



2021 Fortinet Championship
(1st of 47 events in the 2021-22 PGA TOUR Season)

Napa, California
Silverado Resort and Spa (North)

September 16-19, 2021

Purse: \$7,000,000/\$1,260,000
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,123

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, September 18, 2021

Weather: Mostly cloudy. High of 67. Wind SW 12-22 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Jim Knous	70-67-65—202 (-14)
Maverick McNealy	68-64-70—202 (-14)
Max Homa	67-72-65—204 (-12)
Scott Stallings	67-70-67—204 (-12)
Mito Pereira	67-67-70—204 (-12)
Troy Merritt	67-68-69—204 (-12)
Beau Hossler	70-64-70—204 (-12)

Things to Know

- Jim Knous (kuh-NOUSE) has two starts remaining on medical extension to secure PGA TOUR status for the season
- Stanford alum Maverick McNealy seeks first PGA TOUR win at site of professional debut in 2017
- Co-leaders Knous, McNealy seek first PGA TOUR win; Five players have made the Fortinet Championship their first PGA TOUR title: Kevin Tway (2018), Emiliano Grillo (2015), Jimmy Walker (2013), Jonas Blixt (2012), Bryce Molder (2011)
- Cal alum Max Homa seeks third PGA TOUR title and second in home state of California
- Mito Pereira seeks to become first rookie winner on TOUR since Garrick Higgo (2021 Palmetto Championship at Congaree)
- 45-time PGA TOUR winner Phil Mickelson (T9) moves into top 10 with 5-under 67 and is four shots back

Third-Round Lead Notes

- 4 Third-round leaders/co-leaders at the Fortinet Championship to go on and win (Most recent: Cameron Champ/2019)

Co-Leaders (Entering the Week)

Statistic	Jim Knous	Maverick McNealy
Age	31 (1/24/1990)	25 (11/7/1995)
OWGR	1,078	113
Career PGA TOUR starts	24	66
Career PGA TOUR wins	0	0
Career PGA TOUR top-10s	1	5
Starts at Fortinet Championship	2	4
Wins at Fortinet Championship	0	0
Top-10s at Fortinet Championship	1	0

Jim Knous (T1/-14)

- Playing on a Korn Ferry Tour Medical Extension, has two starts remaining to earn 152.463 FedExCup points (two-way tie for third, six-way tie for second or win) to move into the Major Medical Category for full PGA TOUR status (includes exemptions into invitationals) for the 2021-22 season OR 64.916 FedExCup points (solo-12th, three-way tie for 11th, five-way tie for 10th or better) to move into the 126-150 category for conditional status on the PGA TOUR
- Holds first lead/co-lead after any round on the PGA TOUR
- 65 marks career-low round on the PGA TOUR
- Posts career-best eight birdies in a round (previous: 7/twice); birdies Nos. 5-9, marking his best birdie streak on TOUR
- 202 marks career-low 54-hole total (previous: 204/2019 Sony Open in Hawaii)

- In 24 PGA TOUR starts, has one top-10: T10/2018 Fortinet Championship, his first start as an official PGA TOUR member
- Missed cut in all four starts on the PGA TOUR in 2020-21; Last made cut prior to this week: 2019 RBC Canadian Open/T56

Maverick McNealy (T1/-14)

- Second-round leader made four bogeys on the front nine; birdied four of last six holes to share lead
- Holds 54-hole lead/co-lead for the first time; Second-round lead marked first lead/co-lead after any round on TOUR
- Stanford alum seeks first PGA TOUR victory; Best finish on TOUR: 2/2021 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am
- Leads the field in Total Birdies (20)
- Makes fifth start in the Fortinet Championship, site of his professional debut in 2017 (T52); has made the most starts in the Fortinet Championship than any other event on TOUR; lone missed cut in the event came in 2020
- Finished the 2020-21 PGA TOUR Season No. 58 in the FedExCup, advancing to the BMW Championship for the second consecutive season in as many seasons eligible

Mito Pereira (T3/-12)

- One of 26 PGA TOUR rookies in field; Last rookie winner on TOUR: Garrick Higgo/2021 Palmetto Championship at Congaree
- Seeks to become the third rookie to win the Fortinet Championship: Emiliano Grillo/2015, Jonas Blixt (2012)
- Makes 10th start on the PGA TOUR and first in the Fortinet Championship; Four players have won the Fortinet Championship in their first start (not including Mike Weir, winner of inaugural 2007 event): Emiliano Grillo (2015), Sangmoon Bae (2014), Jonas Blixt (2012), Troy Matteson (2009)
- One of two players from Chile with PGA TOUR membership (other: Joaquin Niemann)
- Became the 12th player (and first since Wesley Bryan in 2016) to earn a Three-Victory Promotion via the Korn Ferry Tour to the PGA TOUR, officially joining the PGA TOUR in June 2021
- Seeks to become the third player to win on the PGA TOUR in the season of, or immediately after a Three-Victory Promotion, and seventh overall to win on TOUR (Chris Smith, Heath Slocum, Chad Campbell, Jason Gore, Carlos Ortiz, Wesley Bryan)

Fastest to win on the PGA TOUR after Three-Victory Promotion		
Player	Date of promotion	
Jason Gore	8/7/2005	Won in 4 th start at 2005 84 LUMBER Classic (9/18/2005)
Wesley Bryan	8/7/2016	Won in 16 th start at 2017 RBC Heritage (4/16/2017)
Mito Pereira	6/13/2021	2021 Fortinet Championship marks seventh start

Miscellaneous Notes

- **Max Homa** (T3/-12) equals his career-best mark with nine birdies during a third-round 7-under 65; marks third time with nine birdies in a round (most recent: 2021 The American Express/R3); California native has two PGA TOUR wins: 2019 Wells Fargo Championship and 2021 The Genesis Invitational
- Paired with Max Homa, 45-time PGA TOUR winner **Phil Mickelson** (T9/-10) birdies five holes in a row (Nos. 13-17) en route to a 5-under 67; fell two shy of his best birdie streak on TOUR (7/1997 Shriners Children's Open/R2/Nos. 12-18); Mickelson has 14 career PGA TOUR wins in the state of California, tied with Tiger Woods for the most since 1983.
- 2021 Masters Tournament winner **Hideki Matsuyama** (T32) posts his 17th (71) consecutive round of par or better at the Fortinet Championship, the longest active streak by a player

Course Statistics

	Toughest Hole	Easiest Hole
R1:	Par-3 15 th (3.231)	Par-5 16 th (4.532)
R2:	Par-4 12 th (4.232)	Par-5 5 th (4.594)
R3:	Par-4 4 th (4.229)	Par-5 5 th (4.514)

Scoring Averages

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.442	35.494	70.936	--
R2:	35.948	35.555	71.503	71.220
R3:	35.043	35.343	70.386	71.066

Bogey-free rounds

R1 (9): Cameron Tringale (66), Nate Lashley (67), Will Zalatoris (68), Bronson Burgoon (68), Harold Varner III (68), Charley Hoffman (69), Danny Willett (70), Aaron Rai (70), Harry Higgs (71)

R2 (6): Beau Hossler (64), Will Zalatoris (67), Mark Hubbard (68), C.T. Pan (68), Kevin Tway (69), Dylan Wu (70)

R3 (8): Talor Gooch (66), Andrew Putnam (66), C.T. Pan (67), Charley Hoffman (67), Nick Hardy (68), Sahith Theegala (69), Wyndham Clark (70), Patrick Rodgers (70)