



2023 Corales Puntacana Championship

(The 23rd of 44 events in the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Regular Season)

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

March 23-26, 2023
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,670

Purse: \$3,800,000
Winner: \$684,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, March 23, 2023

Weather: Mostly sunny. High of 83. Wind NE 14-18 mph, gusting to 26 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Brice Garnett	66 (-6)
Ben Martin	66 (-6)
Matt Wallace	67 (-5)
Six players	68 (-4)

Things to Know

- 2018 Corales Puntacana Championship winner Brice Garnett seeks to become the first multiple winner of this event
- Ben Martin holds the first-round lead/co-lead at this event for the second consecutive year
- Garnett and Martin were the only two players to post bogey-free rounds
- Matt Wallace makes first appearance at this event after a T7 finish at last week's Valspar Championship
- Max McGreevy and Dylan Wu both seek their first PGA TOUR victory in their sophomore seasons; the pair are the only players in their 20s among those at 4-under or better on the leaderboard
- Four of the five champions of the Corales Puntacana Championship were in their 30s when they won (Chad Ramey was 29)
- Defending champion Ramey sits T26 at 1-under
- Thomas Detry extends his streak of par-or-better rounds at the Corales Course to 17

First-Round Lead Notes

- 2 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Corales Puntacana Championship (Brice Garnett/2018, Hudson Swafford/2020)
- 2 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win in 2022-23 PGA TOUR season (most recent: Jon Rahm/Sentry Tournament of Champions)

Co-leaders (entering the week)

Category	Brice Garnett	Ben Martin
Age	39 (September 6, 1983)	35 (August 26, 1987)
Country	USA	USA
FedExCup	169	89
OWGR	372	260
Starts – wins – top-10s in PGA TOUR career	223-1-12	218-1-17
Starts – wins – top-10s in 2022-23 Season	11-0-0	14-0-1
Starts – wins – top-10s at Corales Puntacana	5-1-2	3-0-2

Brice Garnett (T1/-6)

- Posts bogey-free 66, hitting 11 of 14 fairways, 16 of 18 greens in regulation and taking 28 putts
- Holds 18-hole lead/co-lead for the second time in an individual strokeplay event on TOUR (2018 Corales Puntacana Championship/Won); also shared the 18-hole lead at the 2021 Zurich Classic of New Orleans with teammate Scott Stallings, eventually finishing T11
- 2018 Corales Puntacana Championship winner makes sixth appearance at this event, making the cut in the prior five (1st/2018, T39/2019, T61/2020, T9/2021, T58/2022)
- With his win in 2018, set tournament records for low 18-hole score (63) and low winning total (270), which have since been matched; also owns largest margin of victory (4 strokes) and remains the only wire-to-wire winner of this event
- Made six cuts in 11 starts this season with T21 at Sony Open in Hawaii his lone top-25 result

- Won twice on the Korn Ferry Tour, claiming both titles in 2017
- One of four players who have made the cut in all five prior editions of the Corales Puntacana Championship

Player/Year	Jonathan Byrd	Brice Garnett	Adam Schenk	D.J. Trahan
2018	T54	1	T35	T60
2019	4th	T39	T33	T10
2020	T28	T61	T56	T52
2021	T63	T9	T56	T52
2022	T36	T58	T7	T50
2023	<i>T26 thru R1</i>	<i>T1 thru R1</i>	<i>Not in field</i>	<i>T93 thru R1</i>

Ben Martin (T1/-6)

- Holds the first-round lead/co-lead for the fourth time on TOUR and the second consecutive year at this event
- Finished T2 at this event last year after holding the 18-, 36- and 54-hole leads/co-leads
- 12 of his 13 rounds at Corales course under par; lone over-par round: 75/R3/2020
- Shoots a par-or-better opening round in his ninth consecutive TOUR event
- Two of his three most recent top-10s on TOUR have come at the Corales Puntacana Championship (T9/2021, T2/2022); most recent top-10 on TOUR was T5 at The Honda Classic last month
- Lone TOUR victory is the 2014 Shriners Children's Open
- Reached FedExCup Playoffs four consecutive seasons (2014-2017) but has failed to advance since
- Won twice on the Korn Ferry Tour, claiming both titles in 2013

Miscellaneous Notes

- Following a T7 at last week's Valspar Championship, a top-10 finish for England's **Matt Wallace** (3rd/-5) in his first appearance at the Corales Puntacana Championship would mark his first time with back-to-back top-10s in his 80th PGA TOUR start
- **Max McGreevy** (T4/-4) makes second start in the Dominican Republic (MC/2022); made three cuts in 16 starts this season, with two of the three coming at island venues (T8/Butterfield Bermuda Championship, T33/Puerto Rico Open, T67/Cadence Bank Houston Open); best finish on TOUR came at an island venue (2nd/2022 Puerto Rico Open)
- **Dylan Wu** (T4/-4) posts lowest score in his fifth round at this venue (73-69-71-73 to finish 56th in 2022)
- **D.A. Points** (T4/-4) shoots an under-par opening round for the first time in his fourth start at this event
- Four-time PGA TOUR winner **Sean O'Hair** (T4/-4) won his most recent title at the 2011 RBC Canadian Open; a victory Sunday would mark a span of 11 years, 8 months, 2 days between wins
- **Ricky Barnes** (T4/-4) playing his 1,001st official round on TOUR, holed a 56-degree wedge from the fairway at No. 8, marking the only eagle at a par-4 hole in the opening round
- **Kelly Kraft** (T4/-4) notched three top-15 finishes in his first three appearances at this event but has missed the cut in his two most recent starts at the Corales course; one of five players with an ace at this event, but the only player to make a hole-in-one at No. 9 (R1/2020)
- 2011 FedExCup champion **Bill Haas** (T10/-3) went eight starts in a row without advancing to the weekend before making the cut in his two most recent TOUR starts (T71/2023 Honda Classic, T11/2023 Puerto Rico Open)
- **Thomas Detry** (T18/-2), the highest-ranked player in the field at No. 82 in the Official World Golf Ranking, extends his streak of par-or-better rounds at this event to 17
- Two-time heart transplant recipient **Erik Compton** (T26/-1) closed his round with birdies at the Devil's Elbow (Nos. 16, 17 and 18) in his first appearance at this event; only other player to birdie the three holes of the Devil's Elbow: **Doug Ghim** (T10/-3)
- **Wesley Bryan** (T46/E) makes his 100th PGA TOUR start
- **Ryan Gerard** (T84/+3) requires a two-way T57 or better finish to become eligible for PGA TOUR Special Temporary Membership
- Past Corales Puntacana Championship winners in the field: **Brice Garnett** (T1/-6), **Chad Ramey** (T26/-1), **Joel Dahmen** (T58/+1)
- Three players from the Dominican Republic in the field: **Juan Jose Guerra** (T58/+1), **Rhadames Pena** (T93/+4), **Hiram Silfa** (T119/+8)