



PRE-TOURNAMENT NOTES

2024 TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOUSTON OPEN



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

March 25-31 • 14th event of the FedExCup Regular Season
Houston, Texas
Memorial Park Golf Course • Par 70 • 7,435 yards
Purse \$9.1 million • **Winner** \$1,638,000 + 500 FedExCup pts.
144 players • 72-hole stroke-play
Defending champion Tony Finau

BROADCAST SCHEDULE (ET)

	ESPN+	GOLF	NBC
R1	8:15 a.m.-7 p.m.	4-7 p.m.	
R2	8:15 a.m.-7 p.m.	4-7 p.m.	
R3	11 a.m.-6 p.m.	1-3:30 p.m.	3:30-6 p.m.
R4	11 a.m.-6 p.m.	1-2:30 p.m.	2:30-6 p.m.

CONTACT

PGA TOUR Communications
John Bush
Email
johnbush@pgatourhq.com
Phone
904-923-7419

2024 PGA TOUR SEASON

FedExCup Playoffs

TOUR Championship.....
BMW Championship.....
FedEx St. Jude Championship.....

FedExCup Regular Season

Wyndham Championship.....
Olympic Men's Golf Competition.....
3M Open.....
Barracuda Championship.....
The Open Championship.....
Genesis Scottish Open.....
John Deere Classic.....
Rocket Mortgage Classic.....
Travelers Championship.....
U.S. Open.....
the Memorial Tournament.....
RBC Canadian Open.....
Charles Schwab Challenge.....
PGA Championship.....
Myrtle Beach Classic.....
Wells Fargo Championship.....
THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson.....
Zurich Classic of New Orleans.....
Corales Puntacana Championship.....
RBC Heritage.....
Masters Tournament.....
Valero Texas Open.....
Texas Children's Houston Open.....
Valspar Championship..... Peter Malnati
THE PLAYERS Championship..... Scottie Scheffler (2)
Puerto Rico Open..... Brice Garnett
Arnold Palmer Invitational..... Scottie Scheffler
Cognizant Classic..... *Austin Eckroat*
Mexico Open at Vidanta..... *Jake Knapp*
The Genesis Invitational..... Hideki Matsuyama
WM Phoenix Open..... Nick Taylor
AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am..... Wyndham Clark
Farmers Insurance Open..... *Matthieu Pavon*
The American Express..... *Nick Dunlap*
Sony Open in Hawaii..... Grayson Murray
The Sentry..... Chris Kirk

Italics First-time PGA TOUR winners

TOP STORYLINES

The Texas Children's Houston Open returns to a spring date after being played in the fall portion of the season in each of the last four PGA TOUR seasons. The tournament moved to Memorial Park Golf Course in 2020, with 2024 marking the fourth consecutive playing at Memorial Park.

FedExCup leader and World No. 1 **Scottie Scheffler** has won each of his last two starts (Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, THE PLAYERS Championship), accomplishing the feat for the second time in his career (previous instance: 2022 WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play, 2022 Masters Tournament). The last player to win three consecutive starts on TOUR was Dustin Johnson in 2017 (The Genesis Invitational, WGC-Mexico Championship, WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play). After winning two starts in a row in 2022, Scheffler finished T17 at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans with partner Ryan Palmer in his attempt to win a third in a row.

Last three players to win three consecutive starts on the PGA TOUR

Player	Year	Wins
Dustin Johnson	2017	The Genesis Invitational, WGC-Mexico Championship, WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play
Rory McIlroy	2014	The Open Championship, WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, PGA Championship
Tiger Woods	2008	Farmers Insurance Open, WGC-Accenture Match Play, Arnold Palmer Invitational pres. by Mastercard

Scheffler is making his fifth start at the Texas Children's Open and has finished in the top 10 in each of the last two years (T2/2021, T9/2022), along with Joel Dahmen. Scheffler held a one-stroke lead after the third round in 2021 before carding a final-round 69 to finish runner-up.

