



2022 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP

(4th of 47 events in the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Season)

Chiba, Japan
Accordia Golf Narashino CC

October 10-16, 2022
Par/Yards: 34-36—70/7,079

FedExCup Points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$11,000,000/\$1,980,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, October 13, 2022

Weather: Overcast, with rain throughout the day. High of 63. Wind NNE 8-13 mph, with gusts to 15 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Brendan Steele	64 (-6)
Adam Schenk	65 (-5)
Sam Ryder	66 (-4)
Matthew NeSmith	66 (-4)
Keegan Bradley	66 (-4)

Things to Know

- 2021 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP runner-up Brendan Steele holds seventh 18-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR
- Kazuki Higa (67) has the best score among 16 Japanese players in the field
- Ehime, Japan native and defending champion Hideki Matsuyama sits T41 after a 1-over 71
- The ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP was launched as Japan's first official PGA TOUR tournament in 2019 and is in the fourth edition of the event and third time being played in Japan

First-Round Lead Notes

- 1 First-round leader/co-leader to win the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP (Tiger Woods/2019)
- 0 First-round leader/co-leader to win in 2022-23

Brendan Steele (1st/-6)

Category	Entering the week
Age	39 (April 5, 1983)
FedExCup	-
OWGR	No. 119
Starts – wins – top-10s in PGA TOUR career	290-3-35
Starts – wins – top-10s on TOUR in 2022-23	2-0-0
Starts – wins – top-10s at ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP	2-0-1

- Playing in his ninth round at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP, posts 6-under 64, his lowest tournament score (previous: 66/2021/R1, R4)
- First-round 64 marks his best round in an individual stroke-play event on TOUR since the 2021 Sony Open in Hawaii (R3/finished T4)
- Records best opening round since the 2016 Valero Texas Open (64/finished T13)
- Seventh career 18-hole lead/co-lead on the PGA TOUR; 1-for-6 to date converting to victory (2017 Fortinet Championship)
- Posted a final round of 4-under 66 at the 2021 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP to finish runner-up, his best finish on TOUR in the 2021-22 season
- Making third event start, finished T70 when the tournament was moved to Sherwood Country Club in 2020
- Missed the cut in his first two starts of the 2022-23 season
- Seeks first victory since the 2017 Fortinet Championship, one of his three PGA TOUR titles (2011 Valero Texas Open, 2016 Fortinet Championship)

Adam Schenk (2nd/-5)

- A bogey-free 65 marks lowest tournament score (previous: 67/2019/R2, 67/2021/R1)

- Making his third start in the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP (T22/2019, T28/2021)
- Best finish in three starts this season: T12/Shriners Children's Open
- Best of nine top-10 finishes in 151 TOUR starts: T3/2021 Shriners Children's Open

Miscellaneous notes

- Playing on a sponsor exemption, five-time PGA TOUR winner **Rickie Fowler** (T6/-3) is making his 299th TOUR start and third at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP (T57/2020, T44/2021)
- 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games gold medalist **Xander Schauffele** (T6) opens with a 3-under 67 in his season debut; making fourth tournament start (T10/2019, T17/2020, T28/2021)
- Among the 16 Japanese players in the field, **Kazuki Higa** (T6) holds the best score with a first-round 3-under 67
- At T6, **Mito Pereira** leads a group of 10 members from the 2022 Presidents Cup International Team in the field: **Christiaan Bezuidenhout** (T11), **Tom Kim** (T29), **Cam Davis** (T29), **Si Woo Kim** (T41), **Sungjae Im** (T41), **Hideki Matsuyama** (T41), **K.H. Lee** (T41), **Sebastian Munoz** (T55), **Corey Connors** (T61)
- Ehime, Japan native and defending champion **Hideki Matsuyama** (T41) records a 1-over 71 his first over-par score at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP in 13 rounds; has won one tournament back-to-back on the PGA TOUR (WM Phoenix Open/2016-17)