

# PRE-TOURNAMENT NOTES 2023 AMERICAN EXPRESS



# TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

# January 16-22 • 12th of 44 FedExCup Regular Season events La Quinta, California **Host** PGA WEST (Pete Dye Stadium Course) **Other courses** PGA WEST (Nicklaus Tournament), La Quinta Country Club **Purse** \$8 million • **Winner** \$1.44 million + 500 FedExCup pts. 156 players • 72-hole stroke-play (54-hole cut) **2022 champion** Hudson Swafford

# **BROADCAST SCHEDULE (ET)**

		ESPN+	GOLF	
F	<b>?</b> 1	11:30a-7p	3-7 p.m.	
F	<b>R</b> 2	11:30a-7p	3-7 p.m.	
F	3	11:30a-7p	3-7 p.m.	
F	<b>?</b> 4	11:30a-7p	3-7 p.m.	

# CONTACT

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#### 2022-23 PGA TOUR SEASON

#### FedExCup Playoffs TOUR Championship..... BMW Championship..... FedEx St. Jude Championship..... FedExCup Regular Season Wyndham Championship..... 3M Open ..... Barracuda Championship..... The Open Championship..... Barbasol Championship ..... Genesis Scottish Open..... John Deere Classic ..... Rocket Mortgage Classic ..... Travelers Championship ..... U.S. Open..... RBC Canadian Open ..... the Memorial Tournament..... Charles Schwab Challenge ..... PGA Championship..... AT&T Byron Nelson ..... Wells Fargo Championship ..... Mexico Open at Vidanta..... Zurich Classic of New Orleans..... RBC Heritage..... Masters Tournament..... Corales Puntacana Championship ..... WGC-Dell Tech. Match Play..... Valspar Championship..... THE PLAYERS Championship..... Puerto Rico Open..... Arnold Palmer Invitational ..... The Honda Classic..... The Genesis Invitational ..... WM Phoenix Open..... AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am..... Farmers Insurance Open..... The American Express ..... Sony Open in Hawaii......Si Woo Kim Sentry Tournament of Champions......Jon Rahm Cadence Bank Houston Open ......Tony Finau World Wide Technology Championship .. Russell Henley Butterfield Bermuda Championship.. Seamus Power THE CJ CUP in South Carolina ......Rory McIlroy ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP......Keegan Bradley Shriners Children's Open......Tom Kim Sanderson Farms Championship . . Mackenzie Hughes Fortinet Championship ...... Max Homa

Italics First-time PGA TOUR winners

#### TOP STORYLINES

Five of the top-10 players in the Official World Golf Ranking are in the field, the most at The American Express on record (data available 2000-present): No. 2 Scottie Scheffler, No. 4 Jon Rahm, No. 5 Patrick Cantlay, No. 6 Xander Schauffele and No. 7 Will Zalatoris. Scheffler and Cantlay can move to World No. 1 (scenarios TBD).

Scottie Scheffler, who is making his fourth start at The American Express, held a share of the lead after the second and third rounds in 2020 before finishing third. Scheffler has three consecutive top-10s on TOUR (T3/World Wide Technology Championship, T9/Cadence Bank Houston Open, T7/Sentry Tournament of Champions).

2018 American Express champion Jon Rahm is making his first start since winning the Sentry Tournament of Champions. The last player to win in back-to-back starts on TOUR is Rory McIlroy (2022 TOUR Championship, 2022 CJ CUP in South Carolina). Rahm has won on TOUR in seven consecutive seasons, tying Justin Thomas for the longest active streak (Thomas: 2015-16 thru 2021-22). Rahm also holds the TOUR's longest active made-cuts streak (20). His last missed cut came at the 2021 Fortinet Championship.

Patrick Cantlay is making his fifth start at The American Express and has three consecutive top-10s (T9/2019, DNP/2020, 2nd/2021, 9th/2022; missed the cut in 2013 competing on a sponsor exemption). Since joining the PGA TOUR at the start of the 2013-14 season, Cantlay leads all players with a minimum of five rounds at The American Express in Scoring Average (6717) and birdies per round (6.17).