Wyndham Clark has finished runner-up to Scottie Scheffler in each of his last two starts, recording a solo-second at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard and a T2 at THE PLAYERS Championship, becoming the first player to finish runner-up in consecutive weeks on TOUR since Lee Westwood at the same two tournaments in 2021. Clark entered the 2022 Texas Children's Houston Open at No. 189 in the Official World Golf Ranking and currently stands No. 4, having won three times on TOUR since the last time the event was played (2023 Wells Fargo Championship, 2023 U.S. Open, 2024 AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am).

Tony Finau won the 2022 Texas Children's Houston Open by four strokes over Tyson Alexander and is defending his title after the tournament was not played in 2023. Finau has one top-10 in eight prior starts this season (T6/Farmers Insurance Open) and is coming off a missed cut at last week's Valspar Championship (missed the cut at the 2022 World Wide Technology Championship the week before his win in Houston). Finau enters the week No. 30 in the Official World Golf Ranking, his lowest position since August 19, 2018 (No. 30).

Spring, Texas resident **Sahith Theegala** is making his third start at the Texas Children's Houston Open and most recently finished T22 in 2022. Theegala has finished in the top 10 in each of his last two starts (T6/Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, T9/THE PLAYERS Championship) for the first time since the Masters Tournament (9th) and RBC Heritage (T5) in 2023. He has four top-10s on the season, tied with Sam Burns for the third-most on TOUR this season, and enters the week No. 5 in the FedExCup standings.

Most top-10s on TOUR in 2024

6	Scottie Scheffler
6	Xander Schauffele
4	Sam Burns
4	Sahith Theegala

Peter Malnati won last week's Valspar Championship, earning his second career PGA TOUR title and first since the 2015 Sanderson Farms Championship. With the win, Malnati moved to No. 6 in the Aon Next 10 standings and secured a spot in the four remaining Signature Events in 2024. Malnati held the 36-hole lead at the 2019 Texas Children's Houston Open and went on to finish T17.

WINNERS

Year	Player
2022	Tony Finau
2021	Jason Kokrak
2020	Carlos Ortiz
2019	Lanto Griffin
2018	Ian Poulter
2017	Russell Henley
2016	Jim Herman
2015	J.B. Holmes
2014	Matt Jones
2013	D.A. Points
2012	Hunter Mahan
2011	Phil Mickelson
2010	Anthony Kim
2009	Paul Casey
2008	Johnson Wagner
2007	Adam Scott
2006	Stuart Appleby
2005	Vijay Singh
2004	Vijay Singh
2003	Fred Couples
2002	Vijay Singh
2001	Hal Sutton
2000	Robert Allenby
1999	Stuart Appleby
1998	David Duval
1997	Phil Blackmar
1996	Mark Brooks
1995	Payne Stewart
1994	Mike Heinen
1993	Jim McGovern
1992	Fred Funk
1991	Fulton Allem
1990	Tony Sills
1989	Mike Sullivan
1988	Curtis Strange
1987	Jay Haas
1986	Curtis Strange
1985	Raymond Floyd
1984	Corey Pavin
1983	David Graham
1982	Ed Sneed
1981	Ron Streck
1980	Curtis Strange
1979	Wayne Levi
1978	Gary Player
1977	Gene Littler
1976	Lee Elder
1975	Bruce Crampton
1974	Dave Hill
1973	Bruce Crampton
1972	Bruce Devlin
1971	Hubert Green
1970	Gibby Gilbert
1968	Roberto De Vincenzo
1967	Frank Beard
1966	Arnold Palmer
1965	Bobby Nichols
1964	Mike Souchak
1963	Bob Charles
1962	Bobby Nichols
1961	Jay Hebert
1960	Bill Collins

bold in field

ADDITIONAL STORYLINES

2021 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year and World No. 29 **Will Zalatoris** is making his tournament debut. Zalatoris has two top-fives in his last three starts (T4/The Genesis Invitational, T4/Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard) and enters the week No. 4 in the Aon Next 10.

With his T3 at the Valspar Championship, PGA TOUR rookie **Chandler Phillips** recorded his first top-10 on TOUR and moved to No. 3 in the Aon Swing 5 standings. Phillips, a native of Huntsville, Texas, and 2019 graduate of Texas A&M University, is making his second start at the Texas Children's Houston Open and first since 2019, when he finished T70 in his second career PGA TOUR start.

