



PRE-TOURNAMENT NOTES 2023 WM PHOENIX OPEN



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

February 6-12 • 15th of 44 FedExCup Regular Season events
 Scottsdale, Arizona
 TPC Scottsdale (Stadium Course) • Par 71 • 7,261 yds.
Purse \$20 million • Winner \$3.6 million + 500 FedExCup pts.
 134 players • 72-hole stroke-play
Defending champion Scottie Scheffler

BROADCAST SCHEDULE (ET)

	ESPN+	GOLF	CBS
R1	9:15 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	3:30-7:30p	
R2	9:15 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	3:30-7:30p	
R3	12-6:30 p.m.	1-3 p.m.	3-6:30 p.m.
R4	11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	1-3 p.m.	3-6 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.....
 Valero Texas Open.....
 Corales Puntacana Championship.....
 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play.....
 Valspar Championship.....
 THE PLAYERS Championship.....
 Puerto Rico Open.....
 Arnold Palmer Invitational.....
 The Honda Classic.....
 The Genesis Invitational.....
 WM Phoenix Open.....

Italics First-time PGA TOUR winners

TOP STORYLINES

The WM Phoenix Open is the 15th event of the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Season and second designated event, featuring 22 of the top 25 players in the Official World Golf Ranking (37 of top 50), nine of the top 10 players in the FedExCup standings (all but Justin Rose) and 11 of the 12 players that have won on TOUR this season (all but Rose). The field was expanded from the original size of 132 players to 134 to include the entire top 125 category of the priority ranking. The last man in the field is Kelly Kraft, who finished No. 125 in the 2021-22 FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List.

Defending champion **Scottie Scheffler** earned his first career PGA TOUR victory at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open and went on to win the Jack Nicklaus Award as PGA TOUR Player of the Year. Scheffler is the reigning champion of four PGA TOUR events over the next nine weeks (WM Phoenix Open, Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, Masters Tournament) and won those titles in a span of six starts during the 2021-22 season. Scheffler's scoring average at the WM Phoenix Open is 67.80, tied with Xander Schauffele for the second-lowest among any player (min. 10 rounds) since the event moved to TPC Scottsdale in 1987.

Lowest Scoring Average at the WM Phoenix Open since 1987 (min. 10 rounds)

Average	Player	Rounds
67.58	Louis Oosthuizen	12
67.80	Xander Schauffele	20
67.80	Scottie Scheffler	10
67.94	Hideki Matsuyama	33
68.14	Jon Rahm	28

Rory McIlroy is making his second start of the season and first since winning THE CJ CUP in South Carolina. The last player to win each of his first two starts of the season was Tiger Woods in 2008.

Last to win first two starts of the season

Player	Year	First win	Second win
Tiger Woods	2008	Farmers Insurance Open	WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play
Ernie Els	2003	Sentry Tournament of Champions	Sony Open in Hawaii

McIlroy has won in each of his last two starts on the PGA TOUR (2022 TOUR Championship, 2022 CJ CUP in South Carolina). The last player to win in three consecutive starts was Dustin Johnson in 2016-17. McIlroy accomplished the feat during the 2013-14 season.

Last to win three consecutive starts on the PGA TOUR

Player	Year	First win	Second win	Third win
D. Johnson	2017	The Genesis Invitational	WGC-Mexico Championship	WGC-Dell Tech. Match Play
R. McIlroy	2014	Open Championship	WGC-Bridgestone Invitational	PGA Championship
T. Woods	2008	Farmers Insurance Open	WGC-Dell Tech. Match Play	Arnold Palmer Invitational

This is McIlroy's second start at the WM Phoenix Open. His first came in 2021 (T13).

Arizona State University graduate and FedExCup leader **Jon Rahm** has opened the season with four consecutive top-10s, including wins in back-to-back starts (Sentry Tournament of Champions, The American Express). In seven prior starts at the WM Phoenix Open, Rahm has finished no worse than T16 (2017), highlighted by a T5 as an amateur in 2015. Rahm has the TOUR's longest active cuts made streak (22), having last missed the cut at the 2021 Fortinet Championship.

World No. 5 **Patrick Cantlay** made his tournament debut in 2022, falling in a playoff to Scottie Scheffler. Cantlay has one top-10 in three starts on the season, highlighted by a runner-up at the Shriners Children's Open.

In five prior starts at the WM Phoenix Open, World No. 6 **Xander Schauffele** has finished no worse than T17 (2018). Schauffele has finished in the top five in each of the last two years (T2/2021, T3/2022).

WINNERS (SINCE 1962)