Xander Schauffele is making his first start since withdrawing from the Sentry Tournament of Champions due to a back injury. Schauffele has not competed in The American Express since his rookie season (MC/2017). He also played on a sponsor exemption in 2016 (MC).

Will Zalatoris finished T6 in his tournament debut at The American Express in 2022, tying his career-low score on TOUR with a second-round 61. Zalatoris, who was not able to compete during the fall portion of the schedule due to a back injury, is making his second start of the season (T11/Sentry Tournament of Champions).

American Express ambassador Tony Finau has three wins and six top-10s in his last eight starts (wins: 2022 3M Open, 2022 Rocket Mortgage Classic, 2022 Cadence Bank Houston Open). Finau has one top-10 in five prior starts at the event (4th/2021).

Two-time PGA TOUR winner Tom Kim made his fifth career PGA TOUR start at the 2021 American Express, competing on a sponsor exemption (MC). Kim entered that week No. 154 in the Official World Golf Ranking and is now No. 14.

2021 American Express winner Si Woo Kim is coming off a victory at last week's Sony Open in Hawaii and moved to No. 8 in the FedExCup standings. The last player to win back-to-back weeks on the PGA TOUR schedule was Tony Finau in 2021-22 (3M Open, Rocket Mortgage Classic). Kim is third on TOUR in Strokes Gained: Approach the Green this season and has not finished better than 84th in that category in his seven prior seasons on TOUR.

Since The American Express became a 72-hole event in 2012, the winner's margin of victory has not been more than two strokes in any year. In that span, there have been three playoffs, four one-stroke wins and four two-stroke victories. Last season, Hudson Swafford won by two strokes over Tom Hoge. The most recent playoff was in 2018 (Jon Rahm def. Andrew Landry).

Brian Harman is one of three players that has finished in the top 10 in each of the last two years at The American Express, along with Patrick Cantlay and Francesco Molinari. Harman, a two-time winner who most recently won the 2017 Wells Fargo Championship, has 26 top-10s on TOUR since the start of the 2017-18 season, the most of any player without a win in that span.

#### **WINNERS**

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	Year Player
	Year Player 2022Hudson Swafford
	2021Si Woo Kim
	2020Andrew Landry
	2019Adam Long
	2018
	2017Hudson Swafford
	2016Jason Dufner
	2015 Bill Haas
	2014 Patrick Reed
	2013 Brian Gay
	2012Mark Wilson
	2011Jhonattan Vegas
	2010 Bill Haas
	2009Pat Perez
	2008
	2007 Charley Hoffman
	2006Chad Campbell
	2005 Justin Leonard
	2004Phil Mickelson
	2003 Mike Weir
	2002Phil Mickelson
	2001 Joe Durant
	2000 Jesper Parnevik
	1999
	1998Fred Couples
	1997John Cook
	1996
	1995 Kenny Perry
	1994 Scott Hoch
	1993
	1992John Cook
	1991Corey Pavin
	1990Peter Jacobsen
	1989 Steve Jones
	1988 Jay Haas
	1987 Corey Pavin
	1986Donnie Hammond
	1985Lanny Wadkins
	1984John Mahaffey
	1983 Keith Fergus
	1982 Ed Fiori
	1981 Bruce Lietzke
	1980
	1979John Mahaffey
	1978Bill Rogers
	1977Rik Massengale
	1976Johnny Miller
	1975Johnny Miller
	1974Hubert Green
	1973Arnold Palmer
	1972Bob Rosburg
	1971Arnold Palmer
	1970 Bruce Devlin
	1969 Billy Casper
	1968Arnold Palmer
	1967Tom Nieporte
	1966Doug Sanders
	1965Billy Casper
	1964
	1963Jack Nicklaus
	1962Arnold Palmer
	1961
	1960Arnold Palmer
	<b>bold</b> in field
- 1	

ADDITIONAL STORYLINES

Tom Hoge finished runner-up in 2022 and went on to earn his first PGA TOUR victory two starts later at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. Hoge collected a career-high six top-10s in 2021-22 and went on to qualify for the TOUR Championship for the first time. He has two top-fives in eight starts this season (T4/Shriners Children's Open, T3/ Sentry Tournament of Champions) and enters the week No. 16 in the FedExCup standings.