Carl Yuan finished T5 at the Valspar Championship to move to No. 4 in the Aon Swing 5 standings. Yuan now has three top-fives in his last 10 starts after not recording any in his first 32 starts on TOUR. He finished T35 in his tournament debut at the Texas Children's Houston Open in 2022. Yuan is competing this season out of the top 125 category, moving from No. 126 to No. 125 in the 2022-23 FedExCup Fall and Eligibility Points List as a result of changes to tournament eligibility announced on December 12, 2023.

The top 50 players in the Official World Golf Ranking through the Texas Children's Houston Open will qualify for the Masters Tournament if not already exempt. The highest-ranked players in the field that are not yet exempt are No. 57 **Tom Hoge**, No. 63 **Mackenzie Hughes** and No. 66 **Alex Noren**, who all qualified for the 2023 Masters. Hughes is coming off a T3 at the Valspar Championship and has finished T29 or better in all three years since the event moved to Memorial Park in 2020 (T7/2020, T29/2021, T16/2022). The winners of the next two PGA TOUR events will also qualify for the Masters if not yet exempt (next week: Valero Texas Open).

Padraig Harrington is competing on a sponsor exemption. Harrington, who won his seventh PGA TOUR Champions title at last week's Hoag Classic, is making his 13th start at the Texas Children's Houston Open and first since 2020 (T32). At 52, Harrington is the oldest player in the field (youngest: Nick Dunlap, 20).

The Woodlands native and resident **Bronson Burgoon**, competing this season on a Major Medical Extension, made his PGA TOUR debut at the 2006 Texas Children's Houston Open as an 18-year-old amateur (MC).

Erik Barnes, who enters the week No. 2 in the Aon Swing 5 standings, made his PGA TOUR debut as an Open Qualifier at the 2020 Texas Children's Houston Open (T38).

The next Signature Event on the schedule is the RBC Heritage. The cutoff for the Aon Next 10 is through the Masters Tournament while the events for the Aon Swing 5 are the Puerto Rico Open, Valspar Championship, Texas Children's Houston Open and Valero Texas Open.

2022 LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Tony Finau	65	62	68	69	264 (-16)
2	Tyson Alexander	66	66	70	66	268 (-12)
3	Ben Taylor	66	68	65	70	269 (-11)
T4	Trey Mullinax	67	66	72	67	272 (-8)
T4	Alex Noren	65	66	73	68	272 (-8)
T4	Alex Smalley	71	64	70	67	272 (-8)
T7	Adam Hadwin	70	65	70	68	273 (-7)
T7	Aaron Rai	70	64	70	69	273 (-7)

STRENGTH OF FIELD STATISTICS

Top 10 FedExCup 3	Scottie Scheffler (1)
Top 30 FedExCup 9	
Top 10 OWGR 2	Scottie Scheffler (1)
Top 50 OWGR 10	
PGA TOUR winners 59	Most: Jason Day (13)
Past champions 3	Defending: Tony Finau (2022)
FedExCup Champions 2	Most recent: Billy Horschel (2014)
PLAYERS winners 3	Most recent: Scottie Scheffler (2024)
Major winners 7	Most: Padraig Harrington (3)

TOURNAMENT RECORDS

Category	Value	Player	Year
Low 18-hole score	62	4 players; most recent: Tony Finau	2022 (R2)
Low 36-hole score	127	Tony Finau	2022
Low 54-hole score	195	2 players; most recent: Tony Finau	2022
Low 72-hole score	264	Tony Finau	2022
Holes-in-one (1983-present)	27	Most recent: Ryan Armour	2022 (R3)
Largest 18-hole lead	2	6 players; most recent: Brandt Snedeker	2020
Largest 36-hole lead	6	Sung Kang	2017
Largest 54-hole lead	6	Curtis Strange	1980
Biggest come-from-behind win	7	3 players; most recent: Payne Stewart	1995
Largest margin of victory	6	3 players; most recent: Stuart Appleby	2006
Playoffs	24	Most recent: Ian Poulter def. Beau Hossler	2018
Wire-to-wire winners	1	Stuart Appleby	2006