



SANDERSON FARMS  
CHAMPIONSHIP

**2021 Sanderson Farms Championship**  
(2<sup>nd</sup> of 48 events in the 2021-22 PGA TOUR Season)

Jackson, Mississippi  
Country Club of Jackson

September 30 - October 3, 2021

Purse: \$7,000,000/\$1,260,000  
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,461

**Second-Round Notes – Friday, October 1, 2021**

*Weather: Mostly cloudy. High of 85. Wind SE 8-13 mph.*

*Cut: 68 players at 5-under 139 from a field of 144 players*

**Second-Round Leaderboard**

Will Zalatoris	70-61—131 (-13)
Nick Watney	65-66—131 (-13)
Sahith Theegala	64-67—131 (-13)
Cameron Young	67-65—132 (-12)
Hayden Buckley	67-65—132 (-12)

**Things to Know**

- PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year Will Zalatoris matches the Sanderson Farms Championship 18-hole scoring record at 11-under 61 (Keith Clearwater/R2/1996)
- Nick Watney posts his lowest 36-hole total on TOUR since 2015
- First-round leader Sahith Theegala birdies the final hole of the day for first 36-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR
- PGA TOUR Rookies Cameron Young and Hayden Buckley sit T4
- Notables to miss the cut include defending champion Sergio Garcia, Brandt Snedeker and Gary Woodland

**Second-Round Lead Notes**

- 2 Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Sanderson Farms Championship since the event moved to the Country Club of Jackson in 2014 (Ryan Armour/2017, Cameron Champ/2018)
- 0 Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR since this season

**Comparing the leaders entering the week**

Player	Will Zalatoris	Nick Watney	Sahith Theegala
Age	25 (8/16/1996)	40 (4/25/1981)	23 (12/4/1997)
FedExCup	T10	T29	T46
OWGR	32	660	454
Sanderson Farms starts	1	4	1
Sanderson Farms Top 10s	0	1	0
PGA TOUR starts	34	420	14
PGA TOUR wins	0	5	0
PGA TOUR top-10s	8	55	0
Starts in 2020-21	1	1	1

**Will Zalatoris (T1/-13)**

- Ties the Sanderson Farms Championship 18-hole scoring record at 11-under 61 (Keith Clearwater/R2/1996)
- 61 marks career-low round on PGA TOUR (Previous/most recent: 64/R3/2021 Waste Management Phoenix Open)
- Holds first lead/co-lead after any round on TOUR
- Prior to this week, best 36-hole position on TOUR was T2 at the 2021 Masters Tournament, where he earned his best career TOUR finish at solo-second; was the only player in the field to record four under-par scores
- 131 marks career-low 36-hole total (previous: 132/2020 Shriners Children's Open)
- Has made 15 birdies through 36 holes, tied for the most in the field (Cameron Young and Hayden Buckley)

- Records career-high 11 birdies (previous: 7/R1/2021 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational)
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Putting (6.151)
- Seeks his first career PGA TOUR title in his 35th TOUR start; Sanderson Farms Championship has produced a first-time winner six of the last seven seasons (Sergio Garcia/2020)
- In only previous start at the Sanderson Farms Championship, missed the cut in 2020 (73-71—144)
- In season-opening tournament, finished T11 at Fortinet Championship
- Recorded eight top-10s and made 21 cuts in 25 starts last season
- Named the 2021 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year as voted by the TOUR's membership for the 2020-21 season

#### **Nick Watney (T1/-13)**

- Follows first-round 65 with 6-under 66, including four birdies on the front and back
- 131 marks his lowest 36-hole total on TOUR since 2015 Wyndham Championship (T31)
- Holds 36-hole lead/co-lead for sixth time on TOUR, and is 1-for-5 to date converting to victory (2012 THE NORTHERN TRUST), also marks his most recent 36-hole lead/co-lead
- Missed the cut in most recent Sanderson Farms Championship start (2020); has not finished better than T8 (2006/Annandale Golf Club) in the previous four instances
- Seeks first victory since 2012 THE NORTHERN TRUST, one of his five PGA TOUR titles
- In most recent start, began the 2021-22 season with four sub-par scores at the Fortinet Championship two weeks ago to finish T30
- Comes off a season defined by just six made cuts in 25 starts; having finished No. 204 in the 2020-21 FedExCup (his lowest final position in a season), is using a one-time career earnings exemption for the 2021-22 season (top 50); he entered the season No. 50 on the career earnings list

