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2023 PLAYERS Championship
(20th of 44 events in the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Regular Season)

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS Stadium)

March 9-12, 2023
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,275

FedExCup points: 600 (winner)
Purse: \$25 million (\$4.5 million winner)

Completed First-Round Notes – Friday, March 10, 2023

Thursday weather: Partly cloudy. High of 72. Wind E 10-15 mph. **Friday morning weather:** Mostly cloudy. High of 66. Wind SSW 10-20 mph. **Suspension summary:** The first round was suspended due to darkness at 6:28 p.m. ET Thursday with 21 players left to complete their round. The first round resumed at 7:37 a.m. Friday and was completed at 8:36 a.m. The second round began as scheduled at 6:50 a.m. Friday.

First-Round Leaderboard

Chad Ramey	64 (-8)
Collin Morikawa	65 (-7)
Taylor Pendrith	67 (-5)
Ben Griffin	67 (-5)
<i>Seven players</i>	<i>68 (-4)</i>

Things to Know

- Chad Ramey, one of 32 first-timers in the field, becomes the first player to hold the 18-hole lead/co-lead in his tournament debut at THE PLAYERS Championship since Mackenzie Hughes in 2017
- Ramey (64) and Collin Morikawa (65) were the only two players in the field without a bogey or worse in the first round
- Five of the 11 players T5 or better are first-timers at THE PLAYERS Championship; those 11 players have made a combined 11 prior starts at THE PLAYERS (most: Denny McCarthy/3)

First-Round Lead Notes

- 15 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win THE PLAYERS Championship (most recent: Webb Simpson, 2018)
- 2 First-round leaders/co-leaders to win on TOUR in 2022-23 (most recent: Jon Rahm/Sentry Tournament of Champions)

Chad Ramey (1st/-8)

Category	Entering the week
Age	30 (August 3, 1992)
FedExCup	No. 170
OWGR	No. 225
Starts – wins – top-10s in PGA TOUR career	44-1-2
Starts – wins – top-10s on TOUR in 2022-23	14-0-0
Starts – wins – top-10s at THE PLAYERS	Tournament debut

- 11th player to shoot 64 or better in the first round of THE PLAYERS Championship on record (since 1983) and first since Jason Day in 2016 (63); four of the previous 10 went on to win
- Second career 18-hole lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR (T1/2021 Butterfield Bermuda Championship; went on to finish T17) and third career lead/co-lead after any round (T1/R2/2021 Shriners Children’s Open/T14)
- Second-lowest opening round by a player making his PLAYERS debut on record (since 1983); best: 63/Roberto Castro/2013
- Second-lowest round of PGA TOUR career (low: 63/R1/2021 Shriners Children’s Open)
- Matches his low round of the 2022-23 season (R4/2023 Sony Open in Hawaii)
- Seeks his second win on the PGA TOUR (2022 Corales Puntacana Championship)
- Entered the week having missed three consecutive cuts (WM Phoenix Open, The Genesis Invitational, The Honda Classic)
- Best finish this season is T28 (2022 Shriners Children’s Open)
- Second season on TOUR (rookie in 2021-22; was one of two rookies to win on TOUR last season, along with Tom Kim/Wyndham Championship)

Collin Morikawa (2nd/-7)

- Cards his low round at THE PLAYERS Championship (previous: 66/R4/2021) in third start (T41/2021, MC/2022)

- Previous-best position on the leaderboard after any round at THE PLAYERS Championship was T26 (R1/2021)
- Seeks his first victory of the season after three top-10s in his last five starts: 2nd/Sentry Tournament of Champions, 3rd/Farmers Insurance Open, T6/The Genesis Invitational
- Seeks his sixth win on the PGA TOUR (most recent: 2021 Open Championship)

Miscellaneous notes

- **Taylor Pendrith** (T3/-5) opens with 5-under 67, his low 18-hole score in the event in his second appearance at the event (T13/2022); Pendrith hit all 14 fairways, his first career round on the PGA TOUR without missing a fairway
- Making his PLAYERS Championship debut, **Ben Griffin** (T3) birdies his last three holes (Nos. 7-9) en route to 5-under 67; Griffin is making his 14th start of the season and his best finish is T3 (2022 Butterfield Bermuda Championship)
- In his third start at THE PLAYERS, World No. 2 **Scottie Scheffler** (T6) cards 68 to match his low round at the event
- FedExCup leader and World No. 1 **Jon Rahm**, seeking his fourth win of the season, opens with 1-under 71 and sits T33; Rahm entered the week having finished in the top 10 in six of his seven starts on TOUR this season
- 2019 PLAYERS champion and World No. 3 **Rory McIlroy** records a 4-over 76 and sits T118; McIlroy's 76 is his highest 18-hole score since shooting 76 in the final round of the 2022 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
- **Hayden Buckley** (T71/+1) made a hole-in-one on the par-3 17th with a pitching wedge from 125 yards; Buckley became the first player on record (1983-present) to record a hole-in-one at No. 17 and a birdie at No. 18 in the same round at THE PLAYERS
- **Kurt Kitayama**, winner of last week's Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, sits T71 after carding 1-over 73

PLAYERS Championship appearances by players in the top 10

Pos.	Player	Prior starts
1	Chad Ramey	0
2	Collin Morikawa	2
T3	Taylor Pendrith	1
T3	Ben Griffin	0
T5	Min Woo Lee	0
T5	Denny McCarthy	3
T5	Christiaan Bezuidenhout	1
T5	Adam Svensson	0
T5	Scottie Scheffler	2
T5	Sam Burns	2
T5	Justin Suh	0

Balls in the water at No. 17 (since 2003)

Year	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
2023	18				18
2022	13	27	7	10	57
2021	35	13	8	10	66
2019	14	6	8	17	45
2018	24	21	6	3	54
2017	19	29	10	11	69
2016	6	9	17	4	36
2015	21	16	3	5	45
2014	12	12	1	3	28
2013	15	9	7	13	44
2012	18	11	4	6	39
2011	12	14	8	6	40
2010	7	8	5	9	29
2009	16	6	4	6	32
2008	20	18	10	16	64
2007	50	21	10	12	93
2006	19	17	12	9	57
2005	7	8	25	28	68
2004	9	10	4	7	30
2003	6	10	3	10	29
Average	17.05	13.95	8.00	9.74	47.15

Morgan Stanley Eagles for Impact Challenge

As part of its Eagles for Impact Challenge, Morgan Stanley will donate \$5,000 for every eagle made at THE PLAYERS to First Tee – a youth development organization that enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges – to help support the recruitment, development and retention of diverse coaches to mentor the next generation.

	Eagles	Donation
R1	12	\$60,000