



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

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, March 25, 2023

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 83. Wind ENE 15-20 mph, gusting to 26 mph.

Third-Round Leaderboard

Nicolai Højgaard	71-65-66—202 (-14)
Sam Stevens	69-65-68—202 (-14)
Thomas Detry	70-68-65—203 (-13)
Wyndham Clark	69-65-69—203 (-13)
Tyler Duncan	71-65-67—203 (-13)
Matt Wallace	67-66-70—203 (-13)

Things to Know

- Denmark's Nicolai Højgaard seeks a victory to become eligible for PGA TOUR membership
- Sam Stevens attempts to become the second PGA TOUR rookie to win on TOUR this season
- Højgaard and Stevens have 22 total PGA TOUR starts between them
- Thomas Detry has 19 scores of par-or-better in 19 rounds at this event
- Any player at 13-under or better, except Tyler Duncan, would become the fifth first-time winner on TOUR this season and fourth in tournament history (Brice Garnett/2018, Joel Dahmen/2021, Chad Ramey/2022)
- 54-hole leader/co-leader has won three of five times at the Corales Puntacana Championship

Third-Round Lead Notes

- 3 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win the Corales Puntacana Championship
(Brice Garnett/2018, Hudson Swafford/2020, Joel Dahmen/2021)
- 13 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2022-23 (most recent: Scottie Scheffler/THE PLAYERS Championship)

Co-leaders (Entering the week)

Category	Nicolai Højgaard	Sam Stevens
Age	22 (March 12, 2001)	26 (July 4, 1996)
Country	Denmark	USA
FedExCup	--	135
OWGR	140	335
Starts – wins – top-10s in PGA TOUR career	7-0-0	15-0-0
Starts – wins – top-10s in 2022-23 Season	Season debut	13-0-0
Starts – wins – top-10s at Corales Puntacana	1-0-0	Tournament debut

Nicolai Højgaard (T1/-14)

- Dane, who turned 22 on March 12, enters final round with a 39-hole bogey-free streak (bogey/No. 15/R1)
- Holds his first lead/co-lead after any round on the PGA TOUR; best position prior to this week: T7/2022 Genesis Scottish Open/MC
- Leads the field in birdies this week (19), greens in regulation (44 of 54) and driving distance (332.5 yards); also owns longest drive of the week (402 yards/No. 12/R2)
- Marks just the second time in eight starts on TOUR that he has made the cut (T53/2022 Open Championship)
- Makes second appearance at Corales Puntacana Championship (MC/73-71/2022)

- Successful amateur career included wins at the 2018 European Amateur and joining his twin brother, Rasmus, as part of the winning Danish team at the 2018 Eisenhower Trophy
- In 2021, he and his brother won in back-to-back weeks on the DP World Tour (Rasmus/Omega European Masters, Nicolai/DS Automobiles Italian Open), the first brothers to do so in Tour history
- Collected second DP World Tour title at 2022 Ras Al Khaimah Championship, shooting 24-under to beat Jordan Smith by four strokes

Sam Stevens (T1/-14)

- PGA TOUR rookie is making his tournament debut looking to become the second rookie to win on TOUR this season (Nico Echavarria/Puerto Rico Open)
- Holds his first lead/co-lead on TOUR after any round; sat T2 through 36 holes; best position after any round on TOUR prior to this week: T3/R3/2023 Puerto Rico Open (T15)
- Former Oklahoma State golf seeks his first career PGA TOUR title in his 16th start (best: T13/2023 Farmers Insurance Open)
- Played two TOUR events in 2022 before his rookie 2022-23 season (T55/The Honda Classic, T49/U.S. Open); shot 65, chipping in for eagle at his final hole, in the Monday qualifier to advance to his TOUR debut at 2022 Honda Classic
- Won the 2021 Holcim Colombia Classic on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica
- Won three times on the All Pro Tour in 2020 season and captured the money title with more than \$100,000 in earnings
- Texas native lives in Kansas and was born on Independence Day
- Third-generation professional golfer; grandfather, Johnny, made 30 PGA TOUR starts in the 1960s; father, Charlie, made two Korn Ferry Tour starts in 1992

Miscellaneous Notes

- **Thomas Detry** (T3/-13), the highest-ranked player in the field at No. 82 in the Official World Golf Ranking, owns a 69.68 scoring average for 19 rounds at the Corales course; extends his streak of par-or-better rounds at this event to 19; making fifth-consecutive tournament start (T33/2019, T33/2020, T13/2021, T15/2022)
- **Wyndham Clark** (T3/-13) is the only player in the field with three eagles this week (No. 7/R3, No. 4/R2, No. 4/R1)
- **Tyler Duncan** (T3/-13) birdies Nos. 17 and 18 to sit two strokes back in search of his second TOUR title (2019 RSM Classic)
- 36-hole leader **Matt Wallace** (T3/-13) seeks first career PGA TOUR title in his 80th start; owns four DP World Tour titles, three of them coming in 2018
- **Martin Trainer's** (T7/-12) bogey on No. 18 to shoot 7-under 65 marks his first dropped shot on the back nine this week; 2019 Puerto Rico Open winner has three career top-10s in 116 starts on TOUR, including a T7 at this event in 2022 (T5/2021 Houston Open)
- **Austin Eckroat** (T7/-12), who entered this week with six consecutive missed cuts on TOUR, posts six birdies and an eagle (No. 7) for a front-nine 28 (-8) en route to a 6-under 66; 28 marks the lowest 9-hole score in tournament history and ties the low 9-hole score on TOUR this season; his 7-under birdie/eagle streak (B-B-B-E-B, Holes 3-8) is a tournament record and matches the best on TOUR this season (Davis Thompson/The American Express)
- 2009 U.S. Open runner-up **Ricky Barnes** (T7/-12) seeks his first TOUR victory in his 338th start; since 1970, the player with the most starts before his first TOUR win is Brad Bryant (468)
- Past champions in the field: **Brice Garnett** (10th/-10), **Joel Dahmen** (T45/-3), **Chad Ramey** (WD after R1)
- Two players have made the cut in all six editions of the Corales Puntacana Championship

Year	Jonathan Byrd	Brice Garnett
2018	T54	Won
2019	4th	T39
2020	T28	T61
2021	T63	T9
2022	T36	T58
2023	T31 thru R3	10 th thru R3