



**2024 Rocket Mortgage Classic**  
*(29<sup>th</sup> of 36 events in the FedExCup Regular Season)*

**Detroit, Michigan**  
**Detroit Golf Club**

**June 27-30, 2024**  
**Par/Yards: 36-36-72/7,370**

**FedExCup points: 500 (winner)**  
**Purse: \$9.2 million (\$1,656,000/winner)**

**Second-Round Notes – Friday, June 28, 2024**

**Weather:** Mostly cloudy, with light rain in the afternoon. High of 78. Wind S 6-12 mph.

**Third-round tee times:** Due to expected inclement weather, third-round tee times will be approximately 11 a.m.-1 p.m. off Nos. 1 and 10 in threesomes.

**36-hole cut:** 73 professionals and two amateurs at 4-under 140 from a field of 152 professionals and four amateurs.

**Second-Round Leaderboard**

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	Total
T1	Akshay Bhatia	64	67	131 (-13)
T1	Aaron Rai	66	65	131 (-13)
T3	Taylor Montgomery	65	68	133 (-11)
T3	Troy Merritt	69	64	133 (-11)
T3	Erik van Rooyen	69	64	133 (-11)
T3	Cameron Young	67	66	133 (-11)

**Akshay Bhatia (T1/-13)**

- Second career 36-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR and first since the 2024 Valero Texas Open, which he went on to win (led outright after each of the first three rounds and won in a playoff)
- One of six players with multiple 36-hole leads/co-leads on TOUR this season (most: 5, Scottie Scheffler)
- Win at the Valero Texas Open was his second career PGA TOUR title (first: 2023 Barracuda Championship)
- One of two players in the field bogey-free through 36 holes (other: Aaron Rai)
- 18-for-18 greens in regulation on the back nine through two rounds (15-of-18 on the front nine)
- Comes off a T16 and T5 in his two most recent starts before this week at the U.S. Open and Travelers Championship, respectively; played in the final group in the final round at last week's Travelers Championship
- Making his second start at the Rocket Mortgage Classic; missed the cut in his tournament debut in 2023

**Aaron Rai (T1/-13)**

- First career 36-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR in an individual stroke-play event; previous best 36-hole position: T2/2023 RBC Canadian Open (finished career-best T3)
- Held a share of the 36-hole lead with partner David Lipsky at the 2024 Zurich Classic of New Orleans before finishing T23
- Birdied his last two holes of the day, Nos. 17 and 18, to sign for a bogey-free 7-under 65 and join Akshay Bhatia as the only players bogey-free through 36 holes
- In only previous Rocket Mortgage Classic start, finished T9 in 2023 at 18-under 270
- Remains in search of his first career win on TOUR in his 85<sup>th</sup> start; best finish: T3/2023 RBC Canadian Open
- Seeks a third top-10 finish this season: T4/THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson, T7/Texas Children's Houston Open

**Additional Player Notes**

- **Taylor Montgomery** (T3/-11) entered the week with three missed cuts and two WDs in his last five starts; remains in search of his first career win on TOUR in his 50<sup>th</sup> start this week
- Making his sixth start in the Rocket Mortgage Classic, **Troy Merritt** (T3/-11) records 8-under 64, his lowest score in 20 career rounds at the event; two previous top-10s in the event, including a runner-up in 2021 (lost in a playoff to Cam Davis)
- With birdies on all four par-5 holes in round two, **Cameron Young** (T3/-11) improves on a 5-under 67 in round one with a 66 in round two; finished T2 in his only previous start in the event (2022)
- Making his first professional start on TOUR (competing on a sponsor exemption), **Neal Shipley** (T10/-9) followed a 5-under 67 with a 68 in Friday's second round; also received a sponsor exemption compete in next week's John Deere Classic

- En route to an 8-under 64, **Joe Highsmith** (T10/-9) aced the par-3 fifth hole, marking the second hole-in-one of the week (Nate Lashley/R1/No. 11); it also marks Highsmith's TOUR-best second hole-in-one of the season (The American Express/R2/No. 13)
- In his bid to become the first player to successfully defend the tournament's title, **Rickie Fowler** (T38/-6) opens his sixth Rocket Mortgage Classic in 66-72 to reach 6-under 138; win in 2023 was his sixth TOUR title and first since the 2019 WM Phoenix Open
- In his PGA TOUR debut, 15-year-old amateur **Miles Russell** (E) misses the cut after scores of 2-over 74 (R1) and 2-under 70 (R2); was 4-under par on his round through 11 holes before making bogeys at Nos. 12 and 16
- **David Lipsky** (back) and **Alejandro Tosti** (wrist) withdrew during round two