

PRE-TOURNAMENT NOTES 2023 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

October 16-22 • Fourth of seven FedExCup Fall events Chiba, Japan Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club • Par 70 • 7,079 yds. **Purse** \$8.5 million • **Winner** \$1.53 million + 500 FedExCup pts. 78 players • 72-hole stroke play **Defending champion** Keegan Bradley

2022-23 PGA TOUR SEASON

FedExCup Fall

The RSM Classic
Butterfield Bermuda Championship
Warld Wide Technology Chempionship
World Wide Technology Championship
ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP
Shriners Children's Open Tom Kim (2)
Sanderson Farms Championship Luke List
Fortinet Championship Sahith Theegala
FedExCup Playoffs
TOUR Championship Viktor Hovland (3)
BMW Championship Viktor Hovland (2)
FedEx St. Jude Championship Lucas Glover (2)
FedExCup Regular Season
Wyndham Championship Lucas Glover
3M OpenLee Hodges
Barracuda Championship
The Open ChampionshipBrian Harman
Barbasol Championship
Genesis Scottish Open Rory McIlroy (2)
John Deere Classic Sepp Straka
Rocket Mortgage ClassicRickie Fowler
Travelers Championship Keegan Bradley (2)
U.S. Open Wyndham Clark (2)
RBC Canadian Open Nick Taylor
the Memorial TournamentViktor Hovland
Charles Schwab Challenge Emiliano Grillo
PGA Championship Brooks Koepka
AT&T Byron Nelson Jason Day
Wells Fargo ChampionshipWyndham Clark
Mexico Open at Vidanta Tony Finau (2)
Zurich Classic of New Orleans Davis Riley/Nick Hardy
RBC Heritage
Masters Tournament Jon Rahm (4)
Valero Texas OpenCorey Conners
Corales Puntacana ChampionshipMatt Wallace
WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play Sam Burns
Valspar Championship
THE PLAYERS Championship Scottie Scheffler (2)
Puerto Rico OpenNico Echavarria
Arnold Palmer Invitational
The Honda ClassicChris Kirk
The Genesis Invitational Jon Rahm (3)
WM Phoenix Open Scottie Scheffler
AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-AmJustin Rose
Farmers Insurance OpenMax Homa (2)
The American Express
Sony Open in Hawaii
Sentry Tournament of ChampionsJon Rahm
The RSM Classic
Cadence Bank Houston OpenTony Finau
World Wide Technology ChampionshipRussell Henley
Butterfield Bermuda Championship Seamus Power
THE CJ CUP in South CarolinaRory McIlroy
ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIPKeegan Bradley
Shriners Children's OpenTom Kim
Sanderson Farms Championship Mackenzie Hughes
Fortinet ChampionshipMax Homa
Italics First-time PGA TOUR winners

BROADCAST SCHEDULE (ET)

GOLF

- **R1** 11 p.m. Wednesday 3 a.m. Thursday
- R2 11 p.m. Thursday 3 a.m. Friday
- R3 11 p.m. Friday 3 a.m. Saturday
- R4 11 p.m. Saturday 3 a.m. Sunday

TOP STORYLINES

CONTACT

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FedExCup Fall: The 2023 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP is the fourth event of the FedExCup Fall, a group of seven tournaments played after the TOUR Championship that finalizes eligibility for the 2024 PGA TOUR Season. Nos. 1-50 in the FedExCup standings through the TOUR Championship are locked in their positions while Nos. 51 and beyond carry their FedExCup points over. Nos. 51-60 through the FedExCup Fall will qualify for two Signature Events in 2024: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and The Genesis Invitational. The Top 125 will be exempt into all Full-Field events and THE PLAYERS Championship next season and Nos. 126-150 will earn conditional status on TOUR next season.

Winners of events during the FedExCup Fall receive the same benefits of winners of Full-Field Events during the Regular Season, including 500 FedExCup points, Official World Golf Ranking points, a two-year PGA TOUR exemption (exempt thru 2025) and invitations to The Sentry, THE PLAYERS Championship, Masters Tournament and PGA Championship.

Nine players in the field qualified for the TOUR Championship: Xander Schauffele (No. 2), Collin Morikawa (No. 6), Keegan Bradley (No. 9), Adam Schenk (No. 9), Rickie Fowler (No. 16), Sungjae Im (No. 24), Nick Taylor (No. 25), Emiliano Grillo (No. 29) and Taylor Moore (No. 29).

Eight other players in the field qualified for the BMW Championship: Sahith Theegala (No. 31), Kurt Kitayama (No. 36), Adam Svensson (No. 37), Lee Hodges (No. 40), Eric Cole (No. 43), Tom Hoge (No. 46), Cam Davis (No. 48) and Hideki Matsuyama (No. 50).

The Next 10: Players in positions 51-60 in the FedExCup standings through the RSM Classic will be eligible for two Signature Events in 2024 (AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, The Genesis Invitational).

a	Players that moved in to the Next 10 since the 2023 TOUR Championship (all in field this week)PlayerRank entering FedExCup FallCurrent rankBen GriffinNo. 63No. 52Luke ListNo. 119No. 58Sam RyderNo. 61No. 60				
4	Player	Rank entering FedExCup Fall	Current rank		
	Ben Griffin	No. 63	No. 52		
/	Luke List	No. 119	No. 58		
k	Sam Ryder	No. 61	No. 60		

Seven of the 10 players currently ranked Nos. 51-60 are in the field: Beau Hossler (No. 51), Ben Griffin (No. 52), Nick Hardy (No. 54), Mackenzie Hughes (No. 55), Taylor Montgomery (No. 56), Thomas Detry (No. 59) and Sam Ryder (No. 60).

