



2024 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
(Week 10 of the FedExCup Regular Season)

Orlando, Florida
 Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge

March 7-10, 2024
 Par/Yards: 36-36 – 72/7,466

FedExCup points: 700 (winner)
 Purse: \$20 million/\$4 million

First-Round Notes – Thursday, March 7, 2024

Weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 82. Wind variable 5-10 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1
1	Shane Lowry	66 (-6)
T2	Justin Lower	67 (-5)
T2	Hideki Matsuyama	67 (-5)
T4	Russell Henley	68 (-4)
T4	Lee Hodges	68 (-4)
T4	Sam Burns	68 (-4)
T4	Sahith Theegala	68 (-4)

Shane Lowry (1st/-6)

- Third career 18-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR; 0-for-2 to date (T6/2016 WM Phoenix Open, T3/2019 RBC Heritage)
- Played Nos. 10-12 in birdie-birdie-eagle, becoming the first player on record (1983-present) to card three consecutive 3s at Nos. 10-12 at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard (added a birdie at No. 13)
- Competing on a sponsor exemption; Nick Dunlap won on a sponsor exemption at The American Express in January, becoming the first to do so since Martin Laird at the 2020 Shriners Children's Open
- Held a share of the lead entering the final round of last week's Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches before finishing T4; has two top-10s on TOUR since the start of the 2022-23 season, with both coming at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches (T5/2023, T4/2024)
- Sixth start at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard and first sub-70 score in 13 rounds; made the cut for the first time in 2023 (67th)

Miscellaneous Notes

- **Justin Lower** (T2/-5) qualified for the event via the Aon Swing 5 (T4 in the standings); finished T3 at the Mexico Open at Vidanta, his career-high result on the PGA TOUR (MC/Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches)
- **Hideki Matsuyama** (T2/-5) is making his first start since winning the 2024 Genesis Invitational, the most recent Signature Event; last player to win in consecutive starts on TOUR: Viktor Hovland during the 2023 FedExCup Playoffs (2023 BMW Championship, 2023 TOUR Championship)
- **Sam Burns** (T4/-4) entered the week with four consecutive top-10s (T6/The American Express, 10th/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T3/WM Phoenix Open, T10/The Genesis Invitational)
- Competing as an amateur, Palmer Cup exemption recipient and University of North Carolina junior **David Ford** cards a 1-under 71 in his third career PGA TOUR start
- 2018 champion and 2023 runner-up **Rory McIlroy** stands T49 after a first-round 73; McIlroy has six top-10s in nine prior starts at the event and has finished worse than T13 just once (T27/2016)
- This is the first time no player recorded a score of 65 or better in the first round of a TOUR event since the 2023 Open Championship (three 66s) and the first time in a non-major since the 2023 RBC Canadian Open (four 67s, including Justin Lower; no 66s)
- 36-hole cut rule: low 50 players and ties and any additional players within 10 strokes of the 36-hole lead