



2023 The American Express
(12th of 47 events in the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Season)

La Quinta, California	January 19-22, 2023	FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
PGA WEST PETE DYE STADIUM COURSE	Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,187	Purse: \$8,000,000/\$1,440,000
PGA WEST NICKLAUS TOURNAMENT COURSE	Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,147	
LA QUINTA COUNTRY CLUB	Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,060	

First-Round Notes – Thursday, January 19, 2023

Weather: Mostly Sunny. High of 60. Wind WNW 6-12 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Davis Thompson (LQ)	62 (-10)
Tyler Duncan (NT)	64 (-8)
Taylor Montgomery (LQ)	64 (-8)
Matti Schmid (SC)	64 (-8)
Sam Burns (SC)	64 (-8)
Jon Rahm (LQ)	64 (-8)

Things to Know

- On the strength of back-to-back eagles (Nos. 5-6/La Quinta) to start 7-under through six holes, Davis Thompson opens with a 10-under 62 at La Quinta Country Club; last player to eagle consecutive holes on the PGA TOUR before this week was Shane Lowry in round three of the 2022 Open Championship (Nos. 9-10)
- Thompson becomes the first player to play the first six holes of a round on TOUR in 7-under (or better) since Robert Streb (2021 THE CJ CUP @ SUMMIT/R1/-7)
- Needing a single putt on 12 holes on the Stadium Course, including each of his first nine, Sam Burns opened his fourth appearance at The American Express with an 8-under 64; looks to improve on a best showing of T6 in 2020
- 2018 American Express winner Jon Rahm opens with 8-under 64 at La Quinta in first start since winning the Sentry Tournament of Champions two weeks ago
- Having not finished inside the top 50 in five previous starts at The American Express, Tyler Duncan makes nine birdies, one shy of his record for most in a round, en route to 8-under 64 on the Nicklaus Tournament Course
- Las Vegas native and PGA TOUR rookie, Taylor Montgomery, offsets one bogey with seven birdies and an eagle to open his first start in The American Express with 8-under 64 at La Quinta

First-Round Lead Notes

- 4 First-round leaders/co leaders to win The American Express (since 2000); most recent - Jon Rahm/2018
- 2 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2022-23 (most recent: Jon Rahm/Sentry Tournament of Champions)

Davis Thompson (1st/-10/LQ)

Category	Entering the Week
Age	23 (June 5, 1999)
FedExCup	71
OWGR	169
Starts – wins – top-10s in PGA TOUR career	19-0-1
Starts – wins – top-10s on TOUR in 2022-23	6-0-1
Starts – wins – top-10s at The American Express	0-0-0

- Alabama native and 2021 University of Georgia grad got to 7-under par through his first six holes at La Quinta Country Club after starting birdie-par-birdie-birdie-eagle-eagle; followed an outgoing 6-under 28 with a 2-under 34 on his inward half

- The last player to eagle consecutive holes on the PGA TOUR before this week was Shane Lowry in round three of the 2022 Open Championship (Nos. 9-10)
- Becomes the first player to play the first six holes of a round on TOUR in 7-under (or better) since Robert Streb in round one of the 2021 CJ CUP 2 SUMMIT (-7)
- Only previous occasion to hold at least a share of an 18-hole lead on the PGA TOUR resulted in a T58 at the 2021 Rocket Mortgage Classic
- Hit 12 of 14 fairways and 14 of 18 greens in regulation; needed 24 putts to complete the round
- After winning the Korn Ferry Tour's REX Hospital Open in Georgia on his 23rd birthday (June 5, 2022), went on to earn his rookie card for the PGA TOUR
- In six starts this season, lone top-10 finish came in the season-opening Fortinet Championship (T9); comes off a T54 at last week's Sony Open in Hawaii
- In addition to competing on the 2021 U.S. Walker Cup team, was the No. 1 ranked player in the first PGA TOUR University rankings, which ultimately resulted in him automatically advancing to the final stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour qualifying tournament

Miscellaneous Notes

- After his lone bogey of the day at No. 3 on the Nicklaus Tournament Course, **Tyler Duncan** (T2) made nine birdies, one shy of his record for most in a round, en route to 8-under 64; in four previous starts in the event, has never finished inside the top 50; lone PGA TOUR victory came at the 2019 RSM Classic
- On the strength of having hit 17 of 18 greens in regulation, Germany's **Matti Schmid** (T2) opened his first The American Express with a bogey-free 8-under 64 on the Stadium Course; in six starts this PGA TOUR rookie season, his best of two made cuts was T59 at the Fortinet Championship last fall
- Needing a single putt on each of his first nine holes on the Stadium Course and 12 overall, **Sam Burns** (T2) opened his fourth The American Express start with 8-under 64; looks to improve on a best showing of T6 in 2020
- 2018 American Express champion **Jon Rahm** (T2) made nine birdies and one bogey at La Quinta to post 8-under 64 in his fifth start in the event; since his win at PGA WEST, finished sixth in 2019 and T14 in 2022; this marks his first start on TOUR since claiming his eighth career TOUR title two weeks ago at the Sentry Tournament of Champions
- In spite of a broken toe sustained three weeks ago, Zimbabwe native **Dean Burmester** (T7) offset two bogeys with seven birdies and an eagle at the par-5 15th on the Nicklaus Tournament Course to open his first The American Express with 7-under 65
- In his bid for a fourth consecutive top-10 finish in his fifth start at The American Express, **Patrick Cantlay** (T42) opened in 4-under 68 at La Quinta; in his three most recent starts in the event, finished T9, 2nd and 9th in 2019, 2021 and 2022, respectively
- Seeking a second top-10 finish in The American Express (3rd/2020), **Scottie Scheffler** (T42) opened his fourth The American Express with a bogey-free 4-under 68 at La Quinta Country Club