Five players in the field have competed in all four prior editions of the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP.

2019	2020	2021	2022
T59	T66	T18	78th
T37	T35	T57	T16
2nd	T28	Won	T40
T22	T50	T7	T45
T10	T17	T28	T9
	T59 T37 2nd T22	T59 T66 T37 T35 2nd T28 T22 T50	T59 T66 T18 T37 T35 T57 2nd T28 Won T22 T50 T7

Defending champion: 2022 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP winner Keegan Bradley is making his first start since the TOUR Championship, where he finished T9. Bradley, who also won the Travelers Championship this season, is the only player that has finished in the top 10 the last two years at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP (T7/2021, Won/2022). With a win, he would become the fifth player to successfully defend a title this season and second in as many weeks (Tom Kim/ Shriners Children's Open). Only Jon Rahm (4) and Viktor Hovland (3) have more wins than Bradley this season.

Japan's own: Ehime, Japan native Hideki Matsuyama has a win (2021) and a runner-up (2019) in four starts at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP. With eight PGA TOUR wins, Matsuyama has the most wins among players from Japan, and became first male player from Japan to win a major when he won the 2021 Masters Tournament.

WINNERS

ADDITIONAL STORYLINES 2022 Keegan Bradley Matsuyama has 11 top-25s in 25 starts this season but only two top-10s, with his most recent top-10 coming at 2021.....Hideki Matsuvama THE PLAYERS Championship in March (5th). In his most recent start, Matsuyama withdrew prior to the start of the 2020 Patrick Cantlay second round of the BMW Championship, snapping a streak of nine consecutive years qualifying for the TOUR 2019.....Tiger Woods Championship, which was the longest active streak on TOUR. He finished 50th in the FedExCup standings and is eligible for all eight Signature Events in 2024. **bold** in field Schauffele returns: At No. 6 in the Official World Golf Ranking, Xander Schauffele is the highest-ranked player in the field. Schauffele is one of five players in the field that has competed at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP in each year since its inception. He is making his first start since finishing second at the TOUR Championship. Las Vegas to Japan: 46 of the 78 players in the field competed at last week's Shriners Children's Open, including six that finished in the top 10: Eric Cole (T3), Alex Noren (T3), Joel Dahmen (T7), Cam Davis (T7), Beau Hossler (T7) and K.H. Lee (T7). Two players coming off a win: Sahith Theegala is making his first start since earning his first PGA TOUR title at the Fortinet Championship. Theegala, who finished No. 31 in the FedExCup standings, finished T5 at the 2022 ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP in his tournament debut. Players to win in back-to-back starts in 2023 Player Win 1 Win 2 Viktor Hovland **BMW Championship TOUR Championship** Lucas Glover Wyndham Championship FedEx St. Jude Championship Jon Rahm The Sentry The American Express PGA TOUR Special Temporary Member Min Woo Lee is competing on a sponsor exemption and is making his first start on TOUR since The Open Championship. Lee won last week's SJM Macao Open on the Asian Tour, his first worldwide title since the 2021 Genesis Scottish Open. Lee is currently No. 3 in the DP World Tour's Race to Dubai Rankings among players not otherwise exempt on the PGA TOUR next season and is likely to be eligible to join the TOUR as a full-time member in 2024. If he earns TOUR membership for 2024 via non-member points (as many or more as No. 125 in the FedExCup Fall), the TOUR card from the DP World Tour goes to the next eligible player in the Race to Dubai Rankings. Rookie of the Year race: Eric Cole, the only PGA TOUR rookie that qualified for the 2023 BMW Championship, is making his fourth consecutive start in the FedExCup Fall. He is the only player that qualified for the BMW Championship to play in each of the four events of the FedExCup Fall so far, and has collected top-10s at the Fortinet Championship (4th) and Shriners Children's Open (T3). The Jack Nicklaus Award (PGA TOUR Player of the Year) and Arnold Palmer Award (PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year) will be voted on after the FedExCup Fall. 2022 LEADERBOARD STRENGTH OF FIELD STATISTICS Pos. Player R1 R2 R3 R4 Total Top 10 FedExCup.......4Xander Schauffele (2) Keegan Bradley 66 65 66 68 265 (-15) 1 T2 Rickie Fowler Top 10 OWGR......1.....Xander Schauffele (6) 67 63 66 70 266 (-14) Top 50 OWGR 15..... T2 Andrew Putnam 68 62 68 68 266 (-14) Emiliano Grillo 70 68 267 (-13) 4 65 64 PGA TOUR winners 33Adam Scott (14) Hayden Buckley 268 (-12) T5 68 68 64 68 Past champions 2 Defending: Keegan Bradley T5 Viktor Hovland 69 66 64 69 268 (-12) FedExCup Champions...0 T5 Sahith Theegala 71 67 63 67 268 (-12) PLAYERS winners 2 Most recent: Rickie Fowler (2015) 69 67 64 69 269 (-11) 8 Cameron Champ TOURNAMENT RECORDS Category Value Player Year Low 18-hole score 61 2 players; most recent: John Huh 2022 (R2) Tiger Woods Low 36-hole score 128 2019 Low 54-hole score 194 **Tiger Woods** 2019 Low 72-hole score 261 **Tiger Woods** 2019 Holes-in-one None 3 players; most recent: Brendan Steele Largest 18-hole lead 1 2022 Largest 36-hole lead 2 **Tiger Woods** 2019 Largest 54-hole lead 3 Tiger Woods 2019 Biggest come-from-behind win 3 Patrick Cantlay 2020 Largest margin of victory Hideki Matsuyama 5 2021 Playoffs None

None **@PGATOURCOMMS**

Wire-to-wire winners