



2024 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
(9th of 36 FedExCup Regular Season events)

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
PGA National Resort (The Champion)

February 29 – March 3, 2024
Par/Yards: 35-36 – 71/7,147

FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$9,000,000/\$1,620,000

Completed First-Round Notes – Friday, March 1, 2024

Thursday weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 80. Wind from the E at 8-15 mph.

Friday morning weather: Partly cloudy with temperatures in the mid-70s. Wind from the SE at 10-20 mph.

Resumption: The first round resumed for six players at 8:14 a.m. Friday. The second round began as scheduled at 6:45 a.m.

Completed First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1
T1	Chad Ramey	64 (-7)
T1	S.H. Kim	64 (-7)
T3	Andrew Novak	65 (-6)
T3	Ryan Moore	65 (-6)
T3	Austin Eckroat	65 (-6)
T3	Cameron Young	65 (-6)
T3	Chesson Hadley	65 (-6)
T3	David Skinnis	65 (-6)

Chad Ramey (T1/-7)

- Marks Ramey’s third lead/co-lead after the first round; was solo leader at THE PLAYERS Championship in 2023 after an 8-under 64 (T27), and shared first-round lead at the 2021 Butterfield Bermuda Championship after a 6-under 65 (T17)
- Marks the third time Ramey has opened with a 64 or better; career-low first round was 8-under 63 at the 2021 Shriners Children’s Open (T14)
- Missed the cut in two previous starts at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches (2022, 2023)
- Had a 73.50 scoring average with 12 birdies and 19 bogeys or worse in four tournament rounds prior to Thursday; made seven birdies and zero bogeys on Thursday
- Posted 11th career bogey-free round in a stroke play event, first since the second round of the 2024 American Express
- This season, two best rounds SG: Tee to Green were Thursday’s first round (2.660) and the final round of last week’s Mexico Open at Vidanta (2.379)

S.H. Kim (T1/-7)

- Carded five birdies and an eagle en route to a 7-under 64 and the first 18-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR (previous best: 2nd/2023 Fortinet Championship)
- Marks second lead/co-lead after any round on the PGA TOUR; shared 36-hole lead at the 2023 Fortinet Championship and went on to finish runner-up, the best result of his 44 career starts entering this week
- Tied for his lowest round of season (R2/2024 Sony Open in Hawaii) and one stroke shy of his PGA TOUR career-low round of 63 (R2/2021 THE CJ CUP @ SUMMIT)
- Most recent professional victory: 2021 Japan PGA Championship

Miscellaneous Notes

- First-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win one of eight tournaments this season (Nick Taylor/WM Phoenix Open)
- Since the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches moved to PGA National in 2007, one first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win (Matt Jones/2011)
- **Andrew Novak** (T3/-6) opened with a 65, his third straight opening round of 66 or better; in his last two starts, finished T8/WM Phoenix Open and T8/Mexico Open at Vidanta

- **Ryan Moore** (T3/-6) holed out from 113 yards for eagle on the par-4 13th, his fourth hole of the day, en route to a 65; had not carded a score in the 60s in 20 rounds at this event (72.90 average) prior to Thursday
- **Austin Eckroat** (T3/-6) carded five straight birdies (Nos. 17-18, 1-3) en route to a 6-under 65; has carded a first-round score in the 60s in five of six starts this season
- **Cameron Young** (T3/-6) made four putts of at least 13 feet and made 124' 9" worth of putts, his highest total this season
- Making ninth start at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, **Chesson Hadley** (T3/-6) carded his best score in his 25th round at this event; previous best was 66 (twice; most recent: R2/2023 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches)
- **David Skinns** (T3/-6) opened with a 65, his best first-round score since a 65 at the 2022 Barbasol Championship; seeking first made cut in his fifth start this season after finishing 12th on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List to earn his PGA TOUR card for 2024
- Defending champion **Chris Kirk** carded a 4-under 67 (T16); in his four previous starts as a defending champion, Kirk's best finish was T4 at the 2015 RSM Classic. Jack Nicklaus is the only player to successfully defend his title at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches (1977, 1978).
- Coming off his victory at the Mexico Open at Vidanta, **Jake Knapp** opened with a 3-under 68 and is T30
- Playing as a 530-yard par 5, the 10th hole scoring average on Thursday was 4.132. Last year, the 10th hole was a 508-yard par 4 and played to an average of 4.257 in the first round. In 2023, the cumulative scoring average of No. 10 was 4.164.

Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5

- The winner of the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches will earn a spot in all five remaining Signature Events (if a non-member, must accept membership after the win), while other TOUR members are fighting for spots in the Aon Next 10 and the Aon Swing 5 to earn a place in the field at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard.

Aon Next 10 standings – through Thursday

Player	Thru R1	Projected FedExCup Points
Matthieu Pavon	T16	989.099
Jake Knapp	T30	688.905
Ludvig Åberg	-	602.667
S.H. Kim	T1	582.622
Luke List	T71	530.75
Chad Ramey	T1	523.25
Grayson Murray	-	506.375
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	T71	476.455
Will Zalatoris	-	448.143
Justin Thomas	-	443.167

Aon Swing 5 standings (and ties) – through Thursday

Player	Thru R1	Projected FedExCup Points
Sami Valimaki	T141	300
C.T. Pan	T9	211
Andrew Novak	T3	193.333
Chesson Hadley	T3	149.333
Stephan Jaeger	T71	145
Justin Lower	T128	145