during the round, records 4-over 40 on inward nine; one of three major champions to advance to the weekend: Jason Dufner (T25/-6), Danny Willett (T55/-1), Martin Kaymer (MC)