



2024 Mexico Open at Vidanta
(8th of 36 FedExCup Regular Season events)

Vallarta, Mexico
 Vidanta Vallarta Resort

February 22-25, 2024
 Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,456

FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
 Purse: \$8,100,000/\$1,458,000

First-Round Notes – Thursday, February 22, 2024

Weather: Sunny. High of 85. Wind SSW 10-15 mph.

First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1
1	Erik van Rooyen	63 (-8)
2	Sami Valimaki	64 (-7)
T3	David Lipsky	65 (-6)
T3	Henrik Norlander	65 (-6)
T3	Cristobal Del Solar	65 (-6)
T3	MJ Daffue	65 (-6)

Erik van Rooyen (1st/-8)

- After celebrating his 34th birthday a day earlier, South African native mixes two eagles, five birdies and one bogey en route to a season-low 8-under 63, one stroke shy of his career-low 62 (three times/most recent: R4/2023 American Express)
- Aside from victories, this marks his first time with the lead/co-lead after any round on TOUR in individual stroke play events
- Seeks his third win on TOUR and second in Mexico after winning the 2023 World Wide Technology Championship in Los Cabos; first title was the 2021 Barracuda Championship
- Now has 17 of 18 rounds under par this season (72/R1/WM Phoenix Open)
- With eagles at Nos. 6 and 12, marks the first time with multiple eagles in any individual stroke play event on TOUR
- Makes second appearance at Vidanta; finished T33 in 2023 after opening with a 64 to sit T2 after round one

Miscellaneous Notes

- Beginning at No. 10, Finland native **Sami Valimaki** (2nd/-7) notches six birdies in his first 10 holes, plus an eagle 2 at the par-4 7th hole en route to 7-under 64, matching his career low on TOUR, a 64 in his most recent round (64/R4/2024 WM Phoenix Open); PGA TOUR rookie makes 11th start on TOUR; T24 at 2022 Genesis Scottish Open marks his lone top-25 in 10 prior starts
- **David Lipsky** (T3/-6) posts his first round in the 60s this season (10 rounds) and best score at Vidanta since final-round 64 in 2022 en route to T6; makes nine birdies, tying his career most in a single round (R2/2021 Fortinet Championship) on TOUR, including birdies on four of the five par-3 holes
- **Henrik Norlander** (T3/-6) began with a bogey at No. 1 and made the turn at 1-under before closing with a birdie-birdie-birdie-par-eagle finish in his first start this season and 163rd on TOUR while seeking his first TOUR win
- **Cristobal Del Solar** (T3/-6) makes second PGA TOUR start after earning a sponsor exemption to this event in 2023 (MC/68-74); made history posting the lowest 18-hole score in any PGA TOUR sanctioned event when he shot a first-round 57 (-13) at the 2024 Astara Golf Championship on the Korn Ferry Tour, eventually finishing fifth
- South Africa native **MJ Daffue** (T3/-6) makes 50th TOUR start and second appearance at the Mexico Open at Vidanta (MC/2023) after learning Sunday night that he was the recipient of a sponsor exemption when Will Zalatoris withdrew
- **Cameron Champ** and **Patrick Rodgers** are among a group of eight players at 5-under and T7; both are among four players in the field that finished inside the top 10 at the 2022 and 2023 Mexico Open at Vidanta: Champ (T6/T8), Rodgers (10th/T10), Tony Finau (T2/Won), Brandon Wu (T2/3rd)
- **Robby Shelton** (T15/-4) records the longest birdie streak of the season with seven in a row (Nos. 6-12); since the start of the 2022-23 season, there have been six birdie streaks of seven or more on the PGA TOUR, and Shelton is the only player on TOUR with two birdie streaks of 7+ in that span (other: 7/R3/2023 American Express)
- **Alvaro Ortiz** joins Latin America Amateur Championship winner **Santiago De la Fuente** at 4-under and T15 as the best of eight Mexican players in the field
- Defending champion **Tony Finau** (T29/-2) began on No. 10 and closed the round with birdie-double bogey-birdie
- University of San Francisco sophomore **Renato Naula** (T120/+4) becomes the first player from Ecuador to play on TOUR

- **Peter Malnati** (back) and **Philip Knowles** (eye) both withdrew before the first round and were replaced in the field by **Zecheng Dou** (T29/-2) and **Austin Smotherman** (T65/E), respectively

Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5

- The winner of the Mexico Open at Vidanta 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

Player	Thru R1	Projected FedExCup Points
Matthieu Pavon	-	948.563
Erik van Rooyen	1	708.56
Ludvig Aberg	-	602.667
Luke List	-	530.75
Grayson Murray	-	506.375
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	-	476.455
Will Zalatoris	-	448.143
Justin Thomas	-	443.167
Mark Hubbard	T29	391.803
Nicolai Hojgaard	T22	385.714

Aon Swing 5 standings (and ties)

Player	Thru R1	Projected FedExCup Points
Sami Valimaki	2	300
MJ Daffue	T3	133.75
David Lipsky	T3	133.75
Henrik Norlander	T3	133.75
Joseph Bramlett	T7	72.5
Cameron Champ	T7	72.5
Lanto Griffin	T7	72.5
Chan Kim	T7	72.5
Andrew Novak	T7	72.5
Thorbjorn Olesen	T7	72.5
Matt Wallace	T7	72.5