#### **Sahith Theegala (T1/-13)**

- The first-round leader opened with an eagle on No. 3 before posting notching four birdies, including the final hole of the day from 29'3" (No. 18); lone bogey thru 36 holes came on the par-5 fifth in round two
- Since 2006, three PGA TOUR winners have converted their first 36-hole lead/co-lead at the Sanderson Farm Championship (D.J. Trahan/2006, Bill Haas/2010, Cameron Champ/2018)
- PGA TOUR rookie earned his TOUR card following top-6 finishes in his last two starts in the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals (T4/Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, 6<sup>th</sup>/Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance)
- Prior to this week, his best position after any round on TOUR was T8/2017 The Genesis Invitational (finished T49)
- California native is making his 15<sup>th</sup> start on the PGA TOUR and comes off a T47 at the Fortinet Championship two weeks ago
- In only previous start at the Sanderson Farms Championship, missed the cut in 2020 (71-72—143)
- Named National Player of the Year his final season at Pepperdine University (2020 graduate)

#### **Miscellaneous Notes**

- Tupelo, Mississippi native **Hayden Buckley** (T4/-12) makes his second start in the Sanderson Farms Championship, site of his first TOUR start (T63/2018)
- PGA TOUR Rookie **Cameron Young** (T4/-12) used a career-high five-consecutive birdies (Nos. 3-7) to post a 7-under 65; advances to the weekend for the first time in five TOUR starts
- In his first start of the season, the highest ranked player in the field **Sam Burns** (No. 25 OWGR), makes six birdies en route to bogey-free 66 and sits T7
- Following a 4-over 76 in round one, PGA TOUR Rookie **Alex Smalley** (T55) made a 13-stroke improvement with a bogey-free 9-under 63 in round two; his career-low score was highlighted by seven birdies and an eagle at the par-5 fifth; this week's Sanderson Farms Championship marks his second start of the season and seventh professional start on TOUR
- Notable past Sanderson Farms Championship winners to miss the cut include: **Sergio Garcia** (2020/-2), **Sebastián Muñoz** (2019/-1), **Ryan Armour** (2017/-1)

#### **Scoring Averages at the par-72 Country Club of Jackson:**

	<b>Front 9</b>	<b>Back 9</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1:</b>	35.576	35.028	70.604	---
<b>R2:</b>	34.757	34.951	69.708	70.156

#### **Course Statistics**

	<b>Toughest Hole</b>	<b>Easiest Hole</b>
<b>R1:</b>	Par-4 6 <sup>th</sup> (4.194)	Par-5 3 <sup>rd</sup> (4.618)
<b>R2:</b>	Par-4 16 <sup>th</sup> (4.201)	Par-4 15 <sup>th</sup> (3.493)

**Bogey-free rounds:**

**R1 (8):** Sahith Theegala (64), Kurt Kitayama (66), Patton Kizzire (67), Adam Hadwin (67), Austin Cook (68), Matthew Wolff (68), Doc Redman (69), Sergio Garcia (70)

**R2 (16):** Will Zalatoris (61), Alex Smalley (63), Paul Barjon (66), Sam Burns (66), Brandon Hagy (66), Russell Knox (66), Nate Lashley (66), Henrik Norlander (66), Jimmy Walker (66), Grant Hirschman (67), John Huh (67), Peter Malnati (67), C.T. Pan (67), Mito Pereira (67), Adam Svensson (69), Dylan Wu (71)