Year	Player
2022	Scottie Scheffler
2021	Brooks Koepka
2020	Webb Simpson
2019	Rickie Fowler
2018	Gary Woodland
2017	Hideki Matsuyama
2016	Hideki Matsuyama
2015	Brooks Koepka
2014	Kevin Stadler
2013	Phil Mickelson
2012	Kyle Stanley
2011	Mark Wilson
2010	Hunter Mahan
2009	Kenny Perry
2008	J.B. Holmes
2007	Aaron Baddeley
2006	J.B. Holmes
2005	Phil Mickelson
2004	Jonathan Kaye
2003	Vijay Singh
2002	Chris DiMarco
2001	Mark Calcavecchia
2000	Tom Lehman
1999	Rocco Mediate
1998	Jesper Parnevik
1997	Steve Jones
1996	Phil Mickelson
1995	Vijay Singh
1994	Bill Glasson
1993	Lee Janzen
1992	Mark Calcavecchia
1991	Nolan Henke
1990	Tommy Armour III
1989	Mark Calcavecchia
1988	Sandy Lyle
1987	Paul Azinger
1986	Hal Sutton
1985	Calvin Peete
1984	Tom Purtzer
1983	Bob Gilder
1982	Lanny Wadkins
1981	David Graham
1980	Jeff Mitchell
1979	Ben Crenshaw
1978	Miller Barber
1977	Jerry Pate
1976	Bob Gilder
1975	Johnny Miller
1974	Johnny Miller
1973	Bruce Crampton
1972	Homero Blancas
1971	Miller Barber
1970	Dale Douglass
1969	Gene Littler
1968	George Knudson
1967	Julius Boros
1966	Dudley Wysong
1965	Rod Funseth
1964	Jack Nicklaus
1963	Arnold Palmer
1962	Arnold Palmer

bold in field

ADDITIONAL STORYLINES

Justin Thomas has finished T17 or better in five consecutive years at the WM Phoenix Open, including top-10s in 2019 (3rd), 2020 (T3) and 2022 (T8).

Scottsdale resident **Max Homa** won the Farmers Insurance Open in his most recent start, earning his sixth career PGA TOUR title and second of the season. Homa is one of two players with multiple titles this season, along with Jon Rahm (2).

Hideki Matsuyama has five career top-10s at the WM Phoenix Open, including back-to-back victories in 2016 and 2017 and a T8 in 2022. Matsuyama, who won in a playoff in 2016 and 2017, is the last player on the PGA TOUR to win the same tournament in a playoff in consecutive seasons. Prior to Matsuyama, the feat had not been accomplished on TOUR since Ernie Els did so at the Sony Open in Hawaii in 2003 and 2004.

Competing on a sponsor exemption in his tournament debut, **Sahith Theegala** held the solo-lead after the second and third rounds in 2022 and went on to finish T3, his first career top-five on TOUR.

Five-time PGA TOUR winner **Rickie Fowler's** most recent title came at the 2019 WM Phoenix Open. Fowler has three additional top-fives at the event, including runner-up finishes in 2010 and 2016. He has two top-10s in six starts on TOUR this season, matching his total from the previous two seasons combined (two top-10s in 46 starts from 2020-21 through 2021-22).

There are two rookies in the top 30 of the FedExCup standings and both players are competing on sponsor exemptions: **Taylor Montgomery** (No. 8) and **Davis Thompson** (No. 22). Montgomery has four top-10s this season, tied with Jon Rahm and Sahith Theegala for most on the PGA TOUR, and has the highest FedExCup position of any player without a win this season.

K.H. Lee finished runner-up at the 2021 WM Phoenix Open and held the 18-hole lead in 2022 before finishing T38.

Keith Mitchell is coming off a T4 at last week's AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, his best result since the 2021 CJ CUP (T3), and finished T10 at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open. Mitchell enters the week No. 55 in the Official World Golf Ranking and has never been ranked inside the top 50.

The purse for the WM Phoenix Open is \$20 million (\$3.6 million/winner), matching the largest purse and winner's share in PGA TOUR history (2022 PLAYERS Championship). There are 11 events in the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Season (not including major championships) with purses of \$20 million or more.

2022 LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
P1	Scottie Scheffler	68	71	62	67	268 (-16)
P2	Patrick Cantlay	67	66	68	67	268 (-16)
T3	Brooks Koepka	66	66	68	69	269 (-15)
T3	Xander Schauffele	67	65	69	68	269 (-15)
T3	Sahith Theegala	66	64	69	70	269 (-15)
T6	Billy Horschel	67	69	68	66	270 (-14)
T6	Alex Noren	67	68	67	68	270 (-14)

STRENGTH OF FIELD STATISTICS

Top 10 FedExCup 9	Jon Rahm (1)
Top 30 FedExCup 26	
Top 10 OWGR 8	Rory McIlroy (1)
Top 50 OWGR 37	
PGA TOUR winners 92	Rory McIlroy (23)
Past champions 6	Defending: Scottie Scheffler
FedExCup Champions 5	Most recent: Rory McIlroy (2022)
PLAYERS winners 7	Most recent: Justin Thomas (2021)
Major winners 19	Rory McIlroy (4)

TOURNAMENT RECORDS

Category	Value	Player	Year
Low 18-hole score	60	3 players (4 instances); most: Phil Mickelson	2005, 2013
Low 36-hole score	125	2 players; most recent: Phil Mickelson	2013
Low 54-hole score	189	2 players; most recent: Phil Mickelson	2013
Low 72-hole score	256	2 players; most recent: Phil Mickelson	2013
Holes-in-one (since 1983)	33	Most recent: Carlos Ortiz	2022 (No. 16, R4)
Largest 18-hole lead	4	Phil Mickelson	2013
Largest 36-hole lead	6	Johnny Miller	1975
Largest 54-hole lead	7	Johnny Miller	1975
Largest margin of victory	14	Johnny Miller	1975
Playoffs	18	Most recent: Scottie Scheffler def. Patrick Cantlay	2022
Wire-to-wire winners	4	Most recent: Phil Mickelson	2013