Lee Hodges held a share of the lead after the first and third rounds of the 2022 American Express before finishing T3, the best result of his PGA TOUR career to date. His first-round 62 in 2022 is his career-low score on TOUR.

Andrew Landry has three top-two finishes in his career (two wins, one runner-up), with two of them coming at The American Express. Landry lost in a playoff to Jon Rahm in 2018 and earned his second career TOUR victory at the 2020 American Express. Landry has earned 138.525 FedExCup points per start at The American Express, the most of any tournament in his career.

2015 Greenbrier Classic winner Danny Lee is making his 300th career start on TOUR. Lee has qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs in seven of the last eight seasons and has five runner-up finishes in his career, most recently at the 2021 Butterfield Bermuda Championship.

After finishing T21 at last week's Sony Open in Hawaii, J.T. Poston moved into the top 50 of the Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career (No. 50). Poston, who won the 2022 John Deere Classic and went on to qualify for the TOUR Championship for the first time in his career, is making his seventh start at The American Express and has one top-10 (T7/2019).

University of Tennessee freshman Caleb Surratt, 18, is making his second career start on TOUR, competing on a sponsor exemption. Surratt made the cut at the Butterfield Bermuda Championship this season and finished T65 with scores of 71-64-85-65, becoming the first player on record (1983-present) to have a stroke differential of 20 or more twice in the same event.

#### Largest stroke differential between rounds on the PGA TOUR (1983-present)

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Player	Tournament	Rounds	Scores	Differential
John Daly	2012 Shriners Children's Open	2-3	63-86	23
Caleb Surratt	2022 Butterfield Bermuda Championship	2-3	64-85	21
Caleb Surratt	2022 Butterfield Bermuda Championship	3-4	85-65	20
Andres Romero	2013 Shriners Children's Open	1-2	61-81	20
Kevin Stadler	2008 Fortinet Championship	1-2	81-61	20
Scott Simpson	1992 U.S. Open	3-4	68-88	20

# **2022 LEADERBOARD**

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Hudson Swafford	70	65	66	64	265 (-23)
2	Tom Hoge	65	66	68	68	267 (-21)
T3	Lanto Griffin	67	65	69	67	268 (-20)
T3	Brian Harman	67	70	67	64	268 (-20)
T3	Lee Hodges	62	72	64	70	268 (-20)
T6	Denny McCarthy	67	67	68	67	269 (-19)
T6	Francesco Molinari	67	67	67	68	269 (-19)
T6	Will Zalatoris	71	61	70	67	269 (-19)

# STRENGTH OF FIELD STATISTICS

Top 10 FedExCup	5	Tom Kim (3)
Top 30 FedExCup	17	
Top 10 OWGR	5	Scottie Scheffler (2)
Top 50 OWGR	17	
-		Jason Day/Zach Johnson (12)
Past champions	8	Most recent: Si Woo Kim (2021)
FedExCup Champions	3	Most recent: Patrick Cantlay (2021)
PLAYERS winners	3	Most recent: Si Woo Kim (2017)
Major winners	10	

# **TOURNAMENT RECORDS**

Category	Value	Player	Year
Low 18-hole score	59	2 players; most recent: Adam Hadwin	2017 (R3)
Low 36-hole score	124	Pat Perez	2009
Low 54-hole score	189	Patrick Reed	2014
Low 72-hole score	255	Steve Stricker	2009
Holes-in-one (1983-present)	56	Most recent: Patton Kizzire	2022 (R4, No. 4)
Largest 18-hole lead	3	4 players; most recent: Phil Mickelson	2019
Largest 36-hole lead	6	Craig Stadler	1983
Largest 54-hole lead	7	Patrick Reed	2014
Wire-to-wire winners	2	2 players; most recent: Patrick Reed	2014
Largest margin of victory	6	2 players; most recent: Tom Kite	1993
Playoffs	21	Most recent: Jon Rahm def. Andrew Landry	2018