

2024 Valero Texas Open (15<sup>th</sup> of 36 events in the FedExCup Regular Season)



San Antonio, Texas April 4-7, 2024 TPC San Antonio (The Oaks Course)

Par/Yards: 36-36-72/7,438

FedExCup Points: 500 (winner) Purse: \$9,200,000 (\$1,656,000 winner)

# Third-Round Notes – Saturday, April 6, 2024

Weather: Mostly cloudy with intermittent light rain showers. High of 81. Wind SSE 8-14 mph, with gusts to 20 mph.

### Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	Total	
1	Akshay Bhatia	63	70	68	201 (-15)	
2	Denny McCarthy	68	70	67	205 (-11)	
3	Brendon Todd	66	72	70	208 (-8)	
T4	Hideki Matsuyama	73	70	66	209 (-7)	
T4	Russell Henley	69	69	71	209 (-7)	
6	Ludvig Åberg	72	71	67	210 (-6)	

# Akshay Bhatia (1<sup>st</sup>/-15)

- Following a third-round 4-under 68, holds the 54-hole lead by four strokes over Denny McCarthy
- Would become the first wire-to-wire winner on the PGA TOUR since Lee Hodges at the 2023 3M Open •
- Wire-to-wire winners at the Valero Texas Open: Mike Souchak (1955), Bob Estes (1994)
- Equals the largest 54-hole lead on the PGA TOUR this season (Jake Knapp, Mexico Open at Vidanta)
- Largest 54-hole lead at the Valero Texas Open since Jimmy Walker led by four over Jordan Spieth en route to winning in 2015; two shy of the largest 54-hole lead at the Valero Texas Open: 6 (Tommy Armour III/2003)
- Holds the 54-hole lead/co-lead for the first time; previous-best position after 54 holes: 2<sup>nd</sup> (2024 Sentry/finished ٠ T14), T2 (2023 Mexico Open at Vidanta/finished 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Making third start at the event (MC/2021, T46/2023)
- Five top-20 finishes in nine starts this season, with a T11 at last week's Texas Children's Houston Open his best outing
- Has one win in 53 prior PGA TOUR starts (2023 Barracuda Championship)
- With a win Sunday, would become the first Drive, Chip and Putt participant to play in the Masters; participated in • the inaugural Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals in 2014, finishing sixth place overall in the boys 12-13 age group
- Leads the field in Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (14.859) and Strokes Gained: Approach the Green (7.382)

## Miscellaneous notes

- Denny McCarthy (2<sup>nd</sup>/-11) seeks his first TOUR win in his 174<sup>th</sup> start, with a playoff loss to Viktor Hovland at the 2023 Memorial Tournament presented by Workday his best finish; four of the last six winners of the Valero Texas Open earned their first TOUR title: Kevin Chappell (2017), Andrew Landry (2018), Corey Conners (2019), J.J. Spaun (2022)
- Three-time PGA TOUR winner **Brendon Todd** (3<sup>rd</sup>/-8) is in search of his second victory in Texas (2014 AT&T Byron Nelson); has two top-10 finishes in seven prior starts at the Valero Texas Open (T6/2014, T8/2022)
- Hideki Matsuyama (T4/-7) is making his fourth straight appearance at the Valero Texas Open (T30/2021, WD/2022, T15/2023), with his first start in 2021 coming the week before winning the Masters Tournament; entered the week No. 3 in the FedExCup standings, the highest position of any player in the field; along with Alex **Noren** (T7/-5), posted the round of the day (66)
- Four-time PGA TOUR winner Russell Henley (T4/-7) has a pair of season-best T4 finishes (Sony Open in Hawaii, Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard) and is currently No. 35 in the FedExCup standings; has never finished outside of the top 100 in the FedExCup since joining the TOUR in 2013
- 2023 RSM Classic champion Ludvig Åberg (6<sup>th</sup>/-6) trails by nine in attempt to win one week prior to his first major championship start; missed the cut in his only other start at the event (2022/78-73); currently projected No. 1 in the Aon Next 10 standings

#### Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5

• 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.

# Aon Next 10 standings

Player	Position thru R3	Projected FedExCup Points
Ludvig Åberg	6 <sup>th</sup>	992.667
Matthieu Pavon		986.563
Stephan Jaeger		862.350
Akshay Bhatia	1 <sup>st</sup>	829.524
Jake Knapp		799.218
Will Zalatoris		763.093
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	T17	748.136
Peter Malnati		706.283
Austin Eckroat	T37	621.926
Thomas Detry		595.136

# Aon Swing 5 standings

Player	Position thru R3	Projected FedExCup Points
Brice Garnett		300.000
Erik Barnes	MC	213.000
Chandler Phillips	MC	171.750
Alejandro Tosti	MC	169.400
Alex Noren	Т7